

Guide to the **World War I Collection**

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See also:

Henry Willard World War I Collection V-1-5-1
Scrapbook s-276

COLLECTION DESCRIPTION

Tompkins County residents were involved in the First World War in many facets. As tensions boiled over in Europe and the war began, local people discussed, wrote about, and collected information on different aspects of the war. When President Wilson addressed Congress in 1917, declaring the United States' intention to enter the war, the *Ithaca Journal* distributed copies of the address. When 2.8 million men were inducted into the U.S. military and 2 million others volunteered to serve, residents of Tompkins County were among both groups. When U.S. soldiers died from wounds and illnesses and in combat, some of them had come from Tompkins County. Residents on the home front collected news clippings about the proceedings of the war, learned how to knit sweaters and socks for soldiers, and bought liberty bonds and war-savings stamps to support the war effort. Some locals, notably Alice Tobey of Danby, collected records of their towns' involvement in the war, including the men who enlisted and the value of liberty bonds bought. When the war ended, Tompkins County honored its servicemen with celebrations and memorials. This collection represents these varied aspects of Tompkins County history during the tumultuous era of World War I.

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Placed in the back of the box to prevent damage to the paper.	