

EDITOR'S NOTE

In this issue of *Maine History*, we have compiled a diverse array of content related to the topic of Maine in World War I, including a brief history of the National Guard in New England and its involvement in the war effort written by Steven Alboum; a piece written by J. Michael Miller, a special projects historian with the Marine Corps History Division, on the role of the marines (some of them Mainers) in the Great War as seen through the eyes of journalist Floyd Gibbons, offering a unique approach to the challenge of meaningful remembrance in the absence of detailed information about those who perished in battle; and an overview of resources available at Maine Historical Society, written by Director of Library Services, Jamie Rice. We have also included an early piece of scholarship by Edwin Costrell (originally published as number 49 of the second series of University of Maine Studies and reprinted here with permission from the University of Maine Press), which contextualizes Maine within the larger narrative of a United States on the brink of war and represents an important link between the sparse secondary literature on Maine in World War I and the body of primary sources that speak to collective memory of the Great War. While Maine State Historian Earle Shettleworth, Jr., Jason Libby, Jonathan Bratten, and others have, in recent years, taken on the important task of publishing content related to Maine in World War I, the subject remains grossly underrepresented in the historiography of the state. It is our hope that this issue, in concert with other centennial programs and publications, will help serve as an invitation to expand upon this existing scholarship, carrying forward into the next century the memories of Mainers who lived through the Great War and better illuminating Maine's role in the events that surrounded it.

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