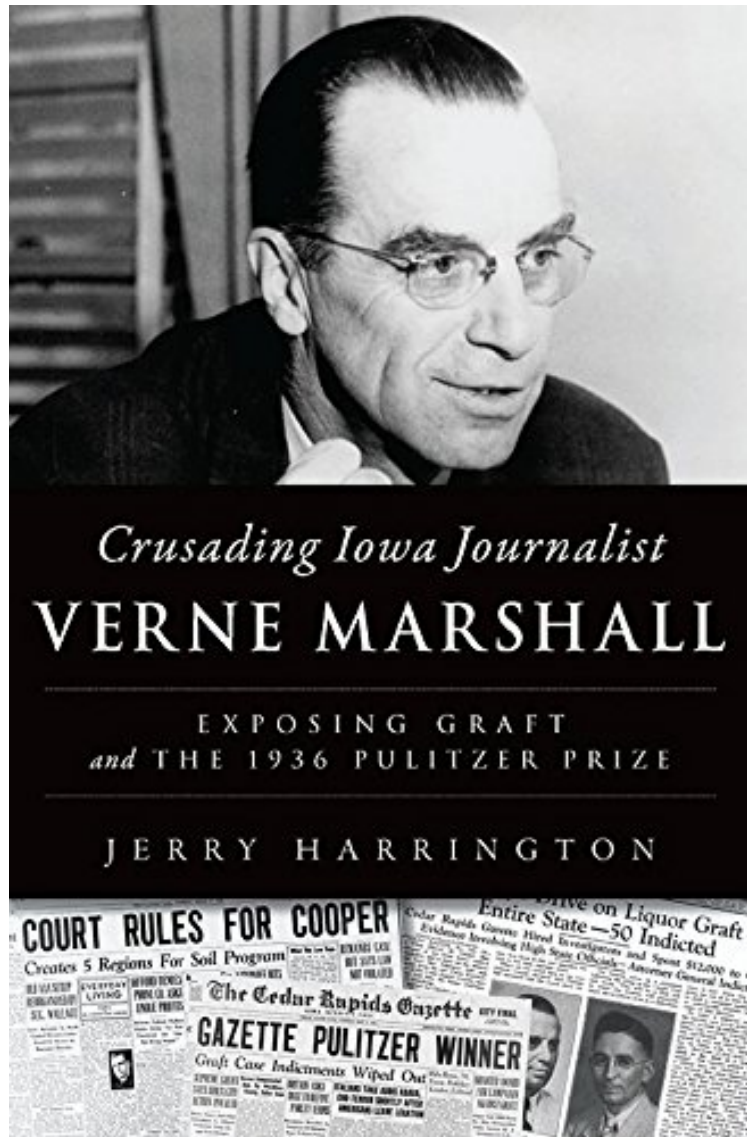


Crusading Iowa Journalist Verne Marshall: Exposing Graft and the 1936 Pulitzer Prize

Jerry Harrington

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Jerry Harrington : Crusading Iowa Journalist Verne Marshall: Exposing Graft and the 1936 Pulitzer Prize before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Crusading Iowa Journalist Verne Marshall: Exposing Graft and the 1936 Pulitzer Prize:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. DullBy Tom LacknerThis was a book club selection, the recommendation coming from a member who saw a review in the Cedar Rapids Gazette but who had not actually read the book. That's a lesson in itself. Otherwise, ther is little save it's brevity to recommend this volume. The prose is

repetitious and the story, while interesting, could be told in a quarter of the space. What will you learn? First, that Iowa politicians can be as corrupt as those in any other state. Second, that Iowa journalism may have been investigative in the 1930s, but the writing wasn't very good. I can say that because I grew up on the Gazette in the days when Frank Nye and Jerry Elsea headed the editorial board, men who knew how to write an editorial. Save your money, your time, and your bookshelf space for something better written. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Journalism Then, and What We Need Now By Throb Very interesting. Who knew that Iowa, of all places, could have had such corrupt officials in the not-too-distant past. The book makes me sad for the current state of journalism and newspapers, and makes you realize just how important a healthy press is to this republic. Once we had investigative journalists looking under the rocks of corporate and governmental America. Now we have...what? Twitter? In the 1930s in Iowa, the Cedar Rapids Gazette's tough work led to fifty indictments. In 2008 and beyond, not even the unearthing of a scandal of epic proportions -- the obtaining, packaging and selling of junk mortgages as securities -- led to any significant indictments. Sad indeed, but this book teaches that it was not always so. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Need more like him By K. Schapperstein Good journalist.

On December 12, 1934, police raided a canning factory in Cedar Rapids, uncovering an illegal liquor and gambling set-up. Verne Marshall, tempestuous editor of the Cedar Rapids Gazette, sensed a bigger story and a wider network of corruption. His aggressive investigative reporting led to multiple resignations, nearly fifty indictments and the dramatic trial of the state's attorney general. These explosive exposés earned Verne Marshall and the paper the 1936 Pulitzer Prize. Author Jerry Harrington traces the legacy of Marshall's incendiary crusade across Iowa's political landscape.

"Crusading Iowa Journalist Verne Marshall sheds light on a long-forgotten and important story at an accelerated pace in which the reader willfully turns the pages as the plot thickens. Harrington is to be commended for authoring an objectively thoughtful, extensively researched and sharply written book that stokes interest in Iowa's political past and reminds readers of the power of a free press." Iowa History Journal About the Author Jerry Harrington of Iowa City, Iowa, has spent a lifetime writing about Iowa history. A frequent contributor to Iowa History Journal (IHJ), he recently won the 2016 George Mills-Louise Noun Popular History Award from the Iowa State Historical Society for the IHJ series "Iowa Governors of Influence." Harrington recently retired as marketing public relations manager for DuPont Pioneer in Johnston, Iowa. He has worked for advertising/public relations agencies in Cedar Rapids, Iowa; Milwaukee, Wisconsin; and Rochester, New York. He has also worked for newspapers in Spencer and Clear Lake, Iowa. He graduated from Cornell College, Mt. Vernon, Iowa, in 1977 with degrees in English and political science and received his master's degree in history from the University of Iowa in 1981.