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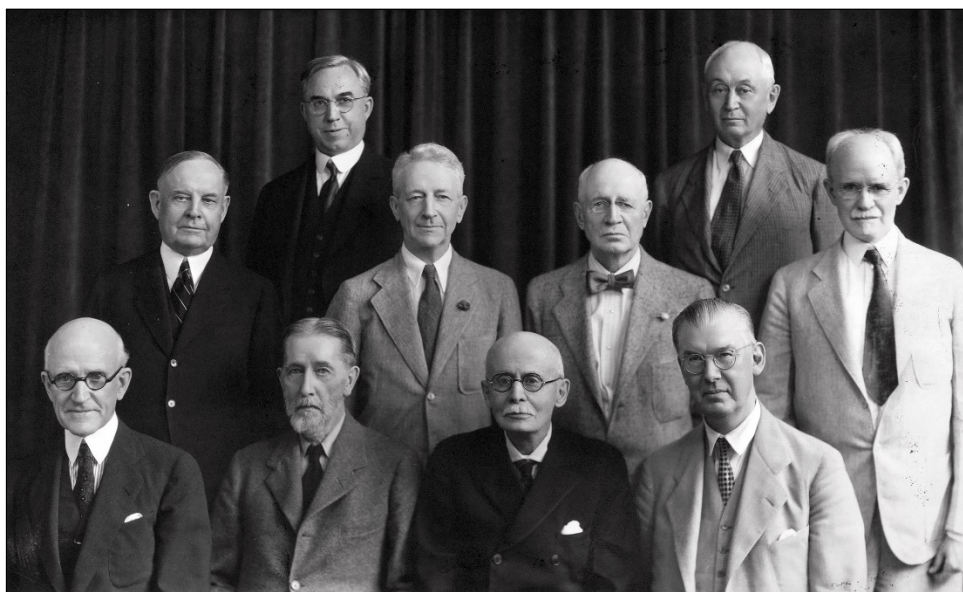
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The Annals of Iowa

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In This Issue

PAUL PUTZ, a doctoral candidate in history at Baylor University, shows how, from 1908 to 1916, evangelical Protestant religious leaders in Des Moines organized and engaged in local elections under the Des Moines Plan's commission form of government because they believed that they were uniquely equipped to provide the moral impulse for an otherwise materialistic city-boosting movement.

JEFFREY T. MANUEL, associate professor in the department of historical studies at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville, describes Iowa's first major debate over ethanol, a movement—known as the power alcohol movement—to legislate alcohol-gasoline blends in the 1930s, a time when power alcohol, like ethanol today, was the focus of vigorous debate in Des Moines and Washington, D.C., that pitted farmers and their representatives against gasoline consumers and oil companies.

Front Cover

Members of the Prairie Club of Des Moines who have been members for 30 years or more pose in 1935. The Prairie Club provided a venue for Des Moines's religious leaders to build stronger relationships with the city's business leaders. For the role of Des Moines's religious leaders in municipal reform and electoral politics in the years under the Des Moines Plan's commission form of city government, see Paul Emory Putz's article in this issue.

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