

Far from Hitler: The Scattergood Hostel for European Refugees, 1939–43, by Michael Luick-Thrams. Mason City: TRACES for the Iowa Jewish Historical Society, 2004. 49 pp. Illustrations, tables. \$7.50 paper.

Reviewer Terrence J. Lindell is professor of history at Wartburg College. His research interests include World War II, especially the U. S. homefront.

In 1939 the American Friends Service Committee oversaw the creation of a hostel for refugees fleeing Nazi Germany at Scattergood, a vacant Quaker boarding school near West Branch. Before the facility closed in 1943, 186 European refugees passed through its doors on their way to building new lives in America. This brief work is the catalog for a traveling exhibit sponsored by the Iowa Jewish Historical Society. It is composed of a series of essays, most a single page long, each of which examines an aspect of the Scattergood story. These include the oppression that forced people to flee Europe, the troubles they had reaching America, the organization of the hostel, profiles of the staff and refugees who made up the community, facets of Scattergood life, the hostel's closing, and Scattergood's meaning for those who sojourned there. A page of illustrations from the exhibit accompanies nearly every essay. The work also includes lists of Scattergood refugees and staff.

Few of the publication's nearly 200 illustrations—mostly photographs, with some documents, artwork, and small objects—have captions. The lack thereof often leaves the reader wondering who the people portrayed are, if they are the ones referred to in the accompanying essay, and sometimes what they are doing.

Far from Hitler serves as a short introduction to the Scattergood story. Readers interested in a full treatment should consult Luick-Thrams's 1996 book, *Out of Hitler's Reach: The Scattergood Hostel for European Refugees, 1939–43*.

Camp Papers/Lagerzeitungen: The German POW Newspapers at Camp Algona, Iowa, 1944–1946, edited by Michael Luick-Thrams. Mason City: TRACES, 2003. iv, 168 pp. Illustrations. \$17.50 paper.

Reviewer Chad William Timm is a high school history teacher in Des Moines, a Ph.D. candidate at Iowa State University, and the author of a master's thesis, "Axis Prisoners of War in Iowa, 1943–1946: Harvesting Fields of Dreams" (Iowa State University, 2002).

In this fascinating piece of Iowa history, Michael Luick-Thrams contends that enemy prisoners of war "underwent pivotal changes as individuals and as a group—thus fundamentally influencing postwar German values and institutions" (i). Through vivid primary documents, Luick-Thrams depicts the growth and transformation of Ger-

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