Old Capitol's Ghosts
Book Notices

Arend, the editor, is a graduate student at ISU in Ames and his family roots are three generations deep in Iowa's soil. This is a book by Iowans for Iowans and is one the Bankers Trust of Des Moines can be proud to have made available. It is truly a visual delight and one sure to find a place on the coffee-tables of many Iowans.

Old Capitol's Ghosts, by Robert E. Belding. (Iowa City: privately published. Sketches, $4.50 paper.)

The author, professor at the University of Iowa, and more recently a senior docent at Old Capitol in Iowa City, has given the reader a fascinating and intriguing account of the “darker” side of “Iowa City’s principal architectural glory.” This is not history in the true sense of the word, but rather what could be perhaps classified as “hystery”—for within the pages of Belding's delightful work, one will find myriad tales about this structure and its various inhabitants over the years. The reader is invited to share shivers floating from the venerated rooms of the esteemed structure where early government and University phantoms still spring from every corner. Cartoons accompany the text and were drawn by Jeffrey Heinke of Iowa City. This is a witty book which reveals a great deal about the “lighter” side of history. It is a credit to its author and well worth the price.

We Are Mesquakie, We Are One, by Hadley Irwin. (New York: The Feminist Press, 1981. pp. 128, $7.95 cloth.)

This is a book for young adults based on historical fact and written in a lively, fictional style. It tells the story of a Mesquakie girl, Hidden Doe, who grows to maturity during the turbulent period when the Mesquakie Indians were being forced to leave their Iowa homeland and move to Kansas. Hidden Doe strives to maintain the proud traditions of the Red Earth people. The authors (Hadley Irwin is a pen name), Lee Hadley and Annabelle Irwin live in Ames, Iowa where they teach in the English Department at ISU. This is their third book and one which youngsters in social studies and literature courses should enjoy.


Herein lies the story of the design and construction of the Jefferson National Expansion Memorial in St. Louis, better known simply as The Arch. The architect, Eero Saarinen, would never live to see the monument completed; in fact he died one year before construction of