

World War I (France)  
1917-1920

**Physical Description:** 44 items; notebooks, pamphlets, journal, guide, speeches, orders, postcards, newspapers, clippings, etc. Transferred to the Museum of History were a Sam Browne belt, leather puttees, and a gas mask.

**Acquisition:** Gift of Mrs. Banks Arendell, [REDACTED], Raleigh  
August 2, 1974

Division of Archives and Manuscripts  
 State Department of Archives and History  
 Raleigh, North Carolina

**Description:** Banks Arendell (1895-1974), a Raleigh lawyer who graduated from Duke University in 1917, attended Reserve Officers' Training Camp at Fort Oglethorpe, Ga. the summer of 1917, was commissioned a 2nd lieutenant and ordered to duty at Camp Jackson, S. C. Serving with a machine gun company of the 321st Infantry, 81st "Wildcat" Division, he was ordered from Camp Sevier, S. C. to the port of embarkation at Hoboken, N. J. Lt. Arendell kept a journal from the time of these orders, July 10, 1918, to April 6, 1919, in which he described briefly, but vividly, life on a troopship through submarine infested waters, scenes at Liverpool, sightseeing at Winchester Castle and Cathedral, the ecstatic reception of the Americans by French citizens, visits to St. Die and Paris, and the battle raging over "no man's land" near Verdun as his division fought from November 9 until November 11 when "At eleven o'clock not a gun was firing. With lightning and almost magical suddenness the front was changed from a deafening rattle and boom to a grave-like silence. A few seconds after the war's end, Boche soldiers leaped from their holes and trenches shrieking joyfully and with upstretched arms, 'Boche feeneesh!'"

In addition to the 76-page journal, the collection includes army orders, officer's record book, pamphlet on uniforms and insignia (French, Belgium, British, German), published by the Army War College, 1917; a farewell pamphlet "To the Homeward-Bound Americans" which summarizes American involvement in the war. Materials on machine guns (called "Marguerite Wilsons" in honor of the President's daughter) are a set of notes from the course Arendell attended at Clancy, together with two printed lectures.

Two newspapers are America in Europe, September 16, 1918, published in Frankfurt on Main, Germany, and The Octagon, March 22, 1919, official publication of the Eight Army Corps.

## ARENDELL, BANKS PAPERS (cont'd)

World War I (France)  
1917-1920

Miscellaneous materials are newspaper clippings, postcards, French ration stamps, and an illustrated Guide to Winchester, 184 pp., 1917.

Two items from 1920 are a typescript of an 8-page speech (page 1 missing) urging a "committee" to support equal suffrage for women, and a broadside urging women to vote for Cox and Roosevelt because they support the League of Nations, "which means life . . . for the young sons of the mothers now living, and life for the sons of mothers who come after us."

Finding Aids

Main Entry Card

Date Cards

1917-1919

1920

Subject Cards

ENGLAND - Winchester

POLITICS, 1920 - Campaign Material

WAR - World War I

WOMEN - Equal Suffrage

Finding Aid completed 3 August 1974 by Ellen Z. McGrew