

Collection Name:

Olaf M. Wangenstein papers, 1896-circa 1980

Collection Number:

NAHA 2022/009

Extent:

2.5 cubic feet (5 archives boxes, 1 half archives box, and 1 oversized flat box)

Biography/History:

Rev. Olaf M. Wangenstein was born in Lærdal, Norway, in 1873. In 1889, he immigrated to the United States and settled in southern Minnesota. He first married Eleanora Avelsgaard in 1908. Together, they had two children: Mons (Monty) Olaf Bernhard (1910-1977) and Ragna (1913-). Eleanora died in 1913. He eventually married Julia Solberg. Olaf died in 1933 in Melfort, Saskatchewan, Canada.

Scope and Content:

The Wangenstein papers contain many photographs of the family throughout the upper Midwest and in Canada. Wangenstein graduated from the U.C. Seminary in Minneapolis, Minnesota, in 1907. He served as pastor at various congregations, including Iowa River, Waterloo Ridge, Falnes, Bergen, and Skudesnes (Saskatchewan). Correspondence, pamphlets, family history documents, and more highlight the life of the Wangenstein family and the congregations he served.

Access Rights:

This collection is open to research.

Bibliographic Citation:

[Indicate the cited item here]. Olaf M. Wangenstein Papers. Norwegian American Historical Association, Northfield, Minnesota.

Box	Folder	Description
1	1	Photographs and documents, circa 1918-1933 Includes: House in Pleasant Valley, South Dakota; Funeral in Lordal; Parents of Olaf, Marita and Mons; House and church in Lordal; Church in Bergen; Ruth and Monty, 1936; Madison, Minnesota, 1933; "Adventures of Grandpa," M.H.S. (Melfort,

		Saskatchewan) Dramatic Society play, 1930; Remembrance of Eleonora Wagensteen, 1923; Letters between Olaf and Julia Solberg, 1918-1919; Lutheran death announcement by O.A. Bu.
1	2	Photographs, circa 1896-1912 Includes: Young school group; Faculty of the U.C. Seminary, 1896; Interior photo of office/library; Gamle Waterloo Ridge Kirke interior; Waterloo Ridge Church, 1912; Waterloo Ridge Prestegaard ved Spring Grove; Theological faculty of the United Norwegian Lutheran Church; Portraits of Agnes, Bertha, Mrs. A.H. Olsen, and other unidentified images.
1	3	Photographs, circa 1900-1920 Includes many unidentified portraits and group photographs. Identified images of Olaf Wangensteen; Gilbert Isajord and Olaf M. Olson; Little Sauk Church, Todd County, Minnesota; Classroom of pupils and teachers, Miss Eleonora Avelsgaard; United Church Seminary, circa 1904; Waterloo Ridge parsonage, 1920.
1	4	Confirmation photographs from Iowa River, Waterloo Ridge, Falnes, Bergen, Skudesnes (Saskatchewan) congregations, 1913-1928 Includes photographs of Gaare-Hlgeson wedding, 1921.
1	5	Photographs and engagements, 1935-1938 Includes many photographs of Ragna; St. Cloud; Grant Cahdwick and Ragna at Brown and Bigelow Picnic at Wildwood Amusement Park on White Bear Lake; Helen Smith; Oregon; Helen Davenport on golf course at Pine Falls, Manitoba.
1	6	Photographs from photobooks, circa 1920s Includes photographs from Monty's photobook.
1	7	Solberg photographs, circa 1930s
1	8	Photographs of Melfort, Saskatchewan and Portland, Oregon, 1937, 1938
1	9	Photographs and postcards, circa 1913
1	10	Photographs, circa 1921-1938 Includes: Bernice holding Ruth Ann in Winnipeg, 1935 June; Penny, Ragna, and Mother at the Foot Hills; Mackenzie River, 1938; Carl's confirmation, 1921; Banff; Interior of house at Waterloo Ridge.
1	11	Photographs of Monty and Ruth, circa 1930
1	12	Letters to Bertha Avelsgaard, Olaf Wangensteen from Martha Wangensteen (Germany), and postcards, 1919, 1915, 1973
1	13	Photographs of Melfort, Saskatchewan, 1928-1933
1	14	Portraits of Olaf M. Wangensteen, 1904
2	1	Olaf Wangensteen photographs, 1895-1904 Photographs taken between the ages of 22-31 years old.
2	2	Photographs, circa 1890-1930

2	3	Saskatchewan photographs, circa 1920-1930
2	4	Photographs
2	5	Waterloo Ridge documents
2	6	Postcard album
2	7	Various documents
3	1	Certificate of naturalization, 1905
3	2	Daybook, 1912
		Also includes handwritten sermons about Christmas.
3	3	Sermons, 1919-1926
3	4	Postcards of Canada
3	5	Frame portraits of Olaf Wangensteen, circa 1910
3	6	Saegten Wangensteen: En personalthistorisk oversigt fra 1654-1912
3	7	Lutheran Church Herald, 1925 September
3	8	Scrapbook circa 1950-circa 1980
4	1	Monty's baby book, 1910
4	2-4	Notebooks/Daybooks, 1897-1915
5	1-2	Notebooks/Daybooks, 1916-1933
6		Laerdal og Borgund, bygd og ætter, 1938
		Owned by M.O. Wangensteen. With annotations.
7*	1	Theology diploma for Olaf Wangensteen, 1907
7*	2	Oversized photographs, circa 1910
7*	3	Mother's scrapbook, 1904