These are the minute books of the Daughters of Rebekah lodge at Blendville in Jasper County, Missouri. The minutes begin with the organizational meeting on 28 May 1901 and continue through 24 June 1986. Regular business included the initiation of members, work on the various degrees of the order, and planning for assemblies and social functions with other Rebekah and Odd Fellows lodges.

Blendville was a small mining community near Joplin in Jasper County. It is named after “blende,” the most common ore of zinc found in the area. While the community had its own post office (1890-1900), it was known as “Blendsville.” The official seal of Lodge No. 298 also bears the name “Blendsville.” However, the most common usage of the name in the records is “Blendville,” and the collection has been titled as such.

Blendville Lodge No. 298 was organized 28 May 1901 with the help of Zinc Lodge No. 97 of Joplin. Forty-five members made up the lodge, and Susan Wear was the first Noble Grand. The records of the lodge consist primarily of minutes of regular meetings, beginning with the organizational meeting in 1901 and continuing through 1986. There are no records from 13 June 1923 to 26 June 1935. Some of the volumes include rosters of officers. In addition to initiating new members and working on the various degrees of the order, lodge members also supported the Odd Fellows Home in Liberty, Mo., contributed to the Joplin hospital fund and Community Chest, and helped with war bond sales and relief work during World War Two.

Shelf List

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Volume 01: Minute book, 28 May 1901—4 August 1908
Volume 02: Minute book, 11 August 1908—11 September 1911
Volume 03: Minute book, 26 September 1911—3 November 1914
Volume 04: Minute book, 10 November 1914—2 January 1917
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Volume 06: Minute book, 18 May 1920—13 February 1923
Volume 07: Minute book, 26 June 1935—25 July 1939
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