

Collection Name:

Flekkefjordlag papers, 1926-1976

Collection Number:

P0465 (Flekkefjordlag)

Extent:

0.4 cubic feet (1 archives box)

About Flekkefjordlag:

Organized in Minneapolis March 7, 1926. The lag was local to Minneapolis. The president was G.J. Giddla (1926) and secretary was Ole A. Jacobsen (1926).

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

Box	Folder	Description
5	1	Constitution and minutes: 1926-1955 Includes: Flekkefjors Lagets Sekreters Bog ("Flekkefjor Group/Club [Secretary's Log]") (also includes constitution and bi-laws, newspaper clippings 1926-1930, a list of donors, and meeting notes), 28 February 1926-8 January 1955
5	2	Bygdelagene Norway newspaper clippings, 1938, 1962-1976 Includes: one scrapbook/folder labeled "Norwegian Lags," with tabs labeled as follows: Landingdal + Hadeland; Hallingsdal; Nordhord-Bergen; Seterdal/Setesdal; More-Romsdal; Gudbrandsdal; Stavanger. This scrapbook includes: Hadelands-Laget Tingelstad ribbon; stevne program, 1938; "Fort Ransom Man Honored by Laget," newspaper clipping, June 1963; "Nordfjordlagets 31te aarlige Stevne," newspaper clipping from Nordmanden, 3 July 1941; "Spelemanns Laget av America" ribbon, undated; genealogy notes, undated; postcard featuring a photograph of "Tønsberg. Den gamle prekestolen i kirken" by Elizabeth Meyer, sent to Mrs. Marie Nelson of Hatton, North Dakota from "[Hiega]," although "from Anna '76" is written at the top, circa 1976; Hallingen, June 1972; Song Book & Program Schedule of Ganddal Girls Choir, Dir. Audun Vagle (book of Norwegian songs), 29 June 1976.
5	3	Publications and clippings, circa 1928-1955 Includes: Mor Fitjar og Andre Digte ("Mother Firjar and Other Writings") by John A. Hofstead, 28 June 1928; "Fitjarlagets Stevne," newspaper clipping from unknown newspaper, circa 1935; "Tiden for Fitjarlagets Stevne Forandre," newspaper clipping from "DP," circa March 1937; Aarbok og Julehilsen 1929 ("Annual/Year Book and Christmas Greetings") (includes the names of the secretary and treasurer and a brief history of the Fitjarlaget, both in Norwegian); Fitjarlaget (a handwritten history

and explanation of the organization in Norwegian), undated; Fitjarlagets Stevne (photocopy of a newspaper article), circa 21 July 1932; Firjarlaget (photocopy of a newspaper article), circa 11 July 1929; Fitjarlagets Stevne: [Uthold] i Colton, S. Dak... (photocopy of a newspaper article), 9 July 1930; Fitjarlaget: Referat fra Fitjarlagets Stevne i Watford City, Nord Dakota, den 5-7 Juli (photocopy of a newspaper article), circa 2 August 1940; Fitjarlagets Stevne (photocopy of a newspaper article by Nels [S.] Johnson, [Setr.]), circa 21 April 1939; Fitjarlaget: Laget permanent organisert under dets førte Stævne ved Hamar, N.D. [Bast.] Helland Formand, circa 16 August 1928; newspaper article written by John Rimmereid, [Secretær] (photocopy of a newspaper clipping), circa 23 August 1928; Fitjarlaget (photocopy of a newspaper clipping from "DP," likely Decorah-Posten ("The Decorah Post")), circa 13 September 1951; Fitjarlaget (photocopy of a newspaper article from "DP"), circa 6 August 1953; Fitjarlaget, an article written by Nils. S. Johnson, Sekretær (photocopy of a newspaper clipping), circa 21 July 1955