

## Bert Stephen Klein

Bert S. Klein was born 13 January 1887 in Hastings, Dakota County, Minnesota to Christ Klein (1851-1929) and Mary Link (1853-1936), both of German ancestry. He moved to Illinois at a relatively young age. He married 13 June 1910 in Chicago to Eileen Henson.

Prior to the War, Bert worked as a baker. He registered for the draft on 5 June 1917 at Prophetstown, Whiteside County, Illinois at age 30. He said that he was married and worked as a baker in Prophetstown.

He joined the colors in June 1918 and served as a private in the 148<sup>th</sup> Infantry, 37<sup>th</sup> Division, American Expeditionary Forces. He also spent time with the 6<sup>th</sup> Company, 161<sup>st</sup> Depot Brigade. When he returned to the US on Transport Ship *St. Louis* he was listed as a private attached to Camp Grant Detachment 1, 148th Infantry, 37th Division. A note on the manifest states, "to Camp Mills." Camp Mills was a WWI military installation located in Mineola, New York. His listed contact on the manifest is Mary Vahldeich of Cicero, Illinois, who was his older sister, Margaret Mary, born in 1878.

After the War, Bert married his second wife, Audrey Marie Dennis Kasischke (1900-1940) on 8 April 1923 in St. Joseph, Berrien County, Michigan. Both before and after the War, Mr. Klein had a career as a baker. It appears he engaged in that occupation virtually all his working years until retirement. The obituary article from the Hastings Gazette in early 1966 describes him working as a baker in the Chicago area and as being retired at the time of his death.

Bert died on 28 December 1965 in the Veterans Administration Hospital in Chicago, Cook County, Illinois at age 78. He was survived by his wife; two daughters and a son; two brothers, Paul and Ben of Hastings; and two sisters, Emma Girk of St. Paul and Angela Baer of Livermore, California. He also had four

Farm 1 **811** REGISTRATION CARD <sup>252</sup> No. **75**

1 Name in full **Bert Klein** Age, in yrs. **30**

2 Home address **Prophetstown Ill.**

3 Date of birth **January 13 1887**

4 Are you (1) a natural-born citizen, (2) a naturalized citizen, (3) an alien, (4) or have you declared your intention (specify which)? **Natural Born Citizen**

5 Where were you born? **Hastings Minn. U.S.A.**

6 If not a citizen, of what country are you a citizen or subject?

7 What is your present trade, profession, or office? **Baker**

8 By whom employed? **Dennis Bakery**

Where employed? **Prophetstown Ill.**

9 Have you a father, mother, wife, child under 12, or a sister or brother under 12 solely dependent on you for support (specify which)? **No**

10 Married or single (which)? **Married** Race (specify which) **Caucasian**

11 What military service have you had? Rank **None** branch **None**

years **None** Nation or State **None**

12 Do you etc. exemption from draft (specify grounds): **No**

I affirm that I have verified above answers and that they are true.

**Bert Klein**

If property is an Alien, list date and year of this country

grandchildren. According to Find a Grave, Bert was buried in Mt. Carmel Catholic Cemetery, Hillside, Cook County, Illinois. The Archdiocese of Chicago cemetery records agree with this. However, the headstone application for military veterans shows that the headstone was delivered to Queen of Heaven Cemetery in Hillside, Illinois.