

ARCHIVES RECORD

RG23 Nebraska. State Council of Defense

Records: 1917-1918

Cubic ft.: 50

No. of items: 17,500

HISTORIC NOTE

The State Legislature Approved, upon the urging of the Council of National Defense, the formation of the State Council of Defense on April 25, 1917. It was to serve as an auxiliary of the national organization to assist the Governor and state militia in doing all things necessary to bring about the highest effectiveness within the state during World War One and to coordinate all efforts with those of the National government and other states. Their primary purpose was to aid in the war effort through such activities as stimulating the production and conservation of food, aiding in the supplying of farm labor, Red Cross work, Liberty Loan drives, and Home Guard work. Although the Nebraska Council engaged in many worthwhile activities in aiding the war effort, it assumed a dubious role in policing the loyalty of the people of the state, particularly the /German-Americans. The council's self-expressed view was as follows:

...during the earlier period of its (the Council's work... it became apparent that prompt and effectual must be taken with respect to the disloyal and negative attitude of a small but annoying element of our citizenship. Un-American sentiments, and in some instances German propaganda, found fertile soil in the minds and hearts of certain academic intellectuals in high places; mushroom socialists masquerading under new colors; foreign born people whose Americanization had been neglected; advocates of internationalism; clergymen of foreign soul and body, and others who failed to adjust their thoughts and actions to the standard of American citizenship, all of who were dealt with by the Council in a manner suited to the circumstances.

One reason for the development of the anti-German feeling in Nebraska was the fact that prior to the United State's entrance into the war, a number of persons of German origin expressed opposition to the Allies cause and to the United States Government's leanings. Even though many abbreviated their out-spoken feelings after America's entrance, Germans in general were suspect as unpatriotic. Combined with the above factor, the mere presence of a large German-American population within the state caused concern.

Organizationally, county councils were formed throughout the state and they assisted in the State Council's activities. Another integral part of the State Council of Defense was the Women's Committee of the State Council of Defense. A number of women's organizations of state-wide membership co-ordinated their work with that of the Women's Committee.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection consists of the Records of the Nebraska State Council of Defense, 1917-1919, arranged in nine series: 1) Proceedings & Reports, 1917-1919; 2) General Correspondence (alphabetical), 1917-1918; 3) General Correspondence (topical), 1917-1918; 4) Vice-chairman George Coupland's Correspondence, 1917-1919; 5) Non-War Committee Correspondence, 1918; 6) Correspondence with other State Councils of Defense 1917-1918; 7) Printed Material, 1917-1918, undated; 8) Women's Committee: Topical Correspondence, 1917-1918; 9) Women's Committee: Executive Committee Correspondence, 1917-1919; 10) Women's Committee: Correspondence with County Committees, 1917-1918; 11) Women's Committee: Financial Records, 1917-1918; and 12) Women's Committee: Minutes, 1918-1919.

This collection relates to the activities of the Nebraska State Council of Defense, particularly those relating to state and federal conservation programs; labor distribution; transportation; public information; organization of militia units; Liberty Loan drives and the Home Guards. Also much of the correspondence reflects the extensive organization of the Council throughout the state.

In this collection one also finds the files of the Women's Committee of the State Council of Defense. Included are extensive correspondence files indicating wide variety of subjects in which the committee took an active interest, i.e. American Red Cross, Americanization, Food Production, Liberty Loans, Publicity, Women in Industry, etc. Also included among the Women's Committee's files are financial records, 1917-1919, and Minutes, 1918-1919.

Of special importance in this collection is the material, i.e. correspondence and published material, of both the State Council of Defense as well as its auxiliary, the Women's Committee, concerning the alien elements such as German-American in Nebraska and their effect on America's unified war effort.

SERIES ONE PROCEEDINGS & REPORTS, 1917-1919, undated

Box 1

- Folder 1 Reports of National Council of Defense—organization of state councils, 1917-1919
- Folder 2 Proceedings: Executive Committee of Nebraska State Council of Defense, Dec. 1917-Dec. 1918
- Folder 3 Proceedings: Nebraska State Council of Defense; May 1917-January 1919
- Folder 4 Reports and lists of members, etc., 1917-1919
- Folder 5 Lists of County Council Chairmen & Committee members, 1917, undated
- Folder 6 County and Precinct Officers, undated
- Folder 7 Reports on Delivery Systems in Nebraska, December 1917, undated

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SERIES ONE (cont)

Box 1 (cont)

Folder 8 Miscellaneous Reports & Recommendations

SERIES TWO GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE (Alphabetical), 1917-1918

Box 2

Folder 1 A 1917
Folder 2-4 B
Folder 5-6 C
Folder 7 D

Box 3

Folder 8 E 1917
Folder 9 F
Folder 10 G
Folder 11-12 H
Folder 13 I
Folder 14 J
Folder 15 K
Folder 16 L
Folder 17 Mc

Box 4

Folder 18 M 1917
Folder 19 N
Folder 20 O
Folder 21 P
Folder 22 Q
Folder 23 R
Folder 24 S
Folder 25 T
Folder 26 U-V
Folder 27 W
Folder 28 Y-Z

Box 5

Folder 29 A 1918
Folder 30-31 B
Folder 32 C
Folder 33 D
Folder 34 E
Folder 35 F

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SERIES TWO (cont)

Box 6			
	Folder 36	G-H	1918
	Folder 37	I-J	
	Folder 38	K	
	Folder 39	L	
	Folder 40	Mc-M	
	Folder 41	N	
	Folder 42	O-P	
	Folder 43	R	
	Folder 44	S	
	Folder 45	T	
	Folder 46	U-V	
	Folder 47	W	
	Folder 48	Y-Z	
Box 7			
	Folder 49	Adams	1917-1918
	Folder 50	Antelope	
	Folder 51	Arthur	
	Folder 52	Banner	
	Folder 53	Blaine	
	Folder 54	Boone	
	Folder 55	Boyd	
	Folder 56	Box Butte	
	Folder 57	Brown	
	Folder 58	Buffalo	
	Folder 59	Burt	
	Folder 60	Butler	
	Folder 61	Cass	
Box 8			
	Folder 62	Cedar	
	Folder 63	Chase	
	Folder 64	Cherry	
	Folder 65	Cheyenne	
	Folder 66	Clay	
	Folder 67	Colfax	
	Folder 68	Cuming	
	Folder 69	Custer	
	Folder 70	Dakota	
	Folder 71	Dawes	
	Folder 72	Dawson	
	Folder 73	Deuel	
	Folder 74	Dixon	

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SERIES TWO (cont)

Box 8 (cont)		
Folder 75	Dodge	1917-1918
Folder 76	Douglas	
Box 9		
Folder 77	Dundy	
Folder 78	Fillmore	
Folder 79	Franklin	
Folder 80	Frontier	
Folder 81	Furnas	
Folder 82	Gage	
Folder 83	Gage	
Folder 84	Garfield	
Folder 85	Gosper	
Folder 86	Grant	
Folder 87	Greeley	
Folder 88	Hamilton	
Folder 89	Hayes	
Folder 90	Holt	
Folder 91	Hooker	
Folder 92	Howard	
Folder 93	Jefferson	
Folder 94	Johnson	
Folder 95	Kearney	
Folder 96	Keith	
Folder 97	Keya Paha	
Box 10		
Folder 98	Kimball	
Folder 99	Knox	
Folder 100	Lancaster	
Folder 101	Lincoln	
Folder 102	Logan	
Folder 103	Loup	
Folder 104	McPherson	
Folder 105	Madison	
Folder 106	Merrick	
Folder 107	Morrill	
Folder 108	Nance	
Folder 109	Nemaha	
Folder 110	Nuckolls	
Folder 111	Otoe	
Folder 112	Pawnee	
Folder 113	Perkins	

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SERIES TWO (cont)

Box 10 (cont)

Folder 114	Phelps	1917-1918
Folder 115	Pierce	
Folder 116	Platte	
Folder 117	Polk	

Box 11

Folder 118	Red Willow	1917-1918
Folder 119	Rock	
Folder 120	Saline	
Folder 121	Sarpy	
Folder 122	Richardson	
Folder 123	Saunders	
Folder 124	Scottsbluff	
Folder 125	Sherman	
Folder 126	Sioux	
Folder 127	Stanton	
Folder 128	Thomas	
Folder 129	Seward	
Folder 130	Sheridan	
Folder 131	Thayer	
Folder 132	Thurston	
Folder 133	Valley	
Folder 134	Washington	
Folder 135	Wayne	

Box 12

Folder 136	Webster	
Folder 137	Wheeler	
Folder 138	York	

SERIES THREE GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE: TOPICAL FILES, 1917-1918

Box 13

Folder 1	Agriculture: Crop Reports, list of seed sources	1918, undated
Folder 2	Americanization	1918
Folder 3	Anonymous Correspondence	1917-1918
Folder 4-5	Bank Reports: In relation with-drawls of Deposits as Retaliation for Bank's support of Liberty Bond Sales	1917
Folder 6	Bonds	1918
Folder 7	Capitalization—Stocks & Bonds	1918
Folder 8	Coal Committee	1917-1918

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SERIES THREE (cont)

Box 13 (cont)		
Folder 9-10	County Councils of Defense	1917-1918
Folder 11	Complains (Misc.)	1917-1918
Folder 12-14	Corn	1917-1918
Folder 15	County Agents (appointments and duties of)	1917-1918
Box 14		
Folder 16	Daylight Savings, Delivers	1917-1918
Folder 17-18	Disloyalty—Investigation of charges	1918
Folder 18b	List of German Alien Enemies in Nebraska	1917
Folder 19	Draft – Military	1917-1918
Folder 20	Farm Machinery	1917-1918
Folder 21	Food and Related subjects	1917-1918
Folder 22-23	Food Administration	1917
Folder 24	Foreign Languages	1917-1918
Box 15		
Folder 25	Franco-Serbian Field Hospital	1917-1918
Folder 26	Fuel	1917-1918
Folder 27	Grain storage	1917-1918
Folder 28	Home Guard	1917
Folder 29	Labor	1917-1918
Folder 30-31	Liberty Loan	1917-1918
Folder 32	Mennonites	1917-1918
Folder 33	National Defense Conference, May 2-3, 1917 (Transcript of Proceedings)	
Folder 34	Non-Partisan League	1918
Box 16		
Folder 35	Organizations & Committees (with rosters)	1917-1918
Folder 36	Organizations	1917-1918
Folder 37	Public Information	1917-1918
Folder 38	Schools	1917-1918
Folder 39	Siebert, Walter: Transcript of Testimony	1918
Folder 40	Stock	1917-1918
Folder 41-42	University of Nebraska—Investigation of faculty	1917-1918
Folder 43	War Saving Stamps	1918
Box 17		
Folders 44-48	Wheat	1917-1918
Folders 49-50	Wheat	1917-1918
Folder 51	Miscellany	Undated

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SERIES SIX CORESPONDENCE WITH OTHER STATE COUNCILS OF
DEFENSE, 1917-1918

Box 23

Folder 1	Illinois: State Council of Defense
Folder 2	Indiana
Folder 3	Kansas
Folder 4	Kentucky
Folder 5	Massachusetts, Michigan
Folder 6	Minnesota
Folder 7	Mississippi
Folder 8	Missouri
Folder 9	Montana
Folder 10	Nevada
Folder 11	New Hampshire
Folder 12	New Jersey
Folder 13	New Mexico
Folder 14	New York
Folder 15	North Carolina
Folder 16	Pennsylvania
Folder 17	Rhode Island
Folder 18	South Carolina
Folder 19	Texas
Folder 20	Vermont
Folder 21	Virginia
Folder 22	Washington

SERIES SEVEN PRINTED MATERIAL, 1917-1918, undated

Box 24

Folder 1	Newspaper-Blair Enterprise	Feb.-Aug. 1918
Folder 2	The Fatherland & American Socialists	Sept. 6, 1916 Sept. 1, 1917
Folder 3	Miscellany Newspapers	1918
Folder 4	Newspaper Clippings	1917-1918
Folder 5-8	General Publications	

Box 25

Folder 9-13	General Publications
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Box 26

Folder 14	Publications (in German Language)
Folder 15	Legislative File

	Folder 16-18	Bulletins & Directives	1917-1918
RG23	Folder 19	Resolutions & Proclamations	1917-1918N.D.

SERIES SEVEN (cont)

	Box 26 (cont)		
	Folder 20-21	Press Releases	1917-1918N.D.
	Folder 22	Miscellany	N.D.

SERIES EIGHT WOMAN'S COMMITTEE: TOPICAL CORRESPONDENCE, 1917-1918

Box 27

Folder 1	Allied Relief	Mrs. C.M. Wilhelm
Folder 2	American Red Cross.	Dept. of Civilian Relief
Folder 3		Mrs. Z.T. Lindsey & Mrs. Clement Chase
Folder 4		General Correspondence
Folder 5		Dept. of Civilian Relief
Folder 6		Dept. of Nursing
Folder 7		Junior Membership & School Activities
Folder 8-9		Junior Red Cross
Folder 10		Publicity
Folder 11	Americanization	
Folder 12		
Folder 13		
Folder 14	Americanization	Publicity
Folder 15	American Defense Society	
Folder 16	Association of Collegiate Alumnae	

Box 28

Folder 17	Books & Pamphlets ordered	
Folder 18	Boys Scouts of America	
Folder 19	Bulletin Mailing List	
Folder 20	Camp Fire Girls	
Folder 21	Chairman County Councils on Reorganization Plan	
Folder 22	Child Welfare	Mrs. Draper Smith
Folder 23		Dr. Jessica B. Peirotto
Folder 24-25		
Folder 26		Publicity
Folder 27	Children's Bureau	Julia Lathrop
Folder 28	Christmas Pledge Card	

Box 29

Folder 29	Civil Service
Folder 30	Community Councils

Folder 31 Constitution and By-Laws Woman's Committee

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SERIES EIGHT (cont)

Box 29 (cont)

Folder 32 Council Defense Chairman Woman's Committee
Dr. Anna H. Shaw

Folder 33-35 Council of National
Defense Dept. of Education

Folder 36 Field Division

Folder 37 News Section

Folder 38 J. Patterson

Folder 39 State Council Section

Folder 40 County Councils: A

Folder 41 B

Box 30

Folder 42 C

Folder 43 D

Folder 44 F

Folder 45 G-H

Folder 46 J-L

Folder 47 M-P

Folder 48 Courses in War Instruction

Folder 49 Czech-Slovak Relief

Society & other

Bohemian Organizations

Folder 50 Daughters of American
Revolution

Folder 51 DAR: State Regent's DAR

Folder 52 Educational Propaganda

Folder 53 Extension Department:

State Farm

Folder 54 Extension Publicity

Folder 55 Federation Woman's Club

Folder 56 Field Division Mr. G.B. Clarkson

Folder 57-58 Field Division Circular

Box 31

Folder 59 Food Administration Mr. G. Wattles

Folder 60 Food Pledge Conservation

Folder 61 Food Production

Folder 62 Food Production

Folder 63 Food Production Mrs. Fred M. DeWeese

Folder 64 Food Production &

RG23 Home Economics
Folder 65-68 Foreign Language Schools

SERIES EIGHT (cont)

Box 31 (cont)

Folder 69 Four Minute Speeches Prof. M.M. Fogg
Folder 70 Health & Recreation

Box 32

Folder 71 Health & Recreation Mrs. Philip N. Morris
Folder 72 Health & Recreation Dr. Jennie B. Calffas
Folder 73 Highway Transportation
Folder 74 Home Demonstration Mrs. Maude Wilson
Folder 75 Home & Foreign Relief
Committees
Folder 76 Inquiries for War Work
Folder 77 League to Enforce Peace
Folder 78 Liberty Loan Eleanor McAdoo
Folder 79 Liberty Loan Miss A.C. Peterson
Folder 80 Liberty Loan Publicity

Box 33

Folder 81 Mailing Lists
Folder 82 Maintenance of existing
Social Services Agencies
Folder 83 Minutes of Board Meeting
Folder 84 National League for
Woman's Service
Folder 85 National War Savings
Committee
Folder 86 National War Work Council
Folder 87 National Woman's Trade
Union League
Folder 88 Navy League
Folder 89 Nebraska. State Council of
Defense (Woman's
Committee) Secretary,
Mrs. Myron Swank
Folder 90 Nebraska. State Council of
Defense (Woman's
Committee), Treasurer,
Mrs. Keith Neville
Folder 91 New Occupations for
Women
Folder 92 New York Probation &
Protective Association

	Folder 93	New Dept. (National)	
RG23	Folder 94	Newspaper Publicity	

SERIES EIGHT (cont)

Box 33 (cont)

	Folder 95	Next of Kin Society	
	Folder 96	Nursing & Red Cross	
	Folder 97-98	Nurses Bureau	

Box 34

	Folder 99	Organizations	
	Folder 100-102	Public Information, Com. of	
	Folder 103	Public Information	Division of Pictures
	Folder 104	Publicity (General)	
	Folder 105	Publicity	Mrs. Homer Johnson
	Folder 106	Publicity	Ida M. Tarbell
	Folder 107	Publicity Issued by Council of Defense	
	Folder 108	P.E.O.	
	Folder 109	Recommendations	

Box 35

	Folder 110	Registration	General Correspondence
	Folder 111	Registration	District Chairman
	Folder 112	Registration	Summary Sheets
	Folder 113	Registration of Women	
	Folder 114	Registration of Women	
	Folder 115	Requests for "War Work" Pamphlets	
	Folder 116	Reconstruction Aides	
	Folder 117	Rural Clubs	
	Folder 118	Social Agencies	
	Folder 119	Social Services Agencies	Ida L. Robbins

Box 36

	Folder 120	Song Books	
	Folder 121-22	Speakers Bureau	
	Folder 123	Speaking Bureau & Four Minute Speeches	
	Folder 124	State Organizations	
	Folder 125	State Organizations	
	Folder 126	Telegrams (General)	
	Folder 127	Testimony (Miscellany)	
	Folder 128	Training Camp Activities	
	Folder 129	Unfederated Clubs	
	Folder 130	U.S. Dept. of Agriculture	
	Folder 131	U.S. Employment Services	

Folder 132	U.S. Sec. of War	N.D. Baker
Folder 133	Volunteers	

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SERIES EIGHT (cont)

Box 36 (cont)

Folder 134	Volunteer Helpers
Folder 135	War Camp Community Service
Folder 136	War Conference

Box 37

Folder 137	War Insurance
Folder 138	War Library
Folder 139	War Mothers of America
Folder 140	War Work for Women
Folder 141	Washington's General Correspondence

Folder 142	Woman's Christian Temperance Union
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Folder 143	Woman's Committee	First Vice Chairman Mrs. W.E. Barkly
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Folder 144	Woman's Committee Lists of County Officers & Department Heads
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Folder 145	Woman's Committee Organization Reports
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Folder 146-47	Woman's Relief Corp	
Folder 148	Woman's Suffrage	Mrs. W.E. Barkly
Folder 149	Woman's War Work	Public Information Clara Sears Taylor

Folder 150	Women in Industry
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Folder 151	Women in Industry
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Folder 152	Women in Industry	Mrs. Agnes Nestor, Chairman
Folder 153	Women in Industry	Publicity

Folder 154	YMCA & YWCA
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SERIES NINE WOMAN'S COMMITTEE: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
CORRESPONDENCE, 1917-1919

Box 38

Folder 1	A
Folder 2	B
Folder 3	C
Folder 4	D

Folder 5 E
Folder 6 F

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SERIES NINE (cont)

Box 38 (cont)

Folder 7 G
Folder 8 H
Folder 9 I
Folder 10 J
Folder 11 K
Folder 12 L
Folder 13 M
Folder 14 N
Folder 15 O
Folder 16 P
Folder 17 Q
Folder 18 R
Folder 19 S
Folder 20 T
Folder 21 U
Folder 22 V
Folder 23 W
Folder 24 X-Z

SERIES TEN

WOMEN'S COMMITTEE: COUNTY CORRESPONDENCE

Box 39

Folder 1 Adams
Folder 2 Antelope
Folder 3 Arthur
Folder 4 Banner
Folder 5 Blaine
Folder 6 Burt
Folder 7 Brown
Folder 8 Buffalo
Folder 9 Boone
Folder 10 Boyd
Folder 11 Box Butte
Folder 12 Butler
Folder 13 Cass
Folder 14 Cedar
Folder 15 Chase
Folder 16 Cheyenne
Folder 17 Cherry

Folder 18 Clay
Folder 19 Colfax
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SERIES TEN (cont)

Box 39 (cont)

Folder 20 Cuming
Folder 21 Custer
Folder 22 Dakota
Folder 23 Dawes

Box 40

Folder 24 Dawson
Folder 25 Dixon
Folder 26 Dodge
Folder 27 Douglas
Folder 28 Deuel
Folder 29 Dundy
Folder 30 Fillmore
Folder 31 Franklin
Folder 32 Frontier
Folder 33 Furnas
Folder 34 Gage
Folder 35 Garden
Folder 36 Gosper
Folder 37 Grant
Folder 38 Greeley
Folder 39 Hall
Folder 40 Hamilton
Folder 41 Harlan
Folder 42 Hayes
Folder 43 Hitchcock
Folder 44 Howard
Folder 45 Hooker
Folder 46 Howard
Folder 47 Jefferson
Folder 48 Johnson
Folder 49 Kearney
Folder 50 Keya Paha

Box 41

Folder 51 Keith
Folder 52 Kimball
Folder 53 Knox
Folder 54 Lancaster
Folder 55 Lincoln
Folder 56 Logan

Folder 57 Loup
Folder 58 Madison
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SERIES TEN (cont)

Box 41 (cont)

Folder 59 Merrick
Folder 60 McPherson
Folder 61 Morrill
Folder 62 Nance
Folder 63 Nemaha
Folder 64 Nuckolls
Folder 65 Otoe
Folder 66 Pawnee
Folder 67 Perkins
Folder 68 Phelps
Folder 69 Pierce
Folder 70 Platte
Folder 71 Polk
Folder 72 Red Willow
Folder 73 Richardson
Folder 74 Rock
Folder 75 Saline
Folder 76 Sioux
Folder 77 Thayer
Folder 78 Thomas
Folder 79 Thurston
Folder 80 Valley
Folder 81 Washington
Folder 82 Wayne
Folder 83 Webster
Folder 84 Wheeler

SERIES ELEVEN WOMEN'S COMMITTEE: FINANCIAL RECORDS, 1917-1919

Box 42

Folder 1 Receipted Bills 1917
Folder 2 January 1918
Folder 3 February 1918
Folder 4 March 1918
Folder 5 April 1918
Folder 6 May 1918
Folder 7 June 1918
Folder 8 July 1918
Folder 9 August 1918

	Folder 10		Sept. 1918
	Folder 11		Oct. 1918
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SERIES ELEVEN (cont)			
	Box 42 (cont)		
	Folder 12		Nov. 1918
	Folder 13		Dec. 1918
	Folder 14		Jan. 1919
	Folder 15		Febr. 1919
	Folder 16		March 1919
	Folder 17		April 1919
	Folder 18	Financial Reports	1918-1919
	Folder 19	Nurses' Bureau Bills	1918-1919
	Folder 20	Food Production Bills	1918
	Folder 21	Treasurer Books (4 volumes)	Nov. 1918, May 1919

SERIES TWELVE WOMEN'S COMMITTEE: MINUTES, 1918-1919

	Box 43		
	Folder 1	Minutes	July 13, 1918 April 5, 1919

