



**Collection Name:**

Herman Olaus Fjelde papers, 1870-2000

**Collection Number:**

P1269

**Extent:**

1.6 cubic feet (4 archives boxes)

**Abstract:**

Miscellaneous records of a physician who was born at Ålesund, Norway, and who received his early education there and at the University of Oslo. He emigrated to the United States in 1889 and attended the medical school at the University of Minnesota, 1890-1895. He began to practice medicine in 1895, first at Martell, Minnesota, and later moved successively to Abercrombie, Fargo, and Rolla, North Dakota. A man of many interests, he worked tirelessly for the preservation of the Norwegian heritage of his countrymen in the New World. He helped establish Det norske selskap and Søndmørelaget and belonged to other Norwegian-American societies. He was instrumental in the erecting of monuments honoring famous Norwegians: Bjørnstjerne Bjørnson at North Dakota Agriculture College, Henrik Wergeland at Island Park and Rollo of Normandy (Gange-Rolf), all at Fargo, North Dakota; Ivar Aasen and Hans Nielsen Hauge at Concordia College, Moorhead, Minnesota; and Henrik Ibsen at Wahpeton, North Dakota.

Dr. Fjelde came from a gifted family. His father, Paul Michelet Fjelde, a woodcarver, came to Chicago with his son Oswald in 1870. His brother, Jacob Fjelde (1859-1895) became a well-known sculptor whose works include a statue of Ole Bull in Loring Park and one of Hiawatha and Minnehaha in Minnehaha Park, both in Minneapolis. A sister, Pauline (1861-1923), was a painter and needlework artist, who had studied in France mastering the art of Gobelin tapestry weaving. Her most famous work is a Hiawatha tapestry. More information about the family is scattered throughout the collection, mainly in the scrapbooks.

Box	Folder	Description	Date	Range
1	1	(loose) 4 notebooks (family history and history notes, Kristiania, 1887-88).	1887	1888
1	2	correspondence re: donation of the papers.	1984	1985
1	3	Fjelde family--outline of relationships. Added, article by Herman Fjelde which appears in "Søndmørsposten" (1913).	1913	1932
1	4	Clippings, tributes, etc. (obit).	1894	1918



1	5	Fjelde, Fredrikke (Mrs. H.O., died 1915) clippings (sketch of her father), tributes. Photograph of Fredrikke and sons, Olav and Jacob.	1882	1915
1	6	Fjelde, Jacob (1859-1896, brother of H.O.). Includes "Minneapolis Artists and the World's Fair" (1892); Hiawatha sculpture	1892	1999
1	7	Fjelde, Pauline (1861-1923, sister of H.O.) Includes photos of embroidery and likeness;	1921	1982
1	8	Fjelde, Jacob H. (1898-1952, son of H.O.).	1917	1952
1	9	Fjelde, Pauline (Mrs. Parke Pratt, daughter of H.O.). Color-tinted postcard: statue of Minnehaha and Hiawatha, Minnehaha Park.	1916	1916
1	10	Fjelde, Astrid & Katrine (daughters of H.O.)	1915	1953
1	11	Fjelde, Paul (son of Jacob, nephew of H.O.). Includes: "Geneseo's Lincoln [bust] has a distinguished past" (2002); photos of intended sculptures. added (Feb. 19, 2009) draft copy of Claudia M. Pratt's article, "Sculpting Lincoln: North Dakota's Gift to the People of Norway." (added 2009)	1913	2009
1	12	Fjelde, Olaf (1900-1961, son of H.O.). Includes: notes on Fjelde family genealogy	1921	1927
1	13	Fjelde, Thomas (died 1904) & Klaus (brothers of H.O.) & Thomane (Mrs. J. Martin Hansen, sister of H.O.). Thomane was a a model for the Minnesota state flag which they embroidered	1913	1956
1	14	General Correspondence. Includes real photo postcard of Bjørnstjerne Bjørnson paa Aulestad."; letter from Ingvald Skjeldrup, letters from Emily Fjelde, Pauline Fjelde; postcard of Grieg bust; "The Wergeland/Vigeland Statue Mystery," by Jackie Marler (2000).	1893	2000
1	15	The Gange Rolf Statue	1910	1917
1	16	Theodore Roosevelt Statue (Vigeland sculpture).	1910	1972
1	17	Correspondence with Gustav Vigeland.	1907	1971
1	18	Monuments: Bjørnson, Hauge, Aasen. Includes photograph of Hauge monument	1908	1932



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2	1	Old newspapers, some from Norway. 10 folders. Papers from 1903 detail the Ole Bull statue; 1908 papers detail the Henrik Wergeland state; 1909-10 papers detail the Theodore Roosevelt statue; 1912 papers detail the Hans Nielsen Hauge monument. Much of the above material is also in the scrapbook in box 3 (double oversized).	1902	1923
2	11	Ivar Aasen clipping.	1896	1896
2	12	Pamphlet about King Haakon VII	1947	1947
2	13	Notebook (with clippings and photos in connection with a trip to Norway in 1906 at the time of the coronation of Haakon VII, an event which Dr. Fjelde attended. Contains clippings of the St. Olaf Band's tour to Norway (1906). Some photos included. Clipping about Ibsen bust.	1906	1908
2	14	Miscellaneous clippings and pamphlets. Includes clipping on Indian [Native American] statue in Fargo	1907	1959
3		2 scrapbooks. Scrapbook I includes photos and information about Jacob Fjelde and Pauline Fjelde; Scrapbook II includes a photo of Herman and Frederikke Fjelde and her niece Olga, 1896, clippings concerning Jacob Fjelde and a benefit for his family after his death, Ole Bull statue, and other photographs including Oswald Fjelde, his family, and homes.	1890	1920
4		Miscellaneous volumes. 1 birthday book; 1 folder of clippings on the Roosevelt statue; 3 scrapbooks: scrapbook III contains an obituary notice for Thomas Fjelde (1904), reception for Herman Fjelde at Aalesund (1904), and an informative sketch about Jacob Fjelde; scrapbook IV contains information about the Rollo (Gange-Rolf) statue, Hauge monument, Roosevelt's visit to Norway, and Paul Fjelde with his bust of Lincoln in Norway; scrapbook V contains information on the Wergeland statue and Ibsen, coronation of Haakon VII, and issues of Kvartalskrift.	1870	1920