

William A. Garvey
Real Estate and Insurance

4420 White Plains Avenue
Bronx, N.Y.

December 30th 1939

Henry M. Lorang
Genesee Idaho

Dear Henry:

I want you to know that was a real surprise and very pleasant feeling when I finally received your Christmas Card and that friendly and kindly message it contained. It was detained in its arrival due to the numerical address being about 4,000 numbers short of my former home with my Father.

It was also unfortunate that it was not my privilege to be with the gang when they were discharged at Garden City. If you recall the Christmas morning football game at St. Maxient, I received a present in having my leg broken, and sent to Camp hospital. They had no X ray there and set it as good as possible. Several days later I was given a bumpy two hours ride to Poitiers where with an escort of four medical men, was put on the Paris to Bordeau express, and wound up in Base Hospital #6. There they found both bones of the lower part of the leg fractured together with a Potts fracture of the ankle. A couple of resetting had to be undergone, without anesthetic, without results. Finally they gave me ether and set the leg by placing it in a stretching machine. I was on crutches, with a cast up to the hip, and arrived that way in New York after a seventeen-day trip home on the U.S. Willamena. At Grand Central Palace, a receiving hospital they cut the cast off, and my leg swelled up to three times its natural size and turned purple. They immediately transferred me to U.S. Base Hospital #1 which was ideal as it was only a few miles from home. There they took X-rays, and the orthopedic surgeon asked what kind of a Boot attended to me overseas. They put me in a surgical ward, and were going to break the bones again, re-set it, put silver bands around, and after four months re-open the leg and take them out. I asked them if I would be able to walk if the leg was left alone. They told me I would,

but the leg would be weak and I would have a certain amount of anklosis. After what I had gone through with Army Doctors, they were definitely told to leave it take its course, and three months later was discharged with a ten percent disability. For two years after I received baking and massage treatments and the leg only bothers me every once in a while now.

I went to school at night and worked for a Certified Public Accountant for about four years and graduated from Pace Institute, and then went into the restaurant business with my brother, and it was quite successful, for about ten years. I had remained single all this time, and about 1928 thought I was sitting pretty for the rest of my life. Well, you know what happened, it happened to me like it did thousands of others, but it was mostly in my case unimproved real estate, with no income, with taxes, assessment and interest on mortgages that finally almost sunk me.

I have been very active in the Veterans of Foreign Wars, building up on our Post from twelve members until it is now the largest in New York State, have held the office of County Commander and Commander of New York State. While State Commander in 1934-5 was instrumental somewhat in securing passage of the Bonus Bill. Introduced by Congressman Patman over the Vincent Bill sponsored by the Legion by contacting Congressman from New York while in Washington.

Danny Hanlon from Winchester. Mass. Looked me up while on his honeymoon. Fred Kemmerer of St. Louis spent a day with me returning from trip abroad, where he visited Beverley and other places where the Outfit was stationed. Met Porter at the Louisville Convention, and see Stanley Kerrigan quite often as he is married, has three children and resides in the adjacent City of Mount Vernon. Bill Carney of New Haven died a few years ago, and I met Davey Rosch in New Haven where he has a good job with the Internal Revenue Department. Received a Xmas card from Bump Dierschow post marked East Chicago, Ill. Floyd Brown, former Cook had a picture in the last month of the Legion with part of the members of the legion, showing them holding turkeys and ducks they had foraged for the Christmas dinner (Have been a member of the Legion for past fifteen years.) Intend to communicate with him for information as to others of our old outfit as a great many came from that section.

In 1932 I married a Massachusetts girl and have been very happy. Have one boy, and lost twin boys shortly after their birth,

and almost lost my wife. Henry, I envy your fine family. May God preserve each and every one of them, may he bless you and Mrs. Lorang with good health and increased prosperity, so you can properly take care of them, and each and every one a belated Merry Christmas. and happiness, health, and prosperity during the coming years.

Very Sincerely
A Buddy of the Old 247th
William A. Garvey

P.S. Excuse the typographical errors, as I did not want the stenographer to see this



247th Football Team, 1919 Beverly, England
American Expeditionary Force

BUSINESS PHONE: FAIRBANKS 4-3789

HOME PHONE: FAIRBANKS 4-3004

MORTGAGE LOANS
APPRAISALS

WILLIAM A. GARVEY
REAL ESTATE AND INSURANCE

FIRE
LIABILITY
FIDELITY
COLLISION
PROPERTY DAMAGE

HOME ADDRESS
660 EAST 242ND STREET *
BRONX, N. Y.

BUSINESS ADDRESS
4420 WHITE PLAINS AVENUE
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