

THE NEWS LETTER

The Norwegian-American Historical Association

"News letter" editor,
LLOYD HUSTVEDT

St. Olaf College
Northfield, Minnesota

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New Members In 1961

Three Life Members

The third Sons of Norway Lodge to enroll as a Life Member is the Gjøa Lodge No. 65 of Sioux Falls, South Dakota. Roland James is the president and Mrs. Alice Famestad is secretary.

Mrs. Henry Gould, a great-granddaughter of Elise Wærenskjold, 1801 Hurley Avenue, Fort Worth, Texas, changed her membership from Sustaining to Life. Mrs. Gould also presented the Association with a gift of \$100.00 in March, 1960.

Miss Nora L. Larson, who joined the St. Olaf College faculty (department of biology) in the fall of 1960, is our third new Life Member. Prior to coming to St. Olaf, Miss Larson held teaching and research positions with the Mayo Foundation and with the Hormel Institute at Austin, Minnesota.

Four Sustaining

Sons of Norway, Valhall No. 168, Rockford, Illinois. Rueben Bahr, president. Mrs. Ivar B. Dahlgren, secretary.

Mr. A. E. Grimstad, Route 2, Box 79, Astoria, Oregon. Mr. Grimstad is secretary of Sons of Norway, Nidaros No. 16.

Mr. Marion J. Nelson, 824 9th Ave. S.E., Minneapolis, professor of Norwegian at the University of Minnesota.

Mr. Trygve Gotaas, 122 E. 42nd St., New York 17, a shipping executive.

Eleven Associate

Prof. Clifford A. Hauberg, History Dept., St. Olaf College, Northfield, Minn.

Mr. Philip L. Fjelsted, Director of Placement Bureau, St. Olaf College.

Prof. Harlan F. Foss, Religion Dept., St. Olaf College.

Prof. Ove Preus, English Dept., St. Olaf College.

Mr. Arthur Mork, Route 2, Madison, Minn.

Mr. Raymond S. Sivesind, Chief of Historic Sites Division, State Historical Society of Wisconsin, Home address: Cambridge, Wis.

Mr. Reuben E. Bragstad, City Engineer, 1607 S. First Ave., Sioux Falls, S. Dak.

Mr. Carl T. Allme, Mechanical Engineer, 345 S. Aiken Ave., Pittsburgh 32, Penna.

Pastor Bruce E. Pederson, Vining, Minn.

Mr. Donald E. Turner, University of Washington, student, 6811 30th Ave. N.E., Seattle 15, Wash.

Commander James E. Heg, USN, Box 78, U. S. Naval Submarine Base, Groton, Conn. Commander Heg is a great-grandson of Colonel Heg. He has recently completed a transcription of all the material concerning the Fifteenth Wisconsin Regiment from the **Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies**, as well as other official documents covering the Civil War period.

THE MATTER OF DUES

There are 32 members who have not paid their 1959 and 1960 dues. Another 42 have not paid for 1960. Please . . .

Manuscript Organization Underway

Appearing below is our catalogue description of the Helge Høverstad Papers. The O. A. Buslett and D. G. Ristad papers have also been prepared for cataloguing and descriptions of them will appear in later news letters.

Two fundamental principles have guided us in organizing the manuscripts. First, every effort is made to preserve the character and integrity of each collection. Second, every effort is made to ease the task of the future researcher.

Although many manuscript repositories use a rigid chronological arrangement for their letters, we have adopted what can best be called a topical-chronological system. Within each topic the letters appear according to date. Those that do not clearly fall into any topical classification are entered as general correspondence.

The type used for the description appearing below will be set aside and will be used again in printing a pamphlet describing all materials in our Archives.

HØVERSTAD, HELGE (1870-1945). PAPERS, 1863-1947. 2 file cases including 26 volumes, 2 envelopes of pictures, 1 framed photograph.

Papers of a Norwegian-born clergyman in the United Norwegian Lutheran Church in America, 1897-1917, and in the Norwegian Lutheran Church of America, 1917-1945.

The papers consist largely of letters received by Høverstad, including a number from Gertrude Høverstad, his mother, and other Norway relatives, from Torgeir A. Høverstad, his cousin in America; from Kristine Haugen, zealous protagonist of Norwegian-American culture; from Hans C. Ness, Norwegian consular agent in Sioux City, Iowa.

The correspondence deals with personal problems of friends; with affairs of church foreign missions in China, Madagascar, and Africa; with church politics; with relation of church and state and with the use of the Norwegian language during World War I; with hypnotism and spiritualism; with personal problems as a land owner; with problems connected with settlement of Torgeir Høverstad's estate; with Torstein Høverstad's book *SKULARNE I AMERIKA OG DET PRAKTISKE LIV*; with the Veblen family (mostly in the T. A. Høverstad folder); with the Valdris Bygdelag (Society), of which he was a founder. Correspondents include Dr. L. W. Boe, Dr. O. M. Norlie, Dr. Einar Haugen, Missionary Harold Martinson, Gov. W. L. Harding (Iowa), Kirkesanger (Precentor) John O. Quale (Bishop Jens Pederson Schelderup, 1557-1582, genealogy). There are occasional carbon copies of letters by Høverstad.

The papers also contain newspaper clippings concerning his ideas and activities; his poems, lectures, newspaper articles, including such titles as *RATIONALISMEN*, *HISTORIE OG HISTORIE UNDERVISNING*, and "Address at Unveiling of Gjrmund Høyme Portrait in Valdris, Norway, 1923"; his autobiography, 1893; his mother's autobiography, 1921; and 105 pictures.

INVENTORY

FILE CASE 1:

12 folders, general correspondence	1,427
1 folder, Kristine Haugen letters	28
1 folder, Hans C. Ness letters	29
2 folders, Gertrude Høverstad letters	93
1 folder, Gertrude Høverstad, misc.	58
1 folder, Torgeir A. Høverstad, misc.	73
1 folder, Torgeir T. Høverstad, misc.	69
1 folder, Norway relatives and friends, misc.	58
1 folder, biographical miscellany	45
2 folders, miscellany	50
1 folder, clippings	68
2 folders, poems	206
4 folders, lectures and articles	124
1 folder, restricted	14

FILE CASE 2:

2 envelopes, pictures plus 1 framed photograph	105
Books of sermons	14
Sermons	76
Almanacs (pastors)	6
Convention notebooks	4
Dagbog (Diary) 1897, June 27—1899, Feb. 1.....	1
Minnebog (Memory Book) 1887-1889	1
School notebooks	3
Ministerial Record Book	1
Total	2,552

Jacob Hodnefield

Word reached us in January that Jacob Hodnefield of Glendale, California, died in May, 1960. Hodnefield, a charter member of the NAHA, was well known for his many bibliographical listings in the field of Norwegian-American history and for his "Some Recent Publications Relating to Norwegian - American History" that have appeared regularly in our **Studies and Records** series. He also wrote a num-

ber of other articles for the same volumes, his last being "Norwegian-American Bygdelags and Their Publications" in volume 18. He served for many years on the staffs of the Minnesota Historical Society and the Hill Reference Library, St. Paul, Minn.

Reports of the deaths of two other members have also been received: K. Olaus Finseth, Northfield, Minnesota, and the Reverend Otto A. Jacobson, Kenyon, Minn.

Northfield Men Assist Archives

The problem of how to get some 50,000 letters screened for historical value was readily solved by 13 men living in and near Northfield, Minnesota, most of them retired professors, pastors, and missionaries.

They started by each taking two large cartons of these letters into their homes where they, in accordance with instructions prepared by the archivist, set about doing a task which would have taken one person at least six months to accomplish. Adding to the time involved was the fact that all the letters were still in their envelopes. Though an estimated 80% of these letters have no historical significance, each letter must, nevertheless, be carefully examined. A few are already working on their third and fourth cartons.

The men who have taken such an active interest in our work and to whom we are much indebted are O. L. Hofstad, T. F. Braaten, K. F. Braaten, Thorbjorn Hanson, R. C. Cartford, T. J. Vikse, Edward Sovik, Lars Hustvedt, B. J. Hatlem, C. B. Helgen, Wm. Benson, B. J. Løvaas, and Gerhard Ellestad.

GRO SVENDSEN IN "GREAT AMERICAN LETTERS"

Hawthorne Books, Inc., is publishing a book, edited by Charles Hurd, entitled **A Treasury of Great American Letters**. It will include one of Gro Svendsen's letters (December 3, 1865) from our publication *Frontier Mother*, pp. 70-77.

Plans To Enshrine Guri Endreson Cabin

The Kandiyohi County (Minnesota) board of commissioners recently voted an annual appropriation of \$1,000 for the next three years to purchase the land on which the Guri Endreson cabin stands.

The heroism of Guri Endreson dates back to the Indian uprising of 1862. A pioneer settler in the Solomon Lake Community, she brought the surviving members of her family and other wounded persons to safety following the slaying of many settlers by the Indians in August of that tragic year.

Several years ago a state monument was erected over the grave of Guri Endreson at Vikor church cemetery, located in the Solomon Lake Community.

A Kandiyohi County history published in 1905 has this closing statement about Guri Endreson:

"The citizens of Kandiyohi County and of Minnesota would do themselves honor by commemorating her heroic character with a suitable monument. Men and women of future generations, as they sit around their comfortable fireplaces, will delight in telling their children the story of noble, brave, gentle Guri Endreson."

NAHA MEMBER HONORED

Prominent South Dakota attorney and historian Julius Skaug was elected by the Mobridge Junior Chamber of Commerce as the Outstanding Citizen of the Year in recognition and appreciation of his service to the community.

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NORWEGIAN-AMERICAN HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION
St. Olaf College
Northfield, Minnesota

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