

**Collection Name:**

Solørlag papers, 1912-2011

Collection Number:

P0465 (Solørlaget)

Extent:

0.8 cubic feet (2 archives boxes)

About Solørlag:

Organized in Minneapolis, September 7, 1910. Until 1920 they were known as Solunlaget.

Past presidents include:

Kristian Bredeson (1910-11)

Amund Østmo (1911-19)

C.M. Berg (1919-)

Rev. Alfred Bredesen (-1940s)

Past secretaries include:

O.E. Gunderson (1910-11)

C.M. Berg (1911-19)

Marius Hagen (1919-23)

O.K. Sather (1923-24)

Rev. O.H. Haugen (1924-40s)

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

Box	Folder	Description
43	1	Solørlag and Stange History Books, 1981 and 2011 Includes: "50 År Stange Historielag 1931-1981" ("50-Year Stange* History Lag") pamphlet by Arne Arstad, 1981 (*note: "Stange" is a municipality in Norway); "Vi Er Solunger! The Beginnings of Solørlag in America" ("We Are Solungs!" The Beginnings of Solør Lag in America") book by Caroline Herfindahl, 2011.
43	2	Solørlaget Stevne Ribbon and Norse-Centennial Medal, 1914 and 1925 Includes: Norse-American Centennial Medallion/Medal from Odin K. Olson, circa 1925; Solung-Laget 4th Stevne/"Hundre Aars Fest" ("Hundred-Year Celebration"), 1914; "Glåma Ekko" ("Glomma* Echo") (*note: "Glomma" (also spelt "Glåma") is a river in Norway), Solørlag of America newsletter, volume 3, issue 3, July 2015.
43	3	Årdal Church Book, 2006 Includes "Den store gåva frå Amerika" ("The Large Gift From America") by Odd Harald Olsen, a book about Årdal Church in Rogaland, Norway, 2006.
43	4	Solørlaget, circa 1912-1984 Includes; pictures: Mr. C.M. Berg (former President of Solørlaget); Solørlag information pamphlet, circa 1983; "Sange for Stavanger Amt Lagets 25-aars Jubileumsfest" ("Song[s] for The Stavanger Amt Lag's 25-Year Jubilee Celebration"), 28-30 August 1936; newspaper clippings/articles (including some which mention "Solunglaget"); stevne (meeting) programs; Solørlag newsletter, November 1982-September 1992; correspondence: Aleck E.

		Gunderson, Charlotte Jacobson (Archivist, St. Olaf); Solørlag Genealogical Survey, circa 1985.
43	5	Solørlaget, 1993-2000 Includes: Solørlag newsletter (eventually titled "Glåma Ekko," or "Glomma* Echo") (*"Glomma" (also spelt "Glåma") is a river in Norway), February 1993-December 2000; stevne (meeting) invitations, schedules, and registration forms.
43	6	Solørlaget, 2001-2005 Includes: "Glåma Ekko" ("Glomma Echo"), March 2001-June 2005.
79	1	Newsletters, 1982-1990
79	2	Newsletters, 1991-1998
79	3	Newsletters, 1999-2007