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In This Issue

LESLIE STEGH, retired records manager at John Deere, recounts the details of a series of strikes in Waterloo and the organized opposition from employers. He emphasizes the dispute over workers' right to collective bargaining, the efforts by both sides to use local newspapers to sway public opinion, the relative absence of violence during the strikes, and the ultimately unsuccessful attempt to organize workers across industries to achieve a general strike.

KATHRYN A. SCHUMAKER, a lecturer in the Institute for the American Constitutional Heritage at the University of Oklahoma, describes the struggle for civil rights reform in Waterloo's public schools in the late 1960s and early 1970s. Initiated by students seeking more equitable treatment in their schools, their movement was coopted by a plan to desegregate the city's schools that ignored many of the students' basic concerns.

Front Cover

Workers at Waterloo Gasoline Engine Company were prominent among the nearly 3,000 workers who participated in a series of strikes in Waterloo in 1919, the subject of Leslie Stegh's article in this issue. This photo of a loading crew in 1920 is courtesy of John Deere.

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Contents

321	The Waterloo Strikes of 1919 Leslie Stegh
353	The Politics of Youth: Civil Rights Reform in the Waterloo Public Schools <i>Kathryn A. Schumaker</i>
386	Book Reviews and Notices
410	New on the Shelves
412	Index

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Book Reviews and Notices

- 386 ENFYS MCMURRY, Centerville: A Mid-American Saga, by Derek Oden
- 388 MARY KEVIN GALLEGHER, ED., Seed/Harvest: A History of the Archdiocese of Dubuque; and Archdiocese of Dubuque, 1837-2012: Jesus Alive Through 175 Years, by Bill R. Douglas
- 389 GRAHAM A. CALLAWAY AND W. RAYMOND WOOD, COMPS., Lieutenant G. K. Warren's 1855 and 1856 Manuscript Maps of the Missouri River, by David Bernstein
- 390 TIMOTHY B. SMITH, *Rethinking Shiloh: Myth and Memory;* and LINDA BARNICKEL, *Milliken's Bend: A Civil War Battle in History and Memory,* by Brian Craig Miller
- 393 JOHN ZIMM, ED., This Wicked Rebellion: Wisconsin Civil War Soldiers Write Home, by Patrick G. Bass
- 394 NORMAN K. RISJORD, Dakota: The Story of the Northern Plains, by Jon K. Lauck
- 396 TODD W. NICHOL ED., Norwegian-American Studies, volume 36, by Dag Blanck
- 398 H. ROGER GRANT, Railroads and the American People, by Scott E. Randolph
- 400 PETER H. ARGERSINGER, Representation and Inequality in Late Nineteenth-Century America: The Politics of Apportionment, by Mark Wahlgren Summers
- 402 KEITH NEWLIN, ED., Garland in His Own Time: A Biographical Chronicle of His Life, by Marcia Noe
- 402 GREG OLSON, Voodoo Priests, Noble Savages, and Ozark Gypsies: The Life of Mary Alicia Owen, by Victoria Smith
- 403 DAVID VAUGHT, *The Farmers' Game: Baseball in Rural America*, by Benjamin G. Rader
- 405 Gretchen Heefner, *The Missile Next Door: The Minuteman in the American Heartland,* by Jenny Barker Devine
- 407 STEWART VAN CLEVE, Land of 10,000 Loves: A History of Queer Minnesota, by Robin C. Henry
- 408 GERALD VIZENOR AND JILL DOERFLER, The White Earth Nation: Ratification of a Native Democratic Constitution, by Mark R. Scherer