

Book Notices

This Is Iowa: A Cavalcade of the Tall Corn State, ed. Clarence A. Andrews. (Iowa City: Midwest Heritage Publishing Company, 1982. pp. 303, illustrations, \$19.95 cloth, \$14.95 paper over board.)

From a wealth of materials—stories, essays, poems, drawings, photographs—produced by Iowa's own writers and artists, Professor Andrews offers a selection of some of the best, to tell a tale of "the best state in the land." The names ring familiar—Herbert Quick, Hamlin Garland, "Ding" Darling, MacKinley Kantor, Margaret Wilson, Grant Wood, James Hearst, Mearle Miller, Ruth Suckow, Marquis Childs, Richard Bissell to name only a few whose works are represented in this delightful compilation. Andrews himself has become the leading literary historian of Iowa and was recently given the distinguished Mid-America Award for Distinguished Contributions to the Study of Midwestern Literature by the Society of Midwestern Literature. Professor Andrews and his wife are to be congratulated on forming the Midwest Heritage Publishing Company in Iowa City and if this present book is anything like things to come we shall all be in store for a real treat. This is the type of book which makes an excellent gift for any Iowan. It is handsomely bound with a lovely dust jacket designed by Ted Kooser. No true Iowans will want to be without this volume on their shelves.

Iowa: The American Heartland, by John Arends. (Des Moines: Bankers Trust, 1981. pp. 126, photographs, \$24.95 cloth.)

This is a lovely coffee-table picture book with over 160 color photographs, many of which are full-page. It is a feast for eyes that love color and natural beauty. Through stunning landscapes and intimate portraits this book conveys the fact that Iowa is the nation's center, the heartland. The introductory essay by nationally renowned journalist Hugh Sidey (originally from Greenfield, Iowa) captures the essentials of the Iowa way of life in words that ring with rare and special meaning to anyone living in this midwestern state. Most of the photographs are by Craig Aurness of the *National Geographic*. John

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