

**Collection Name:**

Gustav Marius Bruce papers, 1879-1963

Collection Number:

P0463

Extent:

0.4 cubic feet (1 archives box)

Abstract:

Correspondence, reports, clippings, and photographs of a Norwegian-born Lutheran clergyman, theological professor, author, editor, and lecturer. Bruce immigrated to Yankton County, Dakota Territory, in 1884; attended Fremont College, Red Wing Seminary, University of South Dakota, Temple University (Ph.D.), and Hartford Seminary (D.D.). He was a minister in South Dakota, Illinois, Minnesota, and Nebraska parishes; teacher in the public schools of Yankton County, Jewell College, and Red Wing Seminary; professor at Luther Theological Seminary (1917-1949); vice-president of the NELCA; and held a number of offices in the church.

He was publicity chairman of the Norse-American Centennial, president of Østfoldlaget for 16 years, and of Bygdelagenes Fellesraad for 5 years. He was editor of several religious periodicals, a contributor to newspapers and magazines, and the author of several books on social and educational subjects. Correspondence and reports in this collection deal with Knut Gjerset's proposed encyclopedia on Norwegian Americans, Bruce's work as publicity director of the Norse-American Centennial, Norwegian pioneers in Canada, and bilingualism in the church.

An article, "Lidt pionærhistorie," is an account of the blizzard of 1888, as it affected the Bruce family. Correspondence regarding bygdelag affairs has been transferred to the Bygdelagene Papers; Andreas Wright; Mons Wee; commemorations of Ole Rynning, Bjørnson and Jonas Lie; Leif Ericson Monument Association; NAHA; Century of Progress; Tvillingbyerne Norske Litterære Forening (including information about Laura Bratager, S. Sneve, Gustav Mellby); and Norwegians in Canada

The collection originally filled three boxes. Material directly relating to Bruce's work with the NELC (Luther League, educational survey, negotiations with congregations) was transferred to Region 3 archives at Luther Seminary in 1999. Correspondence as president of the Østfoldlaget and the Bygdelagenes Faellesraad (including record books and scrapbook) was transferred to the Bygdelagene Papers.

Box	Folder	Descriptions	Date	Range
1	1	Articles & Clippings.	1925	1959



NORWEGIAN-AMERICAN
HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

1	2	Correspondence & Article re: Andreas Wright.	1886	1953
1	3	Reports & Clippings. B. Bjørnson & Jonas Lie.	1932	1934
1	4	Correspondence, Reports, M.O. Wee.	1933	1933
1	5	Correspondence, [Mrs. Ida] Knute Nelson.	1928	1933
1	6	Correspondence, Leif Ericson (Erikson) Monument Assoc.	1936	1936
1	7	Correspondence, Releases, Pictures, Pamphlets: Norse-Am. Centennial. Includes typescript articles gby Bruce, "The Norse-American Centennial," (11 p); "The First Settlements of Norwegians in America," (4 p.); "The Norse Americans as Farmers," (3 p); "The Invasion of the Norsemen," (12 p); "The Norse-Americans as Educators," (5 p); "A Century of Norwegian Immigration and Achievement," (15 p); "Washington a Norwegian?" (5 p); "Centennial Celebration of Norwegian Immigration," (3 p); "The Invasion of the Norsemen" (9 p)	1925	1925
1	8	Correspondence, Reports & Clippings--Ole Rynning Centennial.	1934	1939
1	9	Correspondence, Reports & Clippings--Chicago Exposition.	1939	1939
1	10	Correspondence, Reports & Clippings--NAHA	1934	1938
1	11	Correspondence, Reports, Clippings, Pamphlets--Norsk Literaere forening	1916	1938