



MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Minnesota State Archives

ADJUTANT GENERAL

An Inventory of Its Spanish-American War Veterans Relief Payment Records

OVERVIEW OF THE RECORDS

- Agency:** Minnesota. Office of the Adjutant General.
- Series Title:** Spanish-American War veterans relief payment records.
- Dates:** 1931-1943.
- Abstract:** Applications for relief submitted by Minnesota veterans of the Spanish-American War, the Philippine Insurrection, and the China Relief Expedition, or their survivors.
- Quantity:** 16.9 cu. ft. (17 boxes, and 1 v. in partial box).
- Location:** See Detailed Description section for box locations.

ADMINISTRATIVE HISTORY OF THE SPANISH-AMERICAN WAR RELIEF PAYMENTS

Laws of Minnesota 1931, Chapter 405, appropriated \$1.5 million for relief payments to Minnesota soldiers (and the dependents of soldiers) who took part in the Spanish-American War (1898), the Philippine Insurrection (1899-1901), and the China Relief Expedition (1900-1901). A sum of fifteen dollars was to be paid for each month or fraction of a month of service rendered during the period from April 11, 1898 to July 4, 1902 by a soldier who was a Minnesota resident at the time of enlistment and was subsequently discharged honorably.

The relief program was financed by the issuance of certificates of indebtedness, funded by levying a nine-year special tax, the proceeds of which were paid into a dedicated Spanish war veterans fund. The program was administered by a Spanish War Veterans' [Relief] Board, also established under Laws 1931 c405, consisting of the Adjutant General, the State Auditor, and the State Treasurer. The Adjutant General performed the board's administrative duties, including approval or denial of applications; the Auditor and Treasurer handled the issuance and payment of warrants for the relief awards.

Under the enabling legislation, the Adjutant General was to conclude his duties on June 30, 1935, with all files and pending applications retained as part of the permanent records of the Adjutant General's Office. In actuality, however, submission and evaluation of claims continued through at least 1943.

SCOPE AND CONTENTS OF THE RECORDS

Applications for relief submitted by Minnesota veterans, or the survivors of veterans, of the Spanish-American War, the Philippine Insurrection, and the China Relief Expedition, under the provisions of Laws of Minnesota 1931, Chapter 405. Accompanied by a numerical register.

The application packets contain a variety of documents: requests for applications, returned applications, affidavits describing the applicant's service, medical reports outlining injuries sustained during service, marriage and death certificates filed by widows, discharge papers, and returned vouchers. Intermingled with the applications for relief are various bills and records of salaries paid out for the administrative expenses of the Relief Board itself.

The applications for relief were numbered by the board as received, beginning in April of 1931. When payment was approved, a warrant number (with an "A" prefix) was assigned, and the application packet was filed under the warrant number. Some gaps in the numerical sequence exist, and a small number of application packets at the end of the series are denoted by a "B," "C," or "D" prefix.

In addition to the initial relief payment, some veterans were eligible for a supplementary relief payment based on their length of service. A small separate group of files documents these payments.

ARRANGEMENT OF THE RECORDS

Both the main set of files and the supplementary files are arranged by warrant number.

OTHER FINDING AIDS

An index to these records is available on microfilm (SAM 3, Roll 1) (cataloged separately). It lists the applications alphabetically and provides reference to "A" warrant numbers, some "B" numbers, and a few approved claims in the "C" and "D" series. Entries for persons who received supplementary payments appear to cite only the initial relief payment warrant number.

INDEX TERMS

This collection is indexed under the following headings in the catalog of the Minnesota Historical Society. Researchers desiring materials about related topics, persons or places should search the catalog using these headings.

Topics:

China Relief Expedition, 1900-1901—Veterans—Minnesota.
Pensions, Military—Minnesota.
Spanish-American War, 1898—Veterans—Minnesota.
Veterans—Minnesota.

Places:

Philippines—History—Insurrection, 1899-1901—Veterans—Minnesota.

Organizations:

Minnesota. Spanish War Veterans' Relief Board.

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Preferred Citation:

[Indicate the cited item, file number, and applicant's name here]. Minnesota. Adjutant General. Spanish-American War Veterans Relief Payment Records. Minnesota Historical Society. State Archives.

See the Chicago Manual of Style for additional examples.

Accession Information:

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MnPALS ID No.: 1719835 RLIN ID No.: MNHV93-A87

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE COLLECTION

Note to Researchers: To request materials, please note both the location and box numbers shown below.

Location	Box	Warrant nos.
114.E.1.1B	1	A-32523 to A-358615.
114.E.1.2F	2	A-358616 to A-366451.
114.E.1.3B	3	A-366452 to A-370002.
114.E.1.4F	4	A-370003 to A-382118.
114.E.1.5B	5	A-382496 to A-391661.
114.E.1.6F	6	A-391662 to A-404380.
114.E.1.7B	7	A-404381 to A-418977.
114.E.1.8F	8	A-419593 to A-428406.
114.E.1.9B	9	A-428407 to A-436714.
114.E.1.10F	10	A-436715 to A-448331.
114.E.2.1B	11	A-448332 to A-459461.
114.E.2.2F	12	A-459462 to A-467594.
114.E.2.3B	13	A-467595 to A-480251.
114.E.2.4F	14	A-480252 to A-520467.
114.E.2.5B	15	A-520468 to A-667318.
114.E.2.6F	16	A-667319 to A-990896. B-6619 to B-897766. C-5953 to C-958052. D-210335, Eva Newman Boothby, 1943.

Location	Box	
114.E.2.7B	17	Supplementary Veterans Relief Payment Files, 1930s-1940s. 0.5 cu. ft. Usually just a single sheet that documents approval of the initial payment and subsequently of the supplementary payment. Some of the documents may be duplicated in the main set of files, above. Each file is labeled with the initial relief payment warrant number, supplementary payment warrant number, and application number; they are arranged in numerical order by initial relief payment warrant number. A-353518 - A-502238; B-32524. (box half empty)
112.E.2.6F	---	Spanish - American War Veteran's Relief Board Application Register, June 24, 1931 - August 7, 1942. 1 volume in partial box. Entries are numerical by application number, probably assigned chronologically. Each entry gives name, address, amount approved, date of award or disallowance, and remarks (usually abstract number or note on disallowance or other disposition of the application). Blank amount/date/remarks columns appear to signify applications for which no payment or disallowance decision was made.