HISTORICAL NOTE

Governor John H. Mickey appointed a commission on April 25, 1903, in accordance with HR231 creating and defining the duties of the Nebraska Commission to the Louisiana Purchase Exposition to be held in St. Louis, Missouri, April 30th to December 1904.

The commission concerned itself with the creation of various departments of exhibits and the appointment of competent superintendents to take charge of the same. Nebraska did not construct and maintain a state building on the exhibition grounds but established a pavilion in the main agricultural building, the Palace of Agriculture. In order to compensate for the lack of building facilities, the best use of exhibits and advertising material illustrating the state’s resources and industries were used. A more recent invention which was used extensively was that of the motion picture.

Since the commission was allocated only $35,000 by the state Legislature, it was necessary to solicit funds from citizens and corporations. This approach proved so successful that a balance of $15,190.30 of state funds remained unused.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection consists of records of the Nebraska Commission for the Louisiana Purchase Exposition, 1903-1905, arranged into two series: 1) Register of Visitors, 1905; and 2) Scrapbook, 1903-1905.

The material contains a register of visitors to the Nebraska exhibit as well as a scrapbook describing Nebraska’s role at the exposition. The latter portion of the register volume was used as a register for visitors to the Nebraska State Historical building, May 1, 1941 through October 12, 1941.
DESCRIPTION

SERIES ONE  GUEST REGISTER, 1905

V.01  Register of Visitors, May 3, 1904 - Dec. 1, 1904
     Nebraska State Historical Society
     Visitor’s Register, May - October 1941)

SERIES TWO  SCRAPBOOK, 1903-1905

V.01  1903-1905

END OF INVENTORY

JEP/DJJ/PMC  8/15/1972
PMC  WORD  3/7/2007