

Information Sheet

R **Dyer, Walter W.**
41 **Letters, 1918.**
 14 items.

This collection is available at The State Historical Society of Missouri. If you would like more information, please contact us at shsresearch@umsystem.edu.

These are photocopies of fourteen letters from Walter W. Dyer during his military service in World War I. Dyer was an Army teamster stationed at Camp McArthur and Waco, Texas.

Walter Dyer left his home in Phelps County, Missouri, to enlist in the United States Army in April 1918. He was sent to Camp McArthur, Texas, for training, where he was assigned to Company I, Twelfth Battalion, at the Infantry Replacement Camp. After his basic training, Dyer was sent to Waco, Texas, where he was assigned to the base hospital as a teamster. He spent the remainder of his enlistment at Waco, hauling wagonloads of coal to the barracks and the hospital.

The letters in this collection are addressed to Bill and Jess Carney of Rolla, who were Dyer's relatives and neighbors. In addition to family news, the letters mention the conditions and routine of camp life, including an influenza epidemic, suicides of trainees, Dyer's duties as a teamster, and rumors of overseas assignment in France. Interestingly, Dyer reported coming across both men and horses in military service that he had known in Rolla.

r055 21 November 1980

Mr. & Mrs. Don Carney

Loaned for photocopying

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