

**McLean County Museum of History**

**Sidney Webb Collection**

Processed by  
Mary Alice Wills  
Summer 2016

**Collection Information**

VOLUME OF COLLECTION:	1 Box
COLLECTION DATES:	1917 - 1921
RESTRICTIONS:	Some fragile materials; request Archivists assistance.
REPRODUCTION RIGHTS:	Permission to reproduce or publish material in this collection must be obtained in writing from the McLean County Museum of History
ALTERNATIVE FORMATS:	None
OTHER FINDING AIDS:	None
LOCATION:	Archives
NOTES:	

## Brief History

Sidney Webb was born on December 28, 1899 in Leicester, England. He came to America with his parents in 1904. He served in World War I as Corporal in the 27<sup>th</sup> Aero Squadron and later belonged to the Veterans of Foreign Wars. He retired as a machinist and welder for Keiser-Van Leer Association. Mr. Webb married Jessie Walker in 1920; she died in 1960. They had one daughter, and at the time of his death, two grandchildren and one great grandchild.

## Scope

This collection includes army promotion and discharge papers, as well as related correspondence and maps. Other army material covers insurance and veteran's administration along with army notebooks and manuals. Also included are solicitations to veterans, newspaper clippings, entertainment programs plus postcards and letters. Miscellaneous items include a hunting license, several old driver's licenses, poems, a joke book, and personal letters. Sidney Webb's obituary from the June 30, 1969, *Pantagraph* has been added.

## Box and Folder Inventory

### Folder 1: Army Promotion and Discharge Papers

- 1.1.1 United States Army certificate appointing Sidney Webb to Corporal, 27<sup>th</sup> Aero Squadron, May 1, 1920.
- 1.1.2 Notice of promotion to Corporal from Headquarters Kelly Field, May 3, 1920.
- 1.1.2 Honorable Discharge from The United States Army, Sidney Webb, May 27, 1920, (2 photo copies).
- 1.1.3 Honorable Discharge from the United States Army, Sidney Webb, Sgt. Co. B, May 27, 1920, (2 photo copies).
- 1.1.4 Honorable Discharge from National Guard of The United States, Sidney Webb, Private, Co. F, August 5, 1917, (2 copies).

### Folder 2: Army Correspondence, Maps, and Miscellaneous

- 1.2.1 From Headquarters 33<sup>rd</sup> Division, American E. F., listing names for 100 parts of Browning Machine Gun, Luxembourg, Feb. 17, 1918.
- 1.2.2 From Headquarters 124<sup>th</sup> Machine Gun Battalion, Extract: Sidney Webb entitled to wear Wound Chevron, Dec. 1918.
- 1.2.3 Headquarters Service of Supply instructions for mess distribution on train, April 4, 1919.
- 1.2.4 From Headquarters 33<sup>rd</sup> Division: General Orders No. 54, May 17, 1919, from John J. Pershing, and Minister of War, Republic of France, recognizing the 33<sup>rd</sup> Division as they complete service and return home.
- 1.2.6 San Antonio-Austin Aerial Navigation Map, undated.
- 1.2.7 San Antonio and Additions Map, 1909.
- 1.2.7 Tags for Bunk space, Mess Sitting, Abandon Ship Station, (2 tags).
- 1.2.9 Pencil sketch of soldier's gear.

### **Folder 3: Insurance & Veterans Administration (VA)**

- 1.3.1 "Application for Insurance," October 1, 1919 (*insurance stopped* penciled across top).
- 1.3.2 Letter from Treasury Department to Sidney Webb urging him to keep the insurance, October 10, 1919.
- 1.3.3 "Premium Rates and Policy Values: Age 22," pamphlet from Treasury Department, 1919.
- 1.3.4 Letter from Treasury Department to Sidney Webb regarding reinstatement of insurance, January 17, 1922 Blank application attached.
- 1.3.5 "Certificate of Social Insurance Award," from Social Security Administration to Jessie Webb notifying to disability benefit amount and initiation, June 28, 1960.
- 1.3.6 Letter from Veterans Administration to Sidney Webb notifying of disability award benefit, April 27, 1966.
- 1.3.7 Card from Social Security Administration stating reporting requirements inside envelope for "Social Security Documents"

### **Folder 4: Army Notebooks and Manuals**

- 1.4.1 Small notebook of handwritten notes on stripping and care of Browning Gun.
- 1.4.2 Small notebook with handwritten notes from one week school, Luxemburg, January 26, 1918.
- 1.4.3 Small book with names of 2<sup>nd</sup> Platoon members, 1918.
- 1.4.4 "Manual of Interior Guard Duty," U. S. Army, 1914, (corrected to April 15, 1917), 88 pages, (2 copies).
- 1.4.5 "Handbook of the Lewis Machine Gun (Airplane Type): Model 1917-18, Caliber .30, 6Mfd by Savage Arms Corp, 3 pages.
- 1.4.6 "Vickers Machine Gun (Model of 1915) and Mark IV Tripod Handbook," for Colt's Patent Fire Arms Mfg Co., 36 pages.

### **Folder 5: Veteran Solicitations**

- 1.5.1 Sales advertisement for *The History of the Thirty-third Division*, States Publications Society, undated.
- 1.5.2 Sales advertisement, *The Authentic History of The 33<sup>rd</sup> Division, Illinois in the World War*.
- 1.5.3 One page plea from Chicago attorney to support Gov. Frank O. Lowden for President, undated.

### **Folder 6: Newspaper Clippings**

- 1.6.1 Aerial photo of buildings to be used for United Nations conference, no date.
- 1.6.2 "Egg-Hunting Locomotive—McLean County", photo of crowd at Legion sponsored Easter Egg Hunt, no date.
- 1.6.3 "Legion Visits Training School," photo of members of Louis E. Davis post, *Pantagraph*, July 26, 1954, p. 3. And on riverside side, "Fighting Ends in Europe—"six photos from end of WWI and WWII, no date.

### **Folder 7: Army Entertainment Programs**

- 1.7.1 "Snap It Up," program for 29<sup>th</sup> Division Theatrical Troup. Printed in Paris.
- 1.7.2 "Hot Time in the Old Town," John H. Kraus Post No. 454 list of dates and events in February for veterans and friends, no year.

**Folder 8: Post Cards and Letters**

- 1.8.1 Postcard with image of soldier coming home.
- 1.8.2 Postcard with verse for the New Year.
- 1.8.3 Postcards with w/images of sweethearts or family from home, (2).
- 1.8.4 Letters to Pvt. Sidney Webb at Kelly Field from Rose Spicer of Washburn. IL, Dec 7 and Dec 30, 1919. Mailed in same envelope.
- 1.8.5 Letter from "Father" at McNabb, IL to Sidney Webb in Bloomington concerning health, Christmas gifts and plans, etc., Dec 9, 1920

**Folder 9: Miscellaneous Items**

- 1.9.1 Fragment naming Sidney's birth date, when came over from England.
- 1.9.2 Small envelope/folder.
- 1.9.3 Driver's License for 1926, 1927, 1928, and 1929.
- 1.9.4 Hunting License, 1930
- 1.9.5 "Shooting Dice" by D. A. Ryan, dedicated to the Camp Bragg Y.M.C.A.cover fragment.
- 1.9.6 "Irish Yarns," small joke book.
- 1.9.7 "Tung-Sol TV, Radio, Hi-Fi Tubes, November, 1960, price list.
- 1.9.8 Compass and Rule issued by Popular Science 20-in-1 Shop Guide.
- 1.9.9 "A Patriot's Prayer," typed, undated.
- 1.9.10 "The Devil Resigned," typed poem, undated.
- 1.9.11 Letter from Bill of Leach Lake Post, No. 471, The American Legion to Sidney Webb concerning enclosed affidavit for Nick Carter's claim, Sept. 3, 1921.
- 1.9.12 Obituary for Sidney "Sid" Webb, *Pantagraph*, June 30, 1969. *Added by Staff in 2016,*