

Collection Name:

Nordlandslag papers, 1909-2012

Collection Number:

P0465 (Nordlandslag)

Extent:

2.0 cubic feet (5 archives boxes)

About Nordlandslag:

Nordlandslag had various chapters. Nordlandslaget in America and Canada was organized in Minneapolis, January 29, 1909. Nordlandslaget of the Pacific Coast was organized in Tacoma, Washington, in the fall of 1949. "Nordlyset" was organized in Tacoma, Washington, March 12, 1912. "Fembøringen" was organized in Seattle, Washington, September 7, 1913. "Midnattsol" was organized in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, November 1951. "Nordkapp" was organized in Victoria, British Columbia, Canada in the fall of 1971. "Nordlands Minde" was organized in Minneapolis, March 18, 1909.

Early presidents of the Nordlandslag in America and Canada included C.D. Mørck (1909-11), O.E. Rølvaag (1918-22), and Julius B. Baumann (1922-24). To see an entire list of past presidents and secretaries of all chapters of the Nordlandslag, see Odd S. Lovoll's "A Folk Epic: The Bygdelag in America."

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]. Nordlandslag Papers (Bygdelagenes Papers). Norwegian-American Historical Association, Northfield, Minnesota.

Box	Folder	Description
27	3	History and Sandhei biographical notes, circa 1910-1967 Includes: "Brief Biographical Notes of Christian A. Sandhei, Present Editor of the Periodical 'Nord-Norge'" by John Klefstad; stevne program, 22-24 June 1910; p.27-32 from "Nord-Norge," written in Norwegian, circa 1914; "Fortsettelse av 'Nordlands-Lagets av Amerikas Historie'" ("Translation of 'The Nordland Lags of America's Historie'"), translated into Norwegian by C.A. Sandhei, circa March 1967.
27	4	Reports, writings, and correspondence, 1915-1969 newspaper clippings; reports (stevnes); programs; poems/songs; stevne/meeting ticket (50th anniversary); pages 25-30 from the "Nordlandslaget" section from "Nord-Norge," written in Norwegian; lag dues information in a letter from Hans Pedersen, circa 1959; picture of Ludvig Pave and [Ravats]-Nils, undated; list of lags and officers/leadership, undated; notes on dinner invitations/RSVPs; "History of the Lifeboat Nordland," re-written by Axel Valla; "Nordfjordlagets av America and Canada Inc.," list of presidents, circa 1972; "Formenner i Bygdelagene" ("Presidents in/of The Bygdelags"), undated; "Secretaries of Nordlands Minde," circa 1973; correspondence: Ehard Miller (Nordlandslaget); Vestkystens Nordlandslage (Nels Nelson, President; Alma Smaback, Secretary); National Nordlands Lag of America and Canada Convention; Duluth Namdalslag; National Tronderlag (Ragnvald Gotaas, President; Elfrida Nervick, Secretary); Morefylkelog (likely

Mørefylkelag) (Merman Brun, President; Mrs. Toralf Boe, Secretary); National Osterdagslag (Sam Eng, President; Oline Peterson, Secretary); Nordlandslaget Midnatsol; Einar Aanes (Nordlands Loggers North Light Club); Josephine Albertson; Nordlandslaget of America and Canada; Mr. and Mrs. Conrad Gunderson; [Ingolf Jacobson Nohly Mont]; Martin Hagfors [Torleiv Flaa]; Hagbarth Bue; Oswald Barsten; Hans Pedersen; Nordmanns Forbundet (Jacob Stefferud); Claus Magnussen; Henry E. Hanson; Hilda [Kenigstad]; Olaf Flatmark; Mr. W.D. Hanson; R. [Aftieth] Kor; L.H. [Shauman]; E. Clifford Mork (Mayor of Minneapolis); Dr. Knut Hoegh; Professor O.E. Rølvaag; Pastor I.A. Johansen; [Eega Rodelv]; Mrs. Bryn Ostby; C.A. Sandhei; Arnold Christianson; Ray E. David (Mgr, Williston Chamber of Commerce); Mr. H.A. Schei; Harry L. Lee; John Eide; The Heart Fund of the Minnesota Heart Association Inc.; Mrs. Dreng Bjornaraa (Elfrida, Datter til ("Daughter of") Bernhard Knudsen); Oscar Gimmestad; Clara Thorpe; Jacob S. Worm-Müller; Johan Hambro; Sigurd Rognebakke (Sunnfjordlaget); Paul Koht (Norwegian Ambassador); Nils Klungtvedt; M.A. Lunduliy; Marcus Tellevik; Mrs. Trygve Pedersen; Mr L.H. Loken; Ed P. Powers (Gardner Hotel, Fargo); Mrs. F.M. [Langberg or Langherg; Olga [Christiansen or Christianson]; Magne Smedvig; Luther Sletten; Aage F. Bothner; [N.K. Sehelm or Sehely[o]]; [Ragiea Ness]; Dr. Richard Beck; Mrs. Carrie A. Price; Orville L. Freeman; [Bernard Dreier]; Mr. and Mrs. L. Strauman; Duluth Namdalslag (Otto Christoffersen, President); S.W. Davidson; Østerdalslaget (M.E. Berg, Secretary); Ole J. Braaten; Daniel K. Loucks, Ross H. Oviatt, and Dale E. Bradshaw; Janice F. Loken; Max Witcher (Executive Assistant to South Dakota Governor Herseth); Louis Loken; Karl E. Mundt (U.S. Senator); Sigurd Anderson; Fred Lindekugel (South Dakota Public Utilities Commissioner); Archie Gubbrud; Lloyd V. Eastman; Editor of Watertown Public Opinion; Bernice Jorgensen; Professor Odd Løvoll.

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Programs, correspondence, and clippings/notes, 1911-1958, 1972

Includes: programs; pamphlets (including constitution and articles of incorporation); newspaper clippings; property list, undated; notes on lag presidents, undated; "Resolutions Komiteen" ("The Resolutions Committee"), notes by Ehard Miller, Ragna Ness, and Lyder L. Unstad, 1956; speech notes, undated; correspondence: Mr. Ehard Miller; Hans Pedersen; W.D. Hanson; Mrs. Price; L.H. Loken; Lloyd V. Eastman; Carrie A. Price; [Bernard Dreier]; Eliot M. Martinson; Petra [Christoffereson or Christofferesen]; Charlotte [Naslwed or Naslueed]; Jennie Kalstad; Arnold Christianson; Holand and Stetson; C.A. Sandhei; Mr. E. Grotnes; Ingolf

- Jacobson; Donald Holand; Mr. Haakon Larson; Trygve [Eid] [illegible].
- 27 6 Nord-Norge (Nordlandslaget) Newsletter, 1965-1972
Includes: Nord-Norge June 1965, August 1975, April 1970, September 1970, December 1970, April 1971, September 1971, and April 1972.
- 27 7 Nord Norge (Nordlandlaget) Newsletter, 1980-1992.
Includes: Nord Norge, edited and printed by Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Anderson, Volume 1, Issues 1-2 and Volume 12, Issues 2-3: May 1980, October 1980, December 1991, March 1992.
- 28 1 Nordlandslaget Fembøringen and Nord Norge (Nordlandslag) Newsletter, 1959 and circa 1967-1996
Includes: writings on Nordlandslaget Fembøringen by Wilhelm Qvigstad and Martin Hagfors, circa 1967 and 1988; Western Viking newspaper clipping regarding Vestkysten Nordlandslags 1996 stevne, 26 April 1996; Vestkysten's Nordlandslags Stevne program, 26-27 March 1993; list of past presidents, secretaries, and charter members, circa 1987; Nord Norge Nyhets Breve, December 1979 and February 1980; invitation to Nordlandslag Stevne, 1994; correspondence: 1959: Nordlandslaget of America and Canada; Rolf Svare.
- 28 2 Pictures, undated
Axel Valla, Peter Holand, Mr. and Mrs. Peter Tokle, Ro Svare, possibly Olive [Einstsen], Roy Holand, Ehard Miller, Herman Christianson, Mrs. Carrie Price Conrad, Mr. Borgen, Olaf Eliason and granddaughter, Arnold Christianson, W.D. Hanson, C.A. Sandhei, possibly Josephine Albertson, Mrs. Jenny Kolstad, Mrs. Bergitte Pederson, Mrs. Skeid, Mrs. Hans Pederson, Mrs. Elise Brekke, Anton Selsand, Hans Pederson, Mr. Isakson, Ingolf Jacobson, Bernard Dreier, Mr. and Mrs. Einar Dahl.
- 28 3 Clippings, 1908-2003
Also Includes: "Nord Norge" (Nordlandslag) newsletter, Volume 10, Issue 2, December 1989; stevne (meeting) programs, 1934 and 1937; "Bilove" (bylaws), written in Norwegian, undated.
- 28 4 Correspondence, programs, and stevne Notes, 1961-1962
Includes: correspondence: C.H. Sandhei, Hans Pederson, Ehard Miller; programs; financial statements; stevne notes/accounts; stevne application, June 1962.
- 28 5 Correspondence and stevne reports, 1963-1967
Includes: correspondence: Karl F. Rolvaag, Edhard Miller, C.H. Sandhei, Roy A. Holand John Klefstad; programs; Christian A. Sandhei speech upon receiving the St. Olav Medal bestowed by King Olav V of Norway, circa 1963; programs; stevne notes/reports; Duluth Hotel reservation card; geneology

- information for Mrs. Emma Johnson; funeral program for Helge C. Hansen, 1966; stevne announcements; stevne/meeting resolutions; "Nordlandslaget Fembøringen," article written in Norwegian by Martin Hagfors, circa 1967; newspaper clipping from Western Viking, undated.
- 28 6 Correspondence, articles, and stevne reports, 1968-1973
Includes: programs; correspondence, especially involving C.A. Sandhei; newspaper clipping; officer list, 1969; stevne reports; financial notes/reports; member/attendance lists; p. 36 and 41 from "Nord-Norge," written in English, September 1970; "1971 Conventions" questionnaire; "Free Films from Norway - Color and Sound 16mm" information sheet, undated; stevne invitations and announcements (often newsletters or fragments of newsletters; "History of the Lifeboat Nordland," rewritten by Axel Valla; "Was Quetzacoatl a Norse Chieftain?," attached to "'Nordland' Helped 5,000 Persons in North Norway...Then Sank Outside Africa" article, Sons of Norway, Viking Magazine, June 1971.
- 28 7 Minutes notes, 1965-1979
Includes: newspaper clippings; notes; stevne reports/accounts; excerpts from "Nord Norge," September 1970; member and officer lists; Norwegian-American Historical Association brochure and member application, circa 1976; "Excursions, Duluth-Superior Harbor" brochure; "Report from Bygdelagenes Fellesraad Meeting," 6 May 1978; poems and songs.
- 28 8 Vestkysten (West/Pacific Coast) and Nordlyset Nordlandslag history and correspondence, 1967-1973
Includes: histories of Nordlyset Nordlandslag and Vestkystens Nordlandslag written in English and Norwegian, circa 1972-1973; correspondence, especially involving Odd Lovoll, Olaf Lund, and O.I. Hertsgaard; "Nordlandslaget Fembøringen," written in Norwegian by Martin Hagfors, circa 1967; programs; "Constitution and By-Laws of the Northland Society of the Pacific Coast (Vestkystens Nordlandslag)," officers list, 1949-1973; typewritten copy of "Nordlands Laget 'Fembøringen' Seattle Washington," undated; photograph of Mr. Peder O. [Steins or Steiro]; "A Reflection," reflection on past Nordlyset president Peder O. [Steiro], written by Sigurd Johnson; "Bygdelag Questionnaire" filled out by Mrs. Conrad Langvad.
- 29 1 75th Anniversary Jubilee Books, 1984
Includes: three copies of "Nordlandslaget av Amerika og Kanada 75 Aars Jubileum 1909-1984" ("The Nordlandslag of America and Canada 75-Year Jubilee").
- 70 5 Medlemskontingent for Nordlands Minde (Membership Dues), 1944-1988
- 29 2 Nordlands Minde minutes, constitution and bylaws, 1923, 1952-1957

29	3	Nordlands Minde minutes, 1939-1951
29	4	Nordlands Minde minutes and financial notes, 1982-1988
29	5	Nordlands Minde financial records, 1943-1988
70	4	Nordlands Minde minutes, 1957-1982
30	1	Nordlands Minde constitution, members, and officers, 1909-1982, 1998 Includes: two copies of "Konstitution og Bilove for Foreningen 'Nordlands Minde'" ("Constitution and Bylaws for The Organization Nordlands Minde"), 1923; secretary and president lists, 1909-1989; member lists, circa 1971; correspondence, 1982 and 1998: "L.H.," Corrine, Mr. and Mrs. Axel Valla.
30	2	Sons of Norway reservations and Nordlands Minde taxes, 1981-1986 Includes: correspondence between Axel Valla and Sons of Norway, 1983-1985; "Norwegian National League" check for \$200 from Nordlands Minde, 12 January 1981; Nordlands Minde 1099 Tax Information, 1981-1982 and 1984; financial notes, undated.
30	3	Nord-Norge (Nordlandslag) newsletter, 1920-1923 Includes: Nord-Norge nr. 17, 1920; "Et Aapent Brev" ("Et Åpnet Brev") ("An Open Letter") written in Norwegian by J. Skagen; loose advertisements from "Nord-Norge"; nr. 18-19, 1920; nr. 20, 1920; cover of nr. 17, 1920; nr. 21, 1921; nr. 22, 1921; nr. 24, 1924; nr. 28, 1923; no. 31, 1923; nr. 32, 1924; nr. 33, 1924.
30	4	Nord-Norge (Nordlandslag) newsletter, 1923-1924, 1927-1928, 1959, 1964 Includes: Nord-Norge nr. 34, 1924; nr. 35, 1924; nr. 44, 1927; nr. 45, 1927; nr. 46, 1927; no. 47-48, 1928; no. 29, 1923; no. 30, 1923; cover of no. 31, 1923; nr. 172, 1959; nr. 193, 1964.
30	5	Nord-Norge (Nordlandslag) newsletter, 1959, 1964, and 1969-1970
30	6	Nord-Norge (Nordlandslag) newsletter, 1929-1931, 1963
31	1	Nord-Norge (Nordlandslag) newsletter, 1931-1932, 2005, 2012
31	2	Nord-Norge (Nordlandslag) newsletter and memorabilia, circa 2013-2015 Includes: Nord-Norge Newsletter, 2013-2015; Nordlandslaget 1909 Pin; 2012 stevne meeting agenda; letter from Marilyn D. Somdahl regarding attendance at the 2016 centennial, June 2012; account of 2012 stevne, 5 May 2012; Nordlandslaget 103rd Stevne booklet/program with genealogy insert, June 2012; Nordlandslag songbook, written in English and Norwegian, undated.
88	3	Record book, 1938-1964
Oversized		Scrapbook, 1915-1938