

The Annals of Iowa

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In This Issue

DOROTHY E. FINNEGAN describes the potent influence the YMCA and YWCA had on Penn College's early development, from 1882 to the 1920s. During those years, when the college's institutional resources were minimal, the Y associations made vital contributions to the religious, physical, social, and economic life of the college and its students.

Dorothy E. Finnegan, a William Penn College alumna, is associate professor of education at The College of William and Mary.

CHRISTINE PAWLEY describes the activities of the Book Lovers Club, a club affiliated with the segregated Blue Triangle Branch of the YWCA in Des Moines, from 1925 to 1941. By analyzing what they read and how they reviewed what they read, Pawley finds that club members imagined multiple members for themselves – as African Americans, as Iowans, and as educated, cultured citizens.

Christine Pawley is associate professor of library and information studies and director of the Center for the History of Print Culture in Modern America at the University of Wisconsin–Madison.

Front Cover

Members of the Book Lovers Club of Des Moines pose in their neighborhood. For more on the activities of the Book Lovers Club, see Christine Pawley's article in this issue.

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