Echoes of Spring Valley

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Three generations of a Tennessee family representing 150 years are presented in their trek westward. The author speculates on the value of cultural transmittal through oral tradition inspiring such families to strike out on their own in an attempt to make history.

The Roads They Made: Women in Illinois History. By Adade Mitchell Wheeler with Marlene Stein Wortman. (Chicago: Charles H. Kerr Publishing Co., 1977. 213 pp., illus., maps, notes, bibliography, index, $10.00 cloth, $3.95 paper.)

Details the important role of women in the history of Illinois.

Growing Up on Bald Hill Creek. By Harvey M. Sletten. (Ames, Iowa: Iowa State University Press, 1977. xii, 161 pp., illus., $6.95.)

An illuminating record of growing up in North Dakota rural areas which provides a nostalgic return to an earlier America for the older reader and a glimpse of a simpler time for the younger reader.


Spring Valley School was located in Scott Township, Hamilton County, Iowa, a distance of five miles from the town of Ellsworth. This is the personal story of the author's school days in the one room rural schoolhouse so typical of American life. This is nostalgia at its best and a book to be enjoyed by young and old alike. A true credit to its author for preserving one segment of Iowa's heritage.


This is a novel set in Iowa and written while the author was in Iowa City visiting his wife's relatives. It is not unusual for novels to be conceived in Iowa City (home of the famous Writ-