# The Annals of lowa Volume 77 Number 3 Summer 2018



A QUARTERLY JOURNAL OF HISTORY

#### In This Issue

BERNARD F. HARRIS JR., a doctoral student at Kansas State University, examines the lives, education, and training of the African American cadets who were trained at the Fort Des Moines Officer Training Camp in preparation for service in World War I. Upon graduation, those officers, Harris argues, helped to chip away at the bedrock of racial intolerance that characterized the United States at the time.

SARAH EIKLEBERRY, assistant professor of kinesiology at St. Ambrose University, describes the interracial work done by the Des Moines YWCA, especially in its Blue Triangle Branch, from 1919 to 1948. She identifies the opportunities the separatist branch and, eventually, the integrated association provided for black women and girls.

#### Front Cover

Members of a dance team at the Des Moines YWCA's Blue Triangle Branch strike a joyful pose in 1941. For more on the Blue Triangle Branch of the Des Moines YWCA, see Sarah Eikleberry's article in this issue. Photo from YWCA of Greater Des Moines Records, Iowa Women's Archives, University of Iowa Libraries, Iowa City.

#### Editorial Consultants

Rebecca Conard, Middle Tennessee State University Kathleen Neils Conzen, University of Chicago William Cronon, University of Wisconsin-Madison Robert R. Dykstra, State University of New York at Albany

- R. David Edmunds, University of Texas at Dallas
- H. Roger Grant, Clemson University
- William C. Pratt, University of Nebraska at Omaha
- Pamela Riney-Kehrberg, Iowa State University
- Malcolm J. Rohrbough, University of Iowa

## The Annals of Third Series, Vol. 77, No. 3 Summer 2018 Marvin Bergman, editor

### Contents

231	Chipping Away at the
	Bedrock of Racial Intolerance:
	Fort Des Moines and Black Officer Training,
	1917-1918
	Bernard F. Harris Jr.
263	"A Bond of Common Womanhood
	Deeper than All Racial Separateness":
	Race Relations at the Des Moines
	Young Women's Christian Association, 1919-1948
	Sarah Jane Eikleberry
303	Book Reviews and Notices

A QUARTERLY JOURNAL OF HISTORY FOUNDED IN 1863 Copyright 2018 by the State Historical Society of Iowa ISSN 0003-4827

#### **Book Reviews and Notices**

- 303 TODD E. PETTYS, The Iowa State Constitution, 2nd ed., by John Dinan
- 305 JOSEPH A. RANNEY, Wisconsin and the Shaping of American Law, by Dale Yurs
- 306 MICHAEL L. TATE, ED., *The Great Medicine Road: Narratives of the Oregon, California, and Mormon Trails,* Part 3, 1850–1855, by J. T. Murphy
- 308 SHARI RABIN, Jews on the Frontier: Religion and Mobility in Nineteenth-Century America, by Hasia R. Diner
- 310 RICHARD CARWARDINE, Lincoln's Sense of Humor, by Mark Wahlgren Summers
- 311 TIMOTHY MASON ROBERTS, ED., "This Infernal War": The Civil War Letters of William and Jane Standard, by J. L. Anderson
- 312 KLAS BERGMAN, Scandinavians in the State House: How Nordic Immigrants Shaped Minnesota Politics, by Anna M. Peterson
- 314 PHILIP F. ANSCHUTZ, Out Where the West Begins, volume 2, Creating and Civilizing the American West, by J. T. Murphy
- 316 STERLING EVANS, ED., Farming across Borders: A Transnational History of the North American West, by R. Douglas Hurt
- 318 LYN ELLEN BENNETT AND SCOTT ABBOTT, *The Perfect Fence: Untangling the Meanings of Barbed Wire,* by Wayne Franklin
- 320 STEVEN C. HULL, Birth of the American Dream: Four Immigrant Families, Nine Generations, The Middle-Class Struggle, by Bruce Curtis
- 322 CAROLINE FRASER, Prairie Fires: The American Dreams of Laura Ingalls Wilder, by John J. Fry
- 324 CRAIG A. BISHOP, Billy Sunday, The Baseball Evangelist: The Story of a Remarkable Life, 1862–1935, by David Brodnax Sr.
- 325 KENNETH WHYTE, *Hoover: An Extraordinary Life in Extraordinary Times*, by Kendrick A. Clements
- 327 JERRY K. BEATTY, *Patriotism, Courage & Sacrifice: Warren County's Response to WW II,* by Terrence J. Lindell
- 328 DENNIS DESLIPPE, ERIC FURE-SLOCUM, AND JOHN W. MCKERLEY, EDS., *Civic Labors: Scholar Activism and Working-Class Studies*, by Gregory R. Zieren
- 330 DAVE ZWEIFEL AND JOHN NICHOLS, The Capital Times: A Proudly Radical Newspaper's Century-Long Fight for Justice and for Peace, by Frank Durham
- 331 JEFF STEIN, The Floppy Show, by Phillip J. Hutchison
- 333 M. J. RYMSZA-PAWLOWSKA, *History Comes Alive: Public History and Popular Culture in the* 1970s, by Rebecca Conard