



Collection Name:

Red Wing Seminary papers, 1887-1933

Collection Number:

P0581

Extent:

6.0 cubic feet (15 archives boxes)

Biography/History:

Red Wing Seminary started as the educational center for the Hauge Synod, and was in operation from 1879 to 1932. By 1917, with the merger of the Hauge Synod into the Norwegian Lutheran Church of America, a new seminary was formed called Luther Theological Seminary in St. Paul, Minnesota. After that merger, the school continued on as an academy and junior college of the Norwegian Lutheran Church of America. However, in 1932 those programs were merged into St. Olaf College.

With the creation of the Hauge Synod in 1876, there was a calling to provide better education for training men for the ministry. The first attempt for a school was in 1854 in Lisbon, Illinois. A second attempt in 1865 at Koshkonong, but not until land was purchased in Red Wing, Minnesota in 1867 was there a start to solidifying a center for education. However, the synod abandoned the project in 1877 – nearly a decade later.

H.M. Sande, Rev. Østen Hanson, and A. Ellingson purchased an abandoned school property in Red Wing. The deal was later approved by the Synod and the land previously bought was traded in on this property. The next challenge, after purchasing the property, was to find teachers for the seminary. At a Synod meeting in 1879, they extended a call to Rev. A. Weenaas of Norway to become the new president and theological professor. However, he declined.

Their luck changed when they decided to extend a call to Rev. I. Eistensen to be temporary resident and theological professor. He accepted and opened the seminary on September 17, 1879. The seminary also had Prof. G.O. Brohough to teach preparatory classes. However, when Rev. Eistensen's year as temporary president was up, he declined to renew his position. The Synod sent a delegation to Norway to secure a professor and pastor for the school.

Professor Weenas was selected, but he could not come for a year. J. Kyllingstad, who just returned from mission work in Africa, was the temporary president and instructor in religion. Professor Weenas arrived in the summer of 1882, with the school opening up that fall. The first students of the theological department included Iver Hatlestad, T.J. Skjei, G.C. Gjerstad, C.C. Holter, L.L. Nervig, J.B.A. Dahle, A. Wold, O.O. Bergh, M.G. Hanson, and P.C. Rømo.



Scope and Content:

Correspondence, records, catalogs, photographs, and histories of a Lutheran Seminary founded in 1879, as both an academy and a divinity school. The correspondence deals with the problems of the post-merger period, recruitment of students, employment and salaries of teachers, and the organization of new departments.

Access Rights:

This collection is open to research.

Bibliographic Citation:

[Indicate the cited item here]. Red Wing Seminary Papers. Norwegian-American Historical Association, Northfield, Minnesota.

Box	Folder	Description
		Correspondence
1	1	1917 June 23-1919 May 29
1	2	1919 June 4-1920 January 30
1	3	1920 July 28-1920 October 30
1	4	1920 February 4-1920 July 27 Much of the correspondence deals with several students that died of the Spanish Influenza. Included is a "In Memoriam" pamphlet (March 14, 1920) for the students: Joseph S. Ramse, Arthur O. Hovland, Fred R. Rafftesaeth, Telman Froland, Arthur C. Veseth, Martin B. Veseth, and Chester W. Mortvedt.
1	5	1920 November 1-1924 August 6
2	2	Edward W. Schmidt, 1917-1918
2	3	1920 July 8-1921 August 26
2	4	Johan M. Wick, 1919 July 20-1919 August 13
2	5	Johan M. Wick, 1918 August 22-1919 July 19
2	6	Johan M. Wick, 1919 August 4-1919 Sept. 9
2	7	Johan M. Wick, 1919 September 10-1920 May 25
2	1	Photographs, history and data, 1901-1931 Includes panoramic image (placed in P0655 Box 22/Panoramic images/archives photo closet): student body, "Red Wing Seminary, Oct. 9, 1931."
2	8	Programs and reports, 1880-1932 Includes faculty minutes, P.A. Schoop, 1880.
2	9	Clippings, 1901-1937
2B		Miscellaneous, 1904-1971 Includes: "Red Wing Seminary: Fifty Years of Service," Edited by Arthur Rholl (1929). Contains list of graduates & faculty; "Red



- Wing Seminary," a sketch by Julius Borass (1951); "The Graduates of the College Department of Red Wing Seminary, Red Wing, Minnesota. 1910-1917," by Edvin Brye, Class of 1916 (1971); "Red Wing Seminarium," by M.G.H. & H.E. (1898); "Festskrift, 25th Anniversary" (1904); "Alumni Quarterly," (1916); student annual, "Lahodewaan," (1929).
- 2B Autograph Book, 1885-1887
Kept by John T. Burset/Johan Theodor Børseth (Academy Department, Class of 1887). Autographs of faculty: G.O. Brohough, J.N. Kildahl, O.S. Meland, and A. Weenaas; and autographs of selected students: Nels G. Peterson, Johan T. Krogstad, Iver Aschim, H.A. Gaardsmoe, N.A. Fjerstad, John Holmen, Amund O. Langehaugh, Otto M. Haugan, Bernt B. Haugan, Olaf O. Stageberg, Lars Harrisville, J.O. Kasa, Halvor N. Ronning, and Ariel O. Mortvedt.
- 3 1 Photographs, 1910-1914
Forty or so real photo postcards of Red Wing Seminary (some provided with identification). Most are formal student group or individual photos.
- 3 2 Class of 1900 (graduates and faculty)
- 3 3 Class of 1901 (graduates and faculty)
- 3 4 Class of 1904 (graduates and faculty)
- 3 6 Class of 1916 Commercial or academy
- 3 7 Class of 1915 (graduates and faculty)
- 3 8 Class of 1913 Commercial Class
- 3 9 Class of 1911 Commercial Class
- 3 10 Class of 1915 Commercial Class
- 3 11 Class of 1917 Commercial.
- 3 12 Photos collected by Ole L. Ness (Class of 1902), 1898-1902
- 4 1 Student and maintenance (matriculation) records, 1918-1933
- 4 2 Library accession book, 1930-1932
- 4 3 Library Society minutes, 1898-1901
- 4 4 Emily R. Haris political science notebook, 1892
- 4 5 Boarding Club minutes, 1910-1921
- 4 6 Library accession book, undated
- 5 1 Hemnica Publishing Society account book, 1911-1917
- 5 2 Hemnica Publishing Society constitution, membership and editorial staff, 1912-1913
- 5 3 Hemnica Publishing Society accounts and subscription list, 1914-1919
- 5 4 Hemnica Publishing Society record book, 1914-1916
- 5 5 Hemnica Publishing Society subscription lists, 1914-1915
- 5 6 Hemnica Publishing Society board of printing and publication, 1909-1913



5	7	Philomathean Society constitution and membership, 1905-1917
5	8	Philomathean Society minutes, 1908-1917
6	1	Religøse Samtaleforening minutes, 1888-1899
6	2	Religøse Samtaleforening minutes, 1903-1906
6	3	History of Missions notebook, 1907
6	4	Pro-Seminary Society, 1917-1920
6	5	Sygeforening, 1905-1908
6	6	Mission Society, 1890-1909
6	7	Fire Company minutes, 1890-1899
6	8	Religøse Samtaleforening, 1899-1903
7	1	Collegiate Oratorical Association minutes, 1910-1911
7	2	Aurora Society minutes, 1919-1920
7	3	Aurora Society minutes, 1922-1926
7	4	Aurora Society minutes, 1911-1918
7	5	Aurora Society minutes, 1907-1911
7	6	Aurora Society accounts and membership list, 1909-1917
7	7	Aurora Society minutes, 1887-1890
7	8	Aurora Society accounts and membership list, 1899-1909
7	9	Aurora Society minutes, 1900-1907
7	10	Collegiate Oratorical Association minutes, 1910-1915
8A	1	Edda Society minutes, 1909-1915
8A	2	Edda Society minutes and membership, 1909-1930
8A	3	Edda Society minutes, 1916-1923
8A	4	Choral Union minutes, 1916-1917
8A	5	Orchestra minutes and constitution, 1923
8A	6	Glee Club minutes and constitution, 1916-1921
8B	1	"Red Wing Seminary, et Haugiansk Skoletiltak i Amerika: Forhistorie og Pionertid frem til 1885," by Olav Golf, 1994
8B		Catalogs, 1898-1931
8A		Catalogs, 1898-1918
9	1-3	Account book, 1904-1905, 1907, 1910
9	4	Student rosters, 1910-1919
9	5	Student association minutes, 1927-1930
10	1-3	Hemnica Publishing Society account books, 1903-1927
10	4	Library loan record book 1899-1925
10	5	Daughters of the Reformation minutes, 1926-1930
11	1	Prohibition League minutes, 1907-1917
11	2-6	Boarding Club account books: 1896-1899, 1898-1913, 1900-1913, 1906-1908, 1909-1915
11	7	Student accounts, 1897-1900
12	1-3	Boarding Club account books: 1902-1906, 1913-1918, 1913-1919
12	4-5	Student account, 1903-1906, 1904-1905