

## HELP SOLDIERS TO VOTE

**DATA WANTED BY GOVERNOR NEVILLE REGARDING EVERY NEBRASKA CITIZEN IN THE SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES.**

Fill out blanks and mail to Captain Strong, of the Box Butte Home Guards.

At the special session of the Nebraska legislature, held this spring, a law was passed for the purpose of allowing the Nebraska soldiers to vote at general elections. This law, in part, reads as follows:

**HOUSE ROLL NO. 1.**  
Introduced by Crist Anderson, C. W. Trumble, C. Petrus Peterson, Dennis H. Cronin, Soren Fries, J. N. Norton, James H. Craddock, J. E. Jacobson, Lloyd Thomas, Dwight S. Dalbey, Jacob Sess, P. B. Neff, J. J. Shannon, George Jackson and Senator Lahners.

**AN ACT** to enable qualified electors in the military or naval service of the state of Nebraska or of the United States to exercise the right of suffrage while absent from the state in such military or naval service; to regulate the exercise of suffrage; to make an appropriation for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this act; to provide penalties, to repeal chapter 177 of the laws of 1917; to repeal all acts or parts of acts in conflict with the provisions of this act; and to declare an emergency.

**Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Nebraska:**

**Section 1. Elections—Soldiers' votes.**—Notwithstanding any more general law respecting the time or manner of voting for candidates for office at any general or primary election, or the time or manner of voting on any question submitted to a popular vote at a general election, or at any primary or general election in any city where registration of voters is required by law, all qualified electors, in war time, or after peace but before demobilization, in the actual military or naval service of this state or of the United States, in the army or navy thereof, and by reason thereof absent from the state on any election day, shall be entitled to exercise the right of suffrage and to vote at such elections in the manner and form provided for in this act.

**Section 2. Election commission.**—The secretary of state is hereby made the state election commissioner. To facilitate in the discharge of the duties imposed by the provisions of this act,

the secretary of state shall appoint two qualified electors to assist him. These appointees shall be known as assistant state election commissioners. The state election commissioner and said assistant state election commissioners shall comprise a body to be known as the state election commission. Hereafter, in this act, the state election commissioner shall be referred to as "commissioner"; his assistants as "assistant commissioners"; and the state election commission as "commission." The two assistant commissioners provided for in this section shall be appointed by the secretary of state from a list of names to be recommended and submitted to the secretary of state by the state chairmen of the two political parties that received the highest percentage of votes at the previous general election. The chairman of the state committee of each of these parties shall submit a list of three persons in each of said parties, and from this list the secretary of state shall select one assistant commissioner from each of said parties. Assistant commissioners shall take the same oath as that taken by executive state officers, and shall give a bond, to be approved by the secretary of state in such sum as he may fix. The assistant commissioners provided for in this section shall be appointed as herein required within thirty days after this act takes effect, and the term of the first assistant commissioner that are appointed shall expire on the first day of January 1919, and the successors to the first appointees shall thereafter be appointed for a term of two years. Any vacancy in the office of assistant commissioner shall be filled in the same manner as that provided for in this section. The person appointed shall serve the unexpired term. The assistant commissioners shall each receive a per diem of \$5 and traveling expenses for each and every day that they are necessarily employed in dis-

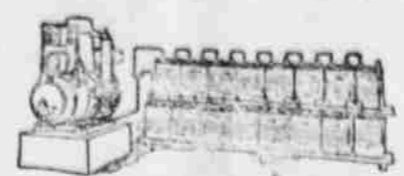
charging their duties. The commission shall have general charge and supervision of the administration of the provisions of this act, and shall impartially discharge all duties imposed upon them and shall so administer the provisions of this act as to carry out its true purpose and intent. It shall adopt an official seal.

**Sec. 3. Card index—Register.**—The governor shall immediately prepare and make a card index, on which shall be entered the names of voters of this state who are now absent or may hereafter be absent from their respective election districts in time of war, serving in the army, navy or other part of the military service of this state or of the United States. The index cards of the voters shall be arranged in alphabetical order for each county, and also for each city in this state where registration of voters is required by law. In counties that include a city in which registration is required, two card indexes shall be kept; one containing the names of all absent voters in the territory in said county outside of said city; the other containing the names of all absent voters within the city. Such index register shall contain on each card the name of the voter, as it appears on the records of the war or navy department, his postoffice address, the county, precinct or city in which said voter has a legal residence; if he resides in a city, his street or residence number, or such other description as will identify the place of his residence. Said cards shall contain the name or number or other designation of the division, regiment, company, troop, vessel or other command in which the absent voter is serving at the time of such entry, so far as the governor can ascertain the same. If there are military reasons why this information should not be placed on a card, a record of the same shall be preserved in the office of the governor. The governor shall obtain from the proper military or naval authorities of the nation, or from any other source that is available and expedient, the information required to carry out the provisions of this act. In the future, the governor shall keep a complete card index in accordance with the provisions of this section, not only of those who are now in the army or navy of the United States, but also of those who may in the future enter the military service of the state or of the United States in any capacity. The governor shall make a copy of the names of the various absent voters which shall be known as a general register and shall be a public record and shall, at all seasons,

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able times, be open to inspection. This register shall be a copy as near as may be of the information set forth in the card index. The names shall appear in alphabetical order for each county, except in counties which include a city where registration is required by law, the names of the voters inside of said city and those outside of such city shall be arranged in separate lists in alphabetical order. The governor shall revise and correct the index cards and the register herein provided so that said cards and the records of the governor's office, will as near as may be, correctly report the information relating to absent voters as required by the provisions of this act. The governor shall file with the commissioner at least 30 days before a statewide, general or primary election, a copy of the general register as shown by the records of said office as revised and corrected to the date of its filing. The governor shall file with the city clerk or other officer having charge of the preparation of the ballots and the conduct of an election in any city in which registration of voters is required by law, at least 30 days before any general or primary election in said city, a copy of said general register in so far as it relates to the absent voters in said cities. Said copy shall contain the information that appears on the general register in the governor's office, revised and corrected up to the time of furnishing the same to the said city. Every public officer and every citizen, when requested so to do in writing by the governor or the commissioner, shall furnish to the governor such information as he may possess relating to absent voters who are in the military service of the state or of the United States. Any person who shall refuse to furnish said information or shall wilfully furnish false information with reference to such absent voter, shall be deemed guilty of a felony and shall, on conviction thereof, be punished by imprisonment in the state penitentiary for any period not more than three years.

**Sec. 5. Primary election—Ballots.**—The election commission, at least 25 days prior to any statewide primary, and after they receive the copy of the general register of absent voters from the governor, shall fill in the proper spaces in the blanks provided for on the outside of the red envelope, the information that appears on the general register with reference to the name, residence, county, city, precinct and home postoffice address of the absent voter, who at the time is stationed within the continental United States, and also the information with reference to the present address of said absent voter.

The information filled in these blank spaces shall be substantially what appears on the records in the governor's office unless there is some military reason for not giving it in detail, but sufficient information shall be given to identify the residence of the voter in this state and his approximate location in the army or navy of the United States. After filling out these blanks on the red envelope the same shall be signed by the election commissioner or one of his assistants. The official seal of the commissioner shall be impressed on said envelope.

**Sec. 18. Appropriation.**—There is hereby appropriated out of the general fund of the state of Nebraska the sum of \$25,000.00, or so much thereof as may be necessary to defray the expenses of administering the provisions of this act. The election commission shall appoint the necessary clerical assistants to properly administer this act in so far as it relates to the duties imposed upon said election commission and the election commissioner. The governor shall appoint the necessary clerical assistants to properly administer the provisions of this act in so far as it relates to the duties imposed upon the governor. The election commissioner and the governor shall fix the amount of compensation to be paid to the said clerks and the same shall be paid out of the appropriation provided for in this section.

**Statement by Captain Strong.**  
Upon the shoulders of R. C. Strong, captain of the Box Butte Home guards, has been delegated the duty of securing this information for this vicinity. The blank below, in Captain Strong's statement, should be filled out and mailed to him. His statement is as follows:

"It is the wish of the governor of this state that he has a record of each man that has enlisted in the army or navy from Box Butte county. This is for all men in the army and navy that has enlisted in the old National guards, enlisted in the Regular army and navy and those that have been inducted into the army by the draft. Below is a list of questions that is

requested to be filled out and sent to me at your earliest convenience. The questions are to help in allowing the soldiers to vote and your

early reply will insure his voting. Cut out the questions below and fill in the answers and mail to Capt. R. C. Strong, of Box Butte Home Guards:

### SOLDIERS' VOTE COUPON

County of \_\_\_\_\_  
 Soldier's Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Home Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date of Enlistment \_\_\_\_\_  
 Nearest Relative \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 Organization and Rank \_\_\_\_\_  
 Present Address \_\_\_\_\_

Fill out the above questions and cut out this coupon and mail to  
 CAPT. R. C. STRONG, Box Butte Home Guards,  
 Box 489 Alliance, Nebraska

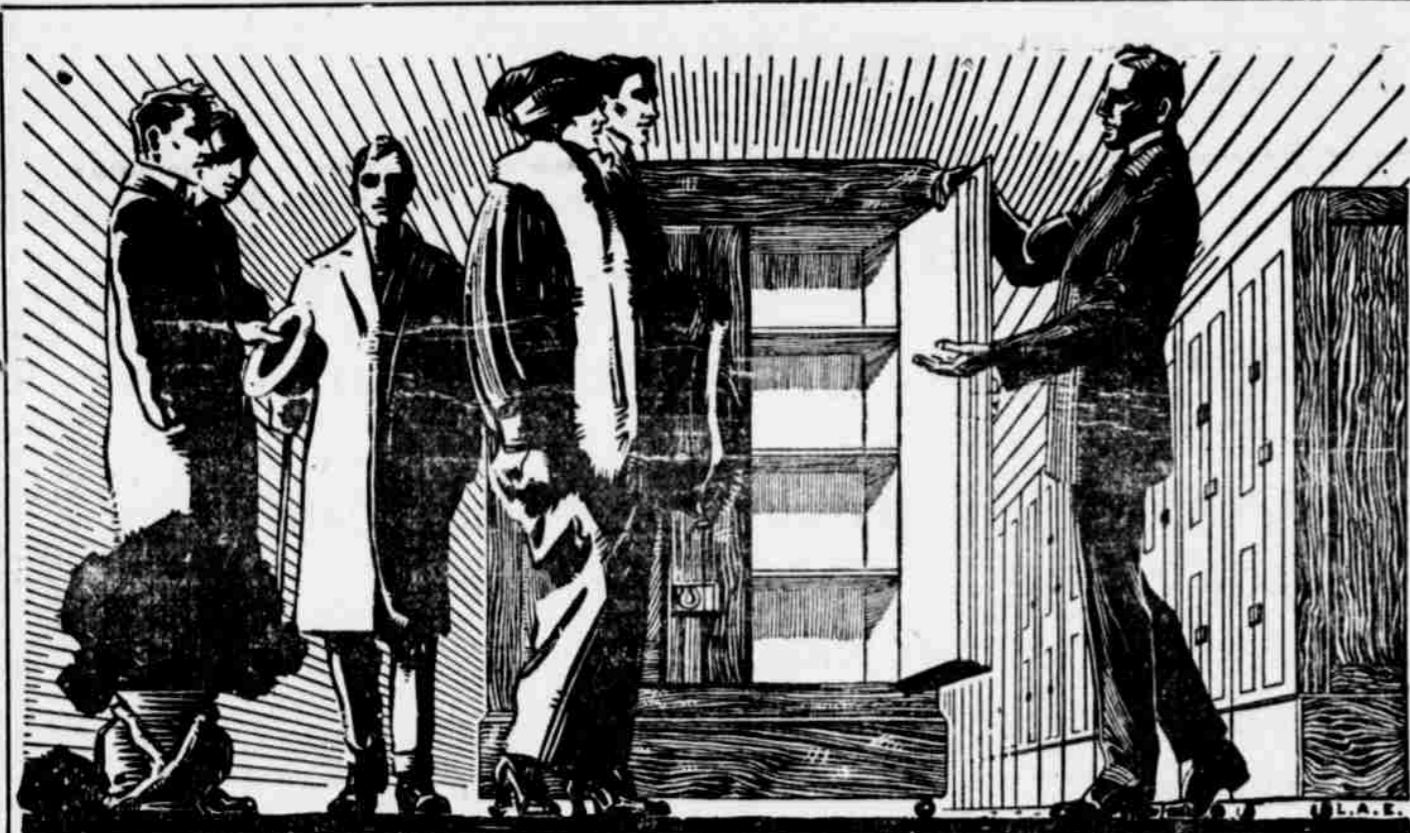
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