The North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools was founded at Evanston, Illinois, on March 29, 1895. It was a voluntary and nongovernmental accreditive association which had no salaried officers, commissions, or committees. Nebraska had no delegates at the first organizational meeting, but the “Proceedings of the First Annual Meeting in April 1896” lists the University of Nebraska and Omaha High School as members from Nebraska.

The Commission on Secondary Schools was one of three permanent commissions created with the adoption of the new constitution in 1916. The commission grew out of the earlier Board of Inspectors, first established in 1902. State Committees on Secondary Education which make up the larger commission were composed of five to seven members, including an officer of the state university and the inspector of high schools.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The North Central Association records are arranged in four series: 1) Correspondence; 2) Curricula reports; 3) Annual reports, and 4) Miscellaneous records.

Approximately 300 letters date from 1896 to 1900 are arranged chronologically in series one. The correspondence is chiefly that of Professor James W. Crabtree, Inspector of Accredited Schools, 1896-1900; Chancellor George E. MacLean, 1898; and Chancellor Charles E. Bessey, 1899-1900. The Curricula Reports, 1900-1923 and annual reports, 1911-1936, which form series two and three are arranged chronologically by school year and alphabetically by city. These series provide a detailed record of staff and curricula in Nebraska secondary schools. Miscellaneous records include applications for accreditation, 1913-1914; a survey of Nebraska school buildings, December 1921; a statistical summary of annual reports for 1939-1940; and final exams from Scottsbluff Junior College, May 1943.

Although these records span the years 1896 to 1943, the bulk of material dates from 1900 to 1936. Most of this collection consists of reports sent to the Nebraska Committee on Secondary Schools from the accredited high schools in Nebraska. It relates to secondary education in Nebraska, particularly in regard to curricula and faculties. The North Central Association collection was received by the Nebraska State Historical Society on January 25, 1951, as a gift from the University of Nebraska Library.

See the NSHS Library for issues of the North Central Association quarterly [370.6 N81q].
Note: The bulk of the North Central Association’s archives are held by the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

INVENTORY

Series 1 - Correspondence
Box 1
Folder

1. Correspondence, 1896-1899
2. Correspondence, 1900 (Jan-Mar)
3. Correspondence, 1900 (Apr-Dec)

Series 2 - Curricula Reports, 1900-1923
Box 2
Folder

1. Curricula Reports, 1900
2. Curricula Reports, 1900-1901
3. Curricula Reports, 1900-1901
4. Curricula Reports, 1901-1902
5. Curricula Reports, 1901-1902
6. Curricula Reports, 1901-1902

Box 3
Folder

1. Curricula Reports, 1902-1903 (A-N)
2. Curricula Reports, 1902-1903 (O-Y)
3. Curricula Reports, 1903-1904 (A-N)
4. Curricula Reports, 1903-1904 (O-Y)
5. Curricula Reports, 1904-1905 (A-L)
6. Curricula Reports, 1904-1905 (M-Y)

Box 4
Folder

1. Curricula Reports, 1905-1906 (A-K)
2. Curricula Reports, 1905-1906 (L-Y)
3. Curricula Reports, 1906-1907 (A-M)
4. Curricula Reports, 1906-1907 (N-Z)
5. Curricula Reports, 1906-1907 (Out-of-State)
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Box 5
Folder
1. Curricula Reports, 1907-1908 (A-L)
2. Curricula Reports, 1907-1908 (M-Z)
3. Curricula Reports, 1908-1909 (A-L)
4. Curricula Reports, 1908-1909 (M-Z)

Box 6
Folder
1. Curricula Reports, 1909-1910 (A-L)
2. Curricula Reports, 1909-1910 (M-Y)
3. Curricula Reports, 1910-1911 (A-K)
4. Curricula Reports, 1910-1911 (A-K)
5. Curricula Reports, 1910-1911 (L-Y)

Box 7
Folder
1. Curricula Reports, 1912-1913 (A-H)
2. Curricula Reports, 1912-1913 (I-Y)
3. Curricula Reports, 1913-1914 (A-F)
4. Curricula Reports, 1913-1914 (G-O)

Box 8
Folder
1. Curricula Reports, 1913-1914 (P-Y)
2. Curricula Reports, 1914-1915 (A-D)
3. Curricula Reports, 1914-1915 (E-L)
4. Curricula Reports, 1914-1915 (M-R)
5. Curricula Reports, 1914-1915 (S-Y)

Box 9
Folder
1. Curricula Reports, 1915-1916 (A-D)
2. Curricula Reports, 1915-1916 (E-M)
3. Curricula Reports, 1915-1916 (N-R)
4. Curricula Reports, 1915-1916 (S-Y)
Box 10
Folder

2. Curricula Reports, 1916-1916 (E-L)
3. Curricula Reports, 1916-1916 (M-R)

Box 11
Folder

1. Curricula Reports, 1917-1918 (A-B)
2. Curricula Reports, 1917-1918 (C-E)
3. Curricula Reports, 1917-1918 (F-H)
4. Curricula Reports, 1917-1918 (I-O)
5. Curricula Reports, 1917-1918 (P-S)
6. Curricula Reports, 1917-1918 (T-Y)

Box 12
Folder

1. Curricula Reports, 1918-1919 (A-B)
2. Curricula Reports, 1918-1919 (C-E)
3. Curricula Reports, 1918-1919 (F-G)
4. Curricula Reports, 1918-1919 (H-J)
5. Curricula Reports, 1918-1919 (K-M)
6. Curricula Reports, 1918-1919 (N-R)
7. Curricula Reports, 1918-1919 (S-Y)

Box 13
Folder

1. Curricula Reports, 1919-1920 (A-B)
2. Curricula Reports, 1919-1920 (C-F)
3. Curricula Reports, 1919-1920 (G-K)
4. Curricula Reports, 1919-1920 (L-O)
5. Curricula Reports, 1919-1920 (P-S)
6. Curricula Reports, 1919-1920 (T-Y)

Box 14
Folder

1. Curricula Reports, 1920-1921 (A-C)
2. Curricula Reports, 1920-1921 (D-G)
3. Curricula Reports, 1920-1921 (H-L)
4. Curricula Reports, 1920-1921 (M-P)
5. Curricula Reports, 1920-1921 (R-T)
6. Curricula Reports, 1920-1921 (U-Y)

Box 15
Folder
1. Curricula Reports, 1921-1922 (A-B)
2. Curricula Reports, 1921-1922 (C-E)
3. Curricula Reports, 1921-1922 (F-J)
4. Curricula Reports, 1921-1922 (K-M)
5. Curricula Reports, 1921-1922 (N-P)
6. Curricula Reports, 1921-1922 (R-S)

Box 16
Folder
1. Curricula Reports, 1921-1922 (T-Y)
2. Curricula Reports, 1922-1923 (A-B)
3. Curricula Reports, 1922-1923 (C-E)
4. Curricula Reports, 1922-1923 (F-J)
5. Curricula Reports, 1922-1923 (K-M)
6. Curricula Reports, 1922-1923 (N-O)

Box 17
Folder
1. Curricula Reports, 1922-1923 (P-S)
2. Curricula Reports, 1922-1923 (T-Y)

Series 3 - Annual Reports, 1911-1936
3. Annual Reports 1911-1912
4. Annual Reports 1914-1915
5. Annual Reports 1915-1916
6. Annual Reports 1916-1917

Box 18
Folder
1. Annual Reports 1917-18
2. Annual Reports 1918-19
3. Annual Reports 1919-20
4. Annual Reports 1920-21
5. Annual Reports 1921-22 (A-N)
6. Annual Reports 1921-22 (O-Y)
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Box 19
Folder

1. Annual Reports 1921-22
2. Annual Reports 1923-24
3. Annual Reports 1924-25
4. Annual Reports 1925-26 (A-K)
5. Annual Reports 1925-26 (L-Y)

Box 20
Folder

1. Annual Reports 1926-27 (A-L)
2. Annual Reports 1926-27 (M-Y)
3. Annual Reports 1927-28 (A-M)
4. Annual Reports 1927-28 (N-Y)
5. Annual Reports 1928-29 (A-M)
6. Annual Reports 1928-29 (N-Y)

Box 21
Folder

1. Annual Reports 1929-30 (A-F)
2. Annual Reports 1929-30 (G-N)
3. Annual Reports 1929-30 (O-Y)
4. Annual Reports 1930-31 (A-M)
5. Annual Reports 1930-31 (N-Y)

Box 22
Folder

1. Annual Reports 1931-32 (A-M)
2. Annual Reports 1931-32 (N-Y)
3. Annual Reports 1932-33 (A-M)
4. Annual Reports 1932-33 (N-Y)
5. Annual Reports 1933-34 (A-M)
6. Annual Reports 1933-34 (N-Y)

Box 23
Folder

1. Annual Reports 1934-35 (A-D)
2. Annual Reports 1934-35 (E-M)
3. Annual Reports 1934-35 (N-R)
4. Annual Reports 1934-35 (S-Y)
5. Annual Reports 1935-36
Series 4 - Miscellaneous Records  
Box 24  
Folder  

1. Applications 1913-14  
2. Misc. Survey 1921  
4. Misc. Scottsbluff Junior College Final Exams 1943  

Added Entries:  
Academies -- Nebraska  
Bessey, Charles Edwin, 1845-1915  
Colleges and universities -- Nebraska  
Crabtree, James William, 1864-1945  
Education -- Nebraska  
High schools  
MacLean, George Edwin, 1850-1938  
Nebraska Committee on Secondary Schools