

Collection Name:

Hedemarkslag papers, 1927-2005

Collection Number:

P0465 (Hedemarkslag)

Extent:

2 folders

History of the Bygdslag:

Papers of "bygd" societies and their Common Council ("Bygdslagenes Fellesraad"), clippings, constitutions, correspondence, minutes and financial records, pamphlets, pictures, programs, and reports, dealing with conventions, officers, special projects, and the Norse-American Centennial of 1925. The bygdslag, organized around the turn of the century, are societies based on regional origins in Norway. They were active in the Eidsvoll Centennial in 1914 and the Norse-American Centennial in 1925. While activity dropped off after the beginning of World War II, a revival began in the 1980s as a result of renewal of ethnic interest, and with emphasis on family history. Odd S. Lovoll's "A Folk Epic; The Bygdslag in America" (NAHA, 1975), which includes a bibliography of lag publications.

Papers of the various "bygdslag," "social organizations of (Americans) from the same homeland district, usually rural" which began in 1899 with the organization of the Valdres Samband. About fifty other lag with national-wide appeal were formed, as well as many others which were more local. They held annual "stevner" (meetings) and many published periodicals, yearbooks, or monographs which often contained extensive genealogical materials. A decline came after World War II, with a revival in the 1970s particularly through renewed emphasis on genealogical research.

A Council of Bygdslags (Bygdslagenes Faellesraad) coordinates activities of the groups. They were very active in the Eidsvoll centennial celebrations in 1914, and the Norse-American Centennial in 1925. Holdings for the various lag vary, but usually include clippings of newspaper articles about their meetings, correspondence, programs, and copies of their publications, duplicates of library holdings, in the periodical and book collections (monographs and annuals included in the latter). In some cases regional associations are included with the national groups, and in others separate groups which later merged are included under the merged name.

Access Rights:

This collection is open to research.

Bibliographic Citation:

[Indicate the cited item here]. Hedemarkslag Papers (Bygdelagenes Papers).
Norwegian-American Historical Association, Northfield, Minnesota.

Box	Folder	Description
22	1	Hedemarkens Geistlige Antikviteter and Nord Hedmark og Hedemarken Lag: Highlights of the First Ten Years, 1989, 2005 Includes: "Hedemarkens Geistlige Antikviteter" ("Hedemarken's Clerical Antiques") by Randi Krohn, 1989; Nord Hedmark og Hedemarken Lag: Highlights of the First Ten Years, 1995-2005, 2005.
22	2	Hedemarkslaget i Oslo, 1927-1977