

**Collection Name:**

Kristian Prestgard papers, 1884-1945

Collection Number:

P0577

Extent:

2.4 cubic feet (6 archives boxes)

History/Biography:

Kristian Prestgard was born on the Harelstad farm in Heidal, Oppland, Norway. His parents were Gudbrand Kristensen Harelstad (1829-1869) and Marit Prestgard (1841-1897). When his father, Kristian and Marit moved back to her family farm in Prestgard.

Prestgard attended the 1893 World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago as a correspondent for *Oplandenes Avis*, a Norwegian newspaper. Instead of returning home to Norway, he started working in the Norwegian-American press. In 1897, he married Oline Musum (1873–1919) and took a position with a Norwegian language newspaper company in La Crosse, Wisconsin.

He was co-editor and editor of "Decorah-Posten" (1897-1946); co-editor and publisher of "Symra" (1905-1914); editor of *Norske Kvad* (1906); translator of "Fra Livet i Vestjylland" by Jakob Jakobsen (1894); author of "Nansenfaerden" (1896), *Skrøneboka* (1911), *En Sommer i Norge* (1928), "Streiftog, Stemninger og Skildringer" and "Fjords and Faces" (1937); and a founder of NAHA and a member of its board of editors (1925-1933).

Scope and Content:

Correspondence, manuscripts, and a scrapbook of a Norwegian-born journalist and author.

The letters by Prestgard and those by his correspondents deal largely with such subjects as the language controversy both in Norway and America, the tour of Norway by twelve American newspapermen in 1927, Knut Gjerset's unfinished dictionary of Norwegian-American biography, the writings of Ole E. Rølvaag, the Norwegian-American Historical Association, the merging of "Minneapolis Tidende" and "Decorah-Posten" in 1935, genealogy, immigration history, and gladioli. He gained a reputation as a horticulturist by developing 30 new varieties of gladioli.

The Ola K. Stokkestad letters to Prestgard (1884-1897) are unique in that they treat not the economics of rural areas but cultural pursuits mainly in the city.

The Arne Odd Johnson letters (1934-1938) deal with editorial and publication problems connected with using the Prestgard-Ivar Kleiven correspondence as basic material in a history of the migration of Norwegians to America.



The John Heitmann letters (1928-1945) are primarily about the problems of translating, editing, and publishing "Fjords and Faces," the English version of "En Sommer i Norge."

Among the other correspondents are R. B. Anderson, Henry Armstrong, Mrs. L. M. Boomer, Th. Caspari, Borghild M. Dahl, Juul Dieserud, P. J. Eikeland, Johan Falkberget, Arne Garborg, C. J. Hambro, J. C. M. Hanson, Hjalmar R. Holand, Halvdan Koht, Hanna Astrup Larsen, Fridtjof Nansen, John Norstog, Julius Olson, Franklin Petersen, Ragnhild Prestgard, A. N. Rygg, Ludwig Saxe, Th. H. Svanoë, A. A. Veblen, and Henry A. Wallace.

Box	Folder	Description
1	1	Biographical Miscellany, 1924-1997
1	2	Correspondence, 1885-1919
1	3	Correspondence, 1920-1927
1	4	Correspondence, 1928
1	5	Correspondence, 1929-1933
1	6	Correspondence, 1934
1	7	Correspondence, 1935
1	8	Correspondence, 1936
1	9	Correspondence, 1937 January-1937 November
2	1	Correspondence, 1937 November-1938 June
2	2	Correspondence, 1939-1940
2	3	Correspondence, 1938 July-1939 June
2	4	Correspondence, 1941 July-1945 June
2	5	John Heitmann correspondence, 1928-1936
2	6	John Heitmann correspondence, 1937-1945
2	7	John Heitmann correspondence, 1936 October-1937 August
2	8	Arne Odd Johnsen correspondence, 1934-1938
2	9	Ivar and Paul Kleiven correspondence, 1888-1936
2	10	Ola K. Stokkestad correspondence, 1884-1897
3	1	Waldemar Ager correspondence, 1926-1939
3	2	Richard Beck correspondence, 1935-1944
3	3	John Benson correspondence, 1923-1939
3	4	Kenneth O. Bjork correspondence, 1938-1944
3	5	Lars W. Boe correspondence, 1927-1942
3	6	Gisle Bothne correspondence, 1914-1938
3	6	Einar Haugen correspondence, 1930-1945
3	7	Kristine Haugen correspondence, 1929-1945
3	8	Theodore C. Blegen correspondence, 1926-1941 Includes articles "An Early Norwegian Settlement in Canada" (1930, 14 p.) and "The America Letters" (1928, 37 p.).



3	9	Arne Kildal correspondence, 1910-1945
3	10	Carl G.O. Hansen correspondence, 1926-1943
3	11	Engbreth H. Hobe correspondence, 1927-1940
3	12	Lars M. Gimmestad correspondence, 1938
3	13	Theodore Jorgenson correspondence, 1932-1941
3	14	Laurence M. Larson correspondence, 1929-1937
3	15	Sir Karl Knudson correspondence, 1919-1938
3	16	Wilhelm Morgenstjerne correspondence, 1912-1945
4	5	A.M. Sundheim correspondence, 1928-1944
4	4	D.G. Ristad correspondence, 1925-1938
4	3	Birger Osland correspondence, 1925-1945
4	2	Gudrun Nomedal correspondence, 1942-1943
4	1	Jørgen Bukdahl correspondence, 1924-1945
4	6	Laurits S. Swenson correspondence, 1924-1945
4	7	Magnus Swenson correspondence, 1932-1938
4	8	B.L. Wick correspondence, 1934-1945
4	9	J. Jørgen Thompson correspondence, 1926-1944
4	10	"Veien jeg gikk" correspondence, 1945-1948
4	11-12	"Veien jeg gikk" manuscript, 1945
5		Books, 1906-1937
6	1	Notes on library, 1885-1900

Rokke Name Index

Arnfred, J. C.	Richardson, Florence	Fuhr, Anna
Reynolds, Hans	Sundby-Hansen, H.	Øverbye, G.
Tinglum, Ottar	Savre, B. K	Asmundstad, Olav
Storm, Joh	Gilbert, T. O.	Vaaga, Gudbrandsdalen
Lofffield, Gabriel E.	Johnson, Simon	Heidal church
Johnson, J. H.	Benbow, Earl William	Gjæsling family
Hougen, Knut	Prestgard, Kari	Caspari, Theodor
Korigen, O	Jacobson, Hilda E.	Kleiven, Ivar
Joleik, Albert	Carter, J. Elton	Kleiven, Paul
Prestgard, Thor Paulsen	Mowinckel, Johan Ludwig	Nomedal, Gudrun
Bu, Torgils	Hovde, Øystein	Stokkestad, Ola K.
Leirflaten, Hans A.	Otheim, Olav	Svanøe, Th. H.
Tande, Rolf	Oien, P. (Mrs.)	Wallace, Henry A.
Steffrud, Jacob	Frisak, Henrik	Grimley, Oliver Bleke
Prestgard, Paul T.	Strandvold, Johanne	Lie, Jonas
Veblen, Andrew A.	Strandvold, Ruth	Lee, Christian E.
Vernon, Mary W.	Charlson, N. J. (Dr)	Thykesen, Anna
Rolvaag, Ole E.	Sandvig, Anders	Stavnheim, Lauritz Larsen



Reque, Dikka	Holmbo, G	Israelson, Andrew
Ramm, Fredrik	Svanøe, Endre	Olsen, Nikolai
Sivle, Per	Johannesen	Johnson, J. K.
Ullmann, V.	Kvaale, S	Hoitomt, Hjordis
Pedersen, Anders and Augusta Buset	Waldeland, Martin Enoch	Treschow, F. M.
Larsen, Bolette C. Pavels	Nordmanns Forbundet	Seip, Dedrik Arup
Nansson, Ola	Mortensen, Sverre	Nustad, G. A.
Carlsen, Th	Damm, N. W. & Søn	Bjørhus, John
Landstad, W.	Maal og Minne	Hambro, Carl J.
Petterson, Wilhelm	Lie, Finn	Preus, Jacob A. O.
Akerberg, Knut	Murer, Niels J.	Petersen, Franklin
Berge, Rikard	Saeter, Ivar	Johnson, Sveinbjørn
Holmboe, Thorolf	Linge, Ola J.	Berg, Carl (Karl) Fredrik
Salem, John J	Gudbrandsdalslaget	Iowa
Malmin, Gunnar	Olstad, Ivar	Prestgard, Kristian
Cadbury, Henry J.	Wedum, J. A.	Boe, Lars Wilhelm
Haugen, Christian	Stabo, Trond	Bjølstad farm in
Neggenborgen, G	Gjerset, Maurice	Gudbrandsdalen
Bøckman, Markus Olaus (Mrs)	Vedeler, Bernado	
Lund, Gunnar	Hegdal, O.	
Roe, Herman	Gjerset, Knut	
Jones, Carl	Munk family	
Prestgard, Ragnhild	Hollen, Hans E.	
Broughm, Royal	(1829-1870) family	
Wefald, Knud	Koht, Halvdan	
Vidnes, Jacob	Haugen, Peder	
Kahn, Howard	Bredesen, Alfred	
Saxe, Ludvig	Flv. R	
Prestgard, Marit and Thora	Barth, J. B.	
Lundh, A	Urho, Juhan	
Dahle, Ivar	Akerberg, Florens K	
Frøisland, Frøis	Kringen, Olav	
Natrud, Gudrun	Lie, John	
Mo, Hans	Lewis, Read	
Olson, Oscar L.	Bruhjell, E. O.	
Armstrong, Henry E.	Eskeland, Lars	
Felandsmoen, Olaus	Freschou, Anna	
Larson, S. Alfred	Kræmer, Elias	
Leina, Marie V.	Nilsen, Anthon B.	
	Bernts, Olaf	
	Boomer, Lucius M.	