

## NEBRASKA STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY COLLECTION RECORD

RG0544.PR: U.S. Provost Marshal General  
Selective Service System Draft Registration Cards: 1917-1918  
Nebraska  
50 reels of 16mm microfilm

### HISTORICAL NOTE

On May 18, 1917, the Selective Service Act was passed authorizing the President to increase temporarily the military establishment of the United States. The Selective Service System, under the office of the Provost Marshal General, was responsible for the process of selecting men for induction into the military service, from the initial registration to the actual delivery of men to military training camps. The office of the Provost Marshal General formulated policy and transmitted it to the states, territories, and the District of Columbia, which managed the operation of drafting men for military service in World War I.

The Selective Service boards were responsible for registering men, classifying them, taking into consideration needs for manpower in certain industries and in agricultures, as well as certain special family situations of the registrants; handling any appeals of classifications; determining the medical fitness of registrants, determining the order in which registrants would be called; calling registrants; and placing them on trains to training centers.

District boards were established by the President (one or more for each Federal Judicial District). The average district board had jurisdiction over approximately thirty local boards, each with an average registration of 5000 men. The district boards had appellate jurisdiction over the decision of local boards in some claims and original jurisdiction in others.

During World War I there were three registrations. The first, on June 5, 1917, was for all men between the ages of 21 and 31. The second, on June 5, 1918, registered those who attained age 21 after June 5, 1917. (A supplemental registration was held on August 24, 1918, for those becoming 21 years old after June 5, 1918. This was included in the second registration.) The third registration was held on September 12, 1918, for men age 18 through 45.

After the signing of the armistice on November 11, 1918, the activities of the Selective Service System were rapidly curtailed. On March 31, 1919, all local, district, and medical advisory boards were closed, and on May 21, 1919, the last state headquarters ceased operations. The Provost Marshal General was relieved from duty on July 15, 1919, thereby terminating the activities of the Selective Service System of World War I.

### SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection consists of a single series: 1) World War I Service System Draft Registration Cards, 1917-1918. The draft registration cards for Nebraska area arranged alphabetically by county on fifty reels of 16mm microfilm. Within the county, names are listed alphabetically. The information included on each registration differs somewhat, but the general information includes order and serial numbers (assigned by the Selective Service System), name, address, date and place of birth, age, citizenship status, occupation, employer, location of work, dependent(s), marital status, race, prior military service length and location, whether or not an exemption is being claimed and signature. The registrar's section of the card notes height and build description, hair and eye color, description of any physical disfigurement, official's signature, and date of registration.

The cities of Lincoln (reels 25 –26) and Omaha (reels 30 –38) were filmed separately, since several local boards were established in urban areas with a population over 30,000.

Note that not all of the men who registered for the draft served in the military and not all men who served in the military registered for the draft. As these cards are not military service records, they contain no information about an individual's military service.

(Acc. 2003.0281)

### DESCRIPTION

#### SERIES 1: WORLD WAR I SELECTIVE SERVICE SYSTEM DRAFT REGISTRATION CARDS, 1917-1918

- |        |   |
|--------|---|
| Reel 1 | Adams County: A – Smith   |
| Reel 2 | Adams County: Snavely – Z<br>Antelope, Arthur, Banner, and Blaine Counties<br>Boone County: A – D |
| Reel 3 | Boone County: E – Z<br>Box Butte County<br>Boyd County: A – G                                     |
| Reel 4 | Boyd County: H – Z<br>Brown County<br>Buffalo County: A – S                                       |

- Reel 5      Buffalo County: T – Z  
              Burt County  
              Butler County: A – Q
- Reel 6      Butler County: R – Z  
              Cass County  
              Cedar County: A – F
- Reel 7      Cedar County: G – Z  
              Chase County  
              Cherry County: A – Lansing, F.
- Reel 8      Cherry County: Lansing, O. – Z  
              Cheyenne County  
              Clay County: A – I
- Reel 9      Clay County: J – Z  
              Colfax County  
              Cuming County: A – L
- Reel 10     Cuming County: M – Z  
              Custer County: A – R
- Reel 11     Custer County: S – Z  
              Dakota and Dawes Counties  
              Dawson County: A – E
- Reel 12     Dawson County: F – Z  
              Deuel County  
              Dixon County: A – S
- Reel 13     Dixon County: T – Z  
              Dodge County  
              Douglas County: A – B
- Reel 14     Douglas County: C – Z  
              Dundy County  
              Fillmore County: A – G
- Reel 15     Fillmore County: H – Z  
              Franklin and Frontier Counties

- Reel 16      Furnas County  
              Gage County: A – G
  
- Reel 17      Gage County: M – Z  
              Garden, Garfield, and Gosper Counties
  
- Reel 18      Grant and Greeley Counties  
              Hall County: A – R
  
- Reel 19      Hall County: S – Z  
              Hamilton County  
              Harlan County: A – V
  
- Reel 20      Harlan County: W – Z  
              Hayes, Hitchcock, Holt, and Hooker Counties
  
- Reel 21      Howard and Jefferson Counties
  
- Reel 22      Johnson, Kearney, Keith, and Keya Paha Counties
  
- Reel 23      Kimball and Knox Counties  
              Lancaster County: A – Bowsby
  
- Reel 24      Lancaster County: Bowman – W
  
- Reel 25      Lancaster County: Y – Z  
              Lincoln City #1: A – S
  
- Reel 26      Lincoln City #1: T – Z  
              Lincoln City #2: A – Z
  
- Reel 27      Lincoln, Logan, Loup, and McPherson Counties
  
- Reel 28      Madison County  
              Merrick County: A – M
  
- Reel 29      Merrick County: N – Z  
              Morrill and Nance Counties  
              Nemaha County: A – C
  
- Reel 30      Nemaha County: D – Z  
              Nuckolls County  
              Omaha City #1: A – B
  
- Reel 31      Omaha City #1: C – Z

- Reel 32      Omaha City #2: A – M
- Reel 33      Omaha City #2: N – Z  
Omaha City #3: A – F
- Reel 34      Omaha City #3: G – V
- Reel 35      Omaha City #3: W – Z  
Omaha City #4: A – Lyons
- Reel 36      Omaha City #4: Lytle – Z  
Omaha City #5: A – Bowley
- Reel 37      Omaha City #5: Bowman – Q
- Reel 38      Omaha City #5: R – Z  
Otoe County: A – R
- Reel 39      Otoe County: S – Z  
Pawnee, Perkins, and Phelps Counties  
Pierce County: A- B
- Reel 40      Pierce County: C – Z  
Platte County: A – T
- Reel 41      Platte County: U – Z  
Polk and Red Willow Counties  
Richardson County: A – D
- Reel 42      Richardson County: E – Z  
Rock County  
Saline County: A – M
- Reel 43      Saline County: N – Z  
Sarpy County  
Saunders County: A – L
- Reel 44      Saunders County: M – Z  
Scotts Bluff County: A – Sayre, E.
- Reel 45      Scotts Bluff County: Sayre, K. – Z  
Seward County  
Sheridan County: A- K

- Reel 46      Sheridan County: L – Z  
                 Sherman and Sioux Counties  
                 Stanton County: A – S
- Reel 47      Stanton County: T – Z  
                 Thayer and Thomas Counties  
                 Thurston County: A – O
- Reel 48      Thurston County: P – Z  
                 Valley and Washington Counties
- Reel 49      Wayne, Webster, and Wheeler Counties  
                 York County: A – E
- Reel 50      York County: F - Z
- Reel 51      Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New  
                 Jersey, and New Mexico: Prisoners, Insane, In Hospitals,  
                 and Late Registrants

AIF 10/3/2003

Added entries:

Draft registration—Nebraska  
World War, 1914-1918—Nebraska  
World War, 1914-1918--Registers