

**The Center for the Evangelical United Brethren Heritage
United Theological Seminary
Trotwood, Ohio**

**HC-75
The Oscar A. Hyden Papers**

Processed January 2007 by Timothy Binkley

Introduction

The Oscar A. Hyden Papers document the life and career of the Rev. Dr. Oscar A. Hyden (1895-19??). The collection was given to the Center for the Evangelical United Brethren Heritage by Dr. Hyden's daughter, Eleanor R. Wolf, in 2000. HC-75 features a copy of Dr. Hyden's Master's Thesis, materials focusing on his well-known "Ninety and Nine" Services, and photographs. The collection has been arranged into two series: Documents and Photographs.

The Oscar A. Hyden Papers fill one document box (.5 linear foot of shelf space). There are no restrictions on the use of this collection.

Biographical Note

Oscar Andrew Hyden was born in Somerville, MA, in 1895, one of five children of the Rev. and Mrs. Andrew Hyden. He entered Schuylkill Seminary in 1914, graduating in 1918 with a Bachelor of Arts degree. At Schuylkill he was President of his class, captain of the football team during his senior year, president of the Y.M.C.A., and winner of the senior oratorical contest. Decades later Hyden continued his education. In 1941 he completed a Master of Sacred Theology degree from The Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia.

On April 13, 1919, Oscar A. Hyden was ordained to the Christian ministry at the First Evangelical Church of Cambridge, MA, by Bishop Breyfogel. After a one-year student pastorate at Leighton, PA, Hyden was appointed to the Broadway Evangelical Church in Pawtucket, RI, a charge he served for ten years. He later pastored the Pearl Street Evangelical Church of Lancaster, PA, and the Calvary Evangelical Church, Mohnton, PA.

While in Lancaster, Hyden came up with the idea for his "Ninety and Nine" Service in which a chorus of 100 men would sing the hymn "The Ninety and Nine" by Elizabeth Clephane. The theme was the Good Shepherd and the lost sheep (John 10:1-17, 27-28). During the reading of the scriptures and a meditation on the hymn, glass lantern slide images were projected in the church. An evangelistic sermon and more congregational hymn singing concluded the service, which he led some 46 times.

Hyden received an honorary Doctor of Divinity degree in 1952 while serving the Evangelical United Brethren Church as a Conference Superintendent. Upon his retirement in 1963, Hyden was recognized for serving 47 years in the ministry.

Scope and Content

Series I of the Oscar A. Hyden Papers consists of Documents by and about Dr. Hyden and his ministry. The most significant folder of materials document his “Ninety and Nine” Services. Series II is comprised of family, school, and church photographs.

Box and Folder Listing

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Dates</u>
<i>Series I: Documents</i>			
1	1	Biographical Materials	1919-2000
	2	Master of Sacred Theology Thesis: “The Training of the Minister in Biblical Geography”	1941
	3	“Ninety and Nine” Service Papers and Slides	1948-92
	4	Citations and Honors	1949-63
	5	Event Programs	1932-52
<i>Series II: Photographs</i>			
1	6	Family Photographs	ca. 1900 – 1954
	7	Schuylkill Seminary / Albright College Photographs	1914-68
	8	Church and Parsonage Photographs	1919-45

