

The Annals of Iowa

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In This Issue

JONATHAN WARNER, professor and tutor in social sciences at Quest University Canada, analyzes the experience of some of the roughly 30 Iowa communities that experimented with issuing scrip as a means of combating the economic effects of the Great Depression. He shows the diversity of the plans and the effects they had, identifying the conditions that determined whether those experiments were relatively successful or not.

RENEE ANN CRAMER, associate professor and director of the Program in Law, Politics, and Society at Drake University, examines the establishment and operation of the Des Moines BirthPlace in the 1980s and sets its history in its local and national context. The contemporary national feminist movement was seeking birth options beyond the medical, in-hospital model. Meanwhile, the BirthPlace's location in a capital city with a strong, sympathetic corporate leadership provided unique opportunities for success.

Front Cover

The business district along Hawarden's Central Avenue is bustling in this image from the 1930s. Hawarden was the Iowa birthplace of experiments with local scrip as a means of combating the effects of the Great Depression. For more on such experiments in Hawarden and other Iowa communities, see Jonathan Warner's article in this issue. Photo from State Historical Society of Iowa, Iowa City.

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Marvin Bergman, editor

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