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 collections 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.

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
Antelope, Arthur, Banner, and Blaine Counties
Boone County: A – D

Reel 3
Boone County: E – Z
Box Butte County
Boyd County: A – G

Reel 4
Boyd County: H – Z
Brown County
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
Cumming County: A – L

Reel 10  Cumming 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
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reel</th>
<th>County/County Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Furnas County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Gage County: A – G</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Gage County: M – Z</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Garden, Garfield, and Gosper Counties</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Grant and Greeley Counties</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Hall County: A – R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Hall County: S – Z</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Hamilton County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Harlan County: A – V</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Harlan County: W – Z</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Hayes, Hitchcock, Holt, and Hooker Counties</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Howard and Jefferson Counties</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Johnson, Kearney, Keith, and Keya Paha Counties</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>Kimball and Knox Counties</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lancaster County: A – Bowlsby</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Lancaster County: Bowman – W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Lancaster County: Y – Z</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lincoln City #1: A – S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Lincoln City #1: T – Z</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lincoln City #2: A – Z</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>Lincoln, Logan, Loup, and McPherson Counties</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>Madison County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Merrick County: A – M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>Merrick County: N – Z</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Morrill and Nance Counties</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Nemaha County: A – C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>Nemaha County: D – Z</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Nuckolls County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Omaha City #1: A – B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>Omaha City #1: C – Z</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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