

Collection Name:

Oscar I. Hertsgaard papers, 1909-1975

Collection Number:

P0154

Extent:

1.6 cubic feet (4 archive boxes)

Biography/History:

Oscar I. Hertsgaard was a businessman active in church, civic, and Norwegian-American organizations. A 1908 graduate of St. Olaf College, he served as director of music at Concordia College in Moorhead (1909–1913) before beginning a long career with the Mutual Trust Insurance Company. He held multiple leadership roles, including board service for Fairview Hospital and St. Olaf College, and executive positions in numerous community groups.

In 1939, he organized a major Folk Festival celebrating the visit of Crown Prince Olav and Crown Princess Märtha of Norway. Known popularly as “Hallingkongen” for his deep involvement with Hallinglaget and his frequent travels to Norway, he also served twelve years as president of Bygdelagenes Fællesraad, where he helped promote the publication of *A Folk Epic: The Bygdela in America* (1975). His contributions were recognized with the St. Olav Medal in 1940 and the Knight's Cross, First Class, of the Royal Order of St. Olav in 1947.

Scope and Content:

Papers contain correspondence, biographical information, materials about Concordia College, Odin Club, Bygdelagenes Fellesraad, as well as speeches and other various materials.

Access Rights:

This collection is open to research.

Bibliographic Citation:

[Indicate the cited item here]. Oscar I. Hertsgaard Papers. Norwegian American Historical Association, Northfield, Minnesota.

Box	Folder	Description
1	1-17	Biographical information; Concordia College, correspondence, 1923-1995 Eikaas Klubben, membership list, 1976; Membership and mailing lists (1968-1993); account books; and minutes (1981-1995); Fairview Hospital, notes, reports, brochures; Folk Festival, 1939

[in honor of Crown Prince Olav of Norway]; Lajla Skartvedt Hertsgaard, data; Minnesota State Centennial Dinner, May 8, 1959; Mutual Trust Life Insurance, correspondence and reports; Nordmanns Forbundet, correspondence, clippings, etc.; Norwegian-American Historical Association, reports; Norwegian-American Museum; Norwegian-American Sesquicentennial, 1975; Scholarships given by the Hertsgaards; St. Olaf College. correspondence, etc.[dinner program for Dean J.J. Thompson, 1936; ribbon for the 50th anniversary of the 1906 St. Olaf Band tour to Norway; and a number of songs for alumni events]; St. Olaf College Choir, correspondence, programs, etc. [several letters from F.M. Christiansen to Hertsgaard; Choir tour to Iceland departure ceremony]; St. Olaf College Alumni Association, class letter (1908); and Torske Klubben.

- | | | |
|---|------|--|
| 2 | 1-20 | Correspondence, miscellaneous, 1911-1976
Hallinglaget, 1911; Hallinglaget, 1948-1978 [excludes 1960], clippings, correspondence; Hertsgaard family, history and correspondence; Kindred, North Dakota, history; Kindred, North Dakota, log cabin sent to Hedemark Museum; and Peder Nelson, correspondence, (Hallinglaget). |
| 3 | 1-8 | Bygdelagenes Fellesraad and Odin club materials, 1911-1976
Badges for various stevne; Bygdelagenes Faellesraadet, clippings; Bygdelagenes Faellsraad Correspondence, 1955-1978; Bygdelagenes Faellesraad Incorporation and By-laws; Bygdelagenes Faellesraadet, publication of "A Folk Epic"; Bygdelagenes Faellsraad Reports, 1963-1978; Odin Club; Odin Club Chorus, programs in a bound volume; and Odin Club, miscellaneous. |
| 4 | 1-6 | Various records, 1936-1976
1 volume Leikvoll, Asle. "Asle" 14 p., includes colored caricature of author. (Letters written by farm laborer to Conrad Hertsgaard, with introduction by O.I. Hertsgaard. Norway, clippings; Norway, mementos, including photographs; Norway, miscellaneous; Lutheran Church Music, a radio talk given by Hertsgaard on WCAL (1938) "Early Christmas Recollections in a Rural North Dakota Community (Kindred) during the 1880s and 1890s"; Norway Tours [St. Olaf Choir tour to Norway, 1955. Includes itinerary and clippings; Norwegian TV team in U.S., 1970; and Speeches [including remarks Hertsgaard made when J.J. Thompson was made a Knight of the Order of St. Olaf (1936). |

Rokke Name Index

Eikaas Klubben,
Minneapolis
Kindred, North Dakota
Mutual Trust Life
Insurance Company
Nelson, Peder H.
Leikvoll, Asle
Hertsgaard, Oscar Ingeleif
Dahl, Sara
Dahl, Nels Larsen
Mohn, John
Daniels, John Karl
Kensington Rune Stone
continued
St. Olaf College statue of
St. Olaf
Edwards, Anna Sandvik
Sange til
hundredaarsfesten
Hundredaarsfesten
Smuler (Periodical)
Syttende Mai Hundred
Aarsfesten
Minnesota-Norway 1914
Cenntennial
Syttende Mai festskrift:
hundreaars-festen
Eidsvoll Centenial 1914
Finney, Martha Aabye
Laut, Agnes C.
Olson, Halsten (Mrs.)
Hjørnevik, Lars & Ingeborg
family
Monson Lake State Park
Endreson, Guri Rosseland
Gourley, Deb Nelson
Concordia Hymnal
Firing, Robert B.
Follesdal, John
Sunndal, Norway