

## THE ANNALS OF IOWA

before. This is one of the most exquisitely produced books on this topic and well worth the price. The authors are to be commended for such a beautiful volume.

*Women's Diaries of the Westward Journey*, by Lillian Schlissel. (New York: Schocken Books, Inc., 1983. pp. 262, illustrations, bibliography, index, \$16.95 cloth, \$8.95 paper.)

The author, director of American Studies at Brooklyn College, has combed archives for diaries and letters of women who made the great overland migration between 1840 and 1870. The result is a fascinating book which is richly enhanced by never before published photographs. Over one hundred diaries were consulted in the research of this book and to give the reader a flavor of the actual writings, the author has reproduced in their entirety four diaries (one of which should be of particular interest to Iowans since it recounts a journey from Mitchell, Iowa to California). This book reveals an aspect of the westward saga seldom seen until recently and never in such depth. The book is a credit to the author and publisher and certainly moderately priced.

*Bearing Witness: A Photographic Chronicle of American Life, 1860-1945*, by Michael Lesy. (New York: Pantheon, pp. 200, illustrations, \$27.50 cloth.)

The photographs are arranged in a chronological and thematic fashion and trace the visual history of our nation from the Civil War through World War II. Many of the major events are portrayed, but there are also less traditional scenes that depict city life, industry, agriculture, and everyday life. The author, who also produced *Wisconsin Death Trip*, presents a startling new vision of America.

*The Mormon Graphic Image, 1834-1914: Cartoons, Caricatures, and Illustrations*, by Gary L. Bunker and Davis Bitton. (Salt Lake City: University of Utah Press, 1983. pp. 154, illustrations, bibliography, index, \$19.95 cloth.)

Mormonism as perceived by our society is full of misrepresentations and misunderstanding. From its very beginning, this religious movement was an unpopular one and even with the official discontinuation of the practice of polygamy in 1890, the followers of Joseph Smith were still objects of scorn and derision. The authors of this fascinating work, both Mormons, have searched for and collected into

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