

Collection Name:

Numedalslag papers, 1909-2002

Collection Number:

P0465 (Numedalslag)

Extent:

1.2 cubic feet (3 archives boxes)

About Numdalslag:

Numedalslag (Nummedølgslaget) in America was organized in Fargo, North Dakota, June 17, 1908. Numedalslag is also known as Numedal, Kongsberg og Omegn lag, which is a federation of Numedalslag and Kongsberglag. This federation was organized at Fergus Falls, Minnesota, on June 16, 1928. The society was discontinued in 1961. They also had a chapter called the West Coast Division of Numedalslag.

Past presidents of Numedalslag include:

H.H. Strøm (1908-17)
Thore Brugaard (1917-19)
R.G. Reiersen (1919-1928)
Alexander Wiley (1928-31)
Harald C. Omholt (1931-41)
John Thorsdalen (1941-48)
John K. Thorsdal (1948-50)
Hans Thorsdalen (1950-57)
Christian M. Knutsen (1957-61)
Harald Ohnstad (1959-61)

Past secretaries include:

H. Steinarson (1908-10)
O.O. Enestvedt (1910-28)
Gilbert Vikan (1911-12)
Andrew Knudson (1908-15)
Ole H. Flaata (1919-28)
Peter Everson (1928-49, 1950-52)
Christian M. Knutsen (1949-50)
Sigrid Kiran Stordalen (1952-61)
O.O. Enestvedt (1928-)
Thore Brugaard (1935-)
Andrew Stenseth (1928-31)
T.H. Ristvedt (1931-32)

Christian M. Knutsen (1932)

History of the Bygdelag:

Papers of "bygd" societies and their Common Council ("Bygdelagenes 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 bygdelag, 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 Bygdelag in America" (NAHA, 1975), which includes a bibliography of lag publications.

Papers of the various "bygdelag," "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 Bygdelags (Bygdelagenes 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]. Numedalslag Papers (Bygdelagenes Papers).
Norwegian-American Historical Association, Northfield, Minnesota.

Box	Folder	Description
31	4	Numealslag, 1909-1942, 1948-1952, 1966
31	5	Numedalslaget Nyheter, 2000-2004 Also Includes: NHOH News, Volume 7, Number 3, Fall 2002.
31	6	Numedalslaget Nyheter, 2001, 2004-2005, 1985-1988 Numedalslaget Nyheter December 2004-Summer 2005; article on Scandinavia Vital Records Index from Numedalslaget Nyheter, December 2001; Numedalslaget Nyheter May 1985-May 1988.

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| 32 | 1 | Numedalslaget Nyheter, August 1988-Fall 1992 |
| 32 | 2 | Numedalslaget Nyheter, Christmas 1992-September 1996 |
| 32 | 3 | Numedalslaget Nyheter, Spring 1996-March 2000 |
| 32 | 4 | Aarbog 1-4, 1915-1918 |
| 32 | 5 | Aarbog 5-7, 1919-1921 |
| 33 | 1 | Aarbok no. 8-10 and 12, 1922-1926 |
| 33 | 2 | Numedalslaget and Numedal, Kongsberg og omegn lag Aarbok, 1927-1929 |
| 33 | 3 | Numedal, Kongsberg og omegn lag Årbok, 1930-1931, 1944 |
| 33 | 4 | Numedal, Kongsberg og omegn lag Årbok, 1949 |
| 33 | 5 | Articles
Includes: newspaper clippings, 13 May 1917 and 19 January 1915. |
| 33 | 6 | Numedalslaget Numedal-Kongsberg and Omegn Aarbøker Index, 1915-1953
Includes: an index of biographies, autobiographies, family histories, and obituaries found in Numedal-Kongsberg and Omegn Aarbøker, 1915-1953; correspondence: Forrest Brown and Richard Holter, 5 August 2002 (envelope was postmarked 6 August 2002). |