

Prairieland Talk

Lancaster Voters Have Been Heard

By ROMAINE SAUNDERS, Retired, Former Editor The Frontier

LINCOLN—Taxpayers, property owners, citizens in Lincoln and Lancaster county have spoken to be heard.

The special election late in June cut the props from under a segment of the community that had proposed voting a 10-million-dollar bond debt on property owners, workers and farmers.

Enough is enough, say two-thirds of the taxpayers. We protest more increase in taxation, the old courthouse and city hall are ample for our needs, medical centers a plenty now and we need a new library about as much as a cat needs two tails.

Promoters of these various dreams of gaiety and grandeur had endeavored to convince the voters that a 10-million-dollar debt would reduce taxes, but old prairieland commonsense wrote that sort of talk down as fiction. The voice of the people has been heard shouting down the corridors of city and county administrative centers.

Tax increase resentment is fireproof the need, if there be a need, of adequate fireproof vaults in which to preserve county and city records by the erection of a county-city building to serve as courthouse and city hall was not taken into consideration.

Out where the whippoorwill calleth In meadow or field of grain, There softly and gently falleth Refreshing drops of rain, And then with a burst of splendor With harsher feelings made tender In the glow of setting sun.

Prairieland Talker has no illusions, is not out to perform the obsequies of our ag college or other supernumeraries of a top-heavy state and federal government. Living in a rural community some years ago, I canvassed that territory to ascertain if the patriots living there were deriving any benefit from the documents put out by the agronomists at the state ag college. None had and the verdict was unanimous that the institution could close up so far as they were concerned. My 14-year old grandson, a city lad, spent 10 days recently at the ranch of his pal's dad in Hooker county. He learned to bridle and saddle a horse and wrangle coming yearlings the day 150 head of the season's increase were branded and no one was on hand from the ag college to tell how to heat the iron and run a brand on the mavericks. Doctor Roud is in an environment of agricultural niceties and his patriotism inspires him to boost it skyward. And Prairieland Talker is a Nebraska booster, ag college and all.

A few strokes with the pen and 33 billion dollars flutters out of Washington for building highways everywhere. Something over 44 million-dollars will be spent in Nebraska building 400 concrete streaks across prairieland. The prairie trails, the long shady lane of our fathers, the quiet retreat at the end of the winding road where summer dreams brought visions of delight to be no more as the rush and roar of traffic on highways zooms by.

Editorial

Federal School Aid Slapped Down

An amendment tacked onto the federal aid to schools bill in the house of representatives kayoed that bill. It appears the eager-beavers for federal aid to education will have to look elsewhere than the current house for support.

When the roll call came, 119 republicans and 105 democrats voted "nay", only 75 republicans and 119 democrats favored the bill. A provision barring any funds to Southern states which failed to comply with the supreme court's antisegregation decision was the amendment that broke the camel's back.

President Eisenhower had wanted to allocate funds partly on the basis of "need" with the "poorer" states receiving more money than the "rich" ones. That provision was finally knocked out and the bill, when up for final reading, bore little resemblance to the original white house plan. The segregation (or antisegregation) issue conclusively helped, topple the appellation for the federal school aid enthusiasts.

We're glad something spoiled the party. However, because the school aid bill went down with the racial problem tacked on, the enthusiasts will, no doubt, bounce right back and want the bill faced on its own merits.

By that time we hope the right-thinking people in these United States will have become aware of what's going on and emphatically decide to stick to the constitutional tradition, namely—that school problems belong to the sovereign states and to the local communities.

Nebraskans in the house, all republicans, voted solidly for the antisegregation amendment to the bill, and then voted solidly against final passage of the measure.

A Parent Goes to Jail

The Verdigris Eagle carried as page one news last week a story about a woman who had bought a car, obtained fictitious plates and turned the car over to her 15-year-old son.

The boy and three companions stole some steel posts, sold them and bought a case and a half of beer. They were drinking the beer, says the Knox county paper, when state patrolmen arrested them.

Not only was the youthful driver sent to the Kearney training school but the mother pleaded guilty to contributing to his delinquency "and was sentenced by County Judge Ira J. Ballard to serve two days in the women's county jail and pay costs of prosecution."

Four other people, including the man who furnished the phony license plates, are serving county jail sentences as a result of the affair, says the Eagle.

A Verdigris resident sent us a marked copy of the story with the notation "This is what Omaha needs"—which Omaha most certainly does.

Up to now the local authorities generally have shied away from "parental responsibility" cases, on the grounds that Nebraska law is inadequate. Perhaps Judge Ballard has given them a clue as to how they may proceed.

A strike is an overt act, visible and tangible. The steelworkers, like all strikers, therefore start out under a measure of popular disfavor regardless of the merits or demerits of their case. The public, on the other hand, is likely finding it hard to understand an industry which, in spite of mounting profits, announces whatever the wage increase its cost will be passed along in higher prices.

Soddy society is a new thing for another group movement to keep alive the memory of the sod house era on prairieland. Max Marshall of Omaha becomes the society's first president; Dr. Theodore Peterson of Holdrege, vice-president, and Miss Margaretta Burke of Omaha, secretary. Miss Burke will also handle any funds the society may acquire. W. A. Curtiss of Wahoo, Inez Coppon, Mrs. Eller and Charles S. Reed, all of Omaha, function as a board of directors. How many of the new society's 150 members ever saw a sod house or had a hand in building one has not been disclosed. There may be other survivors in Holt county who have laid up the three-foot walls of a soddy but I think of Harry White through Amelita who could give this new society's members the architectural information for the construction of a sod house. And possibly a sod cutter that had been forged at the anvil of the late Emil Sniggs may be found in some pioneer back yard.

The noise of world war is silenced, about forgotten, blood pools and broken bodies and ruined lands gone into the record of the past. The earth thunders on. Children and sad-eyed mothers in Europe and the Orient by the hundreds wonder where that American soldier is who promised a trusting maiden a home over here and she to be his wife and mother of his offspring. American soldiers left their mark in distant lands other than the mark of the conquering sword. To the shame of our armies there are thousands of little children who know not a father's love and care and disillusioned weary women in those distant lands where our soldiers have been stationed. Is something lacking in military discipline that the fruits of human lust fall on innocent victims as our contribution to the "free world"?

He had thought, planned, developed ways to escape the vigilance of those on guard. Yesterday he walked out to freedom and was found prone upon the ground beside the trail with a swollen foot and limb. Ten years' endeavor to escape from a mental institution to run into the fangs of a rattler. He lay dead from the venomous sting of a side winder.

Something over seven thousand patriots gathered at the burying ground of old Ft. Robinson a day last month ostensibly to attend the dedication of the Nebraska State Historical society's museum. The town of Crawford had arranged to barbecue-fee five thousand hungry mouths and when over seven thousand came marching up for a sizeable slice of roast beef the entertainment committee had to hustle out to the nearest ranch to rope and bring in another steer or two. Ft. Robinson was the last of Nebraska's military outposts functioning as Indian war headquarters and has been of historic interest for visitors, thus it is an appropriate location for the society's museum.

Cheyenne county is the latest to come up with a county historical society, the organization being perfected June 5 at Sidney. It is these county societies that perpetuate the true history of a people. The history of our state is not what some gent in uniform has done or the official proceedings in legislative halls and oratorical outbursts of political spellbinders, but the daily contribution of the common citizen to community life. It was from old Ft. Sidney that Holt county inherited the notorious Doc Middleton.

Nebraska's Highways

(Lincoln Star)

Nebraska had been at it nearly 20 years before it had spent 139-million-dollars on modern highways. That was including both federal and state funds. Progress was slow in those beginning years of the highway partnership between Uncle Sam and the people of Nebraska. Actually there was a disposition in the state to question dollar matching—with the result that Nebraska's highway department always lacked the necessary funds to take advantage of the federal funds available and earmarked to be spent within Nebraska's borders.

The highway bill to which President Eisenhower attached his signature is the most breathtaking highway program undertaken by the American people. By taking full advantage of federal funds, Governor Anderson reveals, Nebraska could spend in excess of 139-million-dollars in the next three years. That is a whole of a lot of money by any computation in this state. It is more than we spent in the first 15 years of highway development in Nebraska. So Governor Anderson says it is up to the Nebraska legislature to provide the matching funds.

More accurately it is up to the people of Nebraska.

They will have to decide whether they want to utilize all the available federal funds—whether they are willing to absorb additional taxes to produce the state's share. The legislature should not be expected to do anything else than to carry out the will of the people and this program will be upon more sound, solid ground if it has the enthusiastic support of all Nebraskans. In terms of leadership, the governor should assume his share of responsibility in urging approval of legislation adequate to get the job done.

Opportunities of this type do not appear every day. But to get federal funds the states must put up their share of matching money.

If you are a golfing bug, play early in the week; it may rain late in the week.

The world will find out about it—if you are a particularly hot shot!

There is a surprisingly large number of good fishing days.

THE FRONTIER

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When You and I Were Young

15 Horses Cremated in Livery Blaze

Lumber Yard Loss Is \$40,000

50 Years Ago Fire destroyed the Bowen livery barn and the Bazelmeyer lumber yard. Fifteen horses were cremated. The lumber yard loss was estimated at \$40,000 and was not covered by insurance. Mr. Bowen's property was insured for \$800. Miss Ruth Evans gave a party in honor of Owen Meredith, a West Point academy student, and Miss Green of Michigan, who has been engaged to teach in the O'Neill schools for the coming year.

20 Years Ago Emil Sniggs, who since 1887 has operated a blacksmith shop, retired after 55 years of work. Glenn Tomlinson caught the biggest bass out of Park Rapids, Minn., for this year. Those who were with Mrs. Tomlinson, Mr. and Mrs. Bud Calvert, Mr. and Mrs. William Turner of Chambers. Thomas Donlin shipped 32 head of hogs and topped the South Omaha market. The hogs sold for \$10.35 per hundred pounds. The Misses Lois, Lenora and Patricia Sullivan left for a two-weeks' vacation in the Black Hills.

10 Years Ago Mrs. Elvina Scofield, 86, died of an apoplectic stroke at her home. Dianne Howard, 6, was injured in a hit-and-run driver. She suffered a broken collarbone and shoulder. Mrs. Josephine Hart, 81, and Mrs. John White, 29, both of Page, died after illnesses.

One Year Ago Robert Devoy of Sioux City has purchased an interest in the Gilligan Rexall store. Joe Sengelmann, north Holt pioneer, died at his farm home at the age of 84. Francis A. Mohr, 33, of Atkinson, father of four young children, suffered a fatal heart attack at the Stuart car races. Mr. and Mrs. Scott E. Conner of Ewing celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary.

Page Woman Wins Safety Citation

Miss Hellice Stevens, 1014 Court st., Sioux City, received the fifth safety citation of the women's division of the Sioux City safety council. She was selected by two patrolmen after the policemen had followed her in a car for some distance and noted she had observed the proper speed limit, had given proper signals, stayed in her own lane, and had given special attention at all intersections. The citation was sent to Miss Stevens, who is a daughter of Mrs. Ben Stevens of Page.

Other Page News

Mrs. Jennie French and daughter, Miss Alice, of O'Neill. Mr. and Mrs. Allen Haynes and Miss Viola were Sunday guests in the home of Mr. and Mrs. William Neubauer. Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Wood of Lincoln were afternoon callers there and at the home of Misses Grace and Nellie Wood, after a weekend spent with their daughters, Mrs. Calvin Harvey and Mrs. Kenneth Asher, and their families.

Mrs. Carrie Taylor and daughters, Hazel and Floma, of Norfolk and Mrs. Emma Canaday and the Misses Grace and Nellie Wood were Fourth of July guests in the William Neubauer home. Members of the young adult Sunday-school class picnicked at the Page park Sunday noon. A short business meeting was held before the crowd dispersed.

Miss Jo Ann Braddock of Hastings spent Saturday, Sunday and Monday with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. G. Braddock. Mrs. Carrie Townsend accompanied her sister-in-law, Mrs. Dora Townsend, and Duran Rutherford to Norfolk on Saturday where she was a guest in the Frank Chmeler home. On the Fourth the Chmeler family was all at home and Mrs. Alva Townsend of Columbus and their children and grandchildren were all there also. The others went to Hartington to the Robert Weir home and returned to Page Monday. Mrs. Carrie Townsend accompanied her grandchildren, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Gilmore and family, to Page on their way to their home at Deadwood, S.D.

Mrs. Carrie Townsend accompanied her sister-in-law, Mrs. Dora Townsend, and Duran Rutherford to Norfolk on Saturday where she was a guest in the Frank Chmeler home. On the Fourth the Chmeler family was all at home and Mrs. Alva Townsend of Columbus and their children and grandchildren were all there also. The others went to Hartington to the Robert Weir home and returned to Page Monday. Mrs. Carrie Townsend accompanied her grandchildren, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Gilmore and family, to Page on their way to their home at Deadwood, S.D.

Royal Theater

O'NEILL, NEBR.

Thurs. Family Nights July 12 Universal International presents Virginia Mayo, George Nader CONGO CROSSING

Co-starring Peter Lorre, with Michael Pate, Rex Ingram, Tonio Selwart. Print by Technicolor. In savage Africa they kept a rendezvous with terror! Family admitted for 2 adult tickets; adults 50c; children 12c

Fri.-Sat. July 13-14 Print by Technicolor STAR IN THE DUST

Starring John Agar, Mona Van Doran, Richard Boone, Leif Erickson, Coleen Gray with James Gleason, Randy Stuart. The sun is setting in Gunlock—and justice is going with it—unless Bill Jordan picks up the badge they threw in the dirt and takes a last reckless chance! Adults 50c; children 12c; matinee Sat. 2:30. All children under 13 free when accompanied by parent

Sun.-Mon.-Tues. July 15-16-17 Print by Technicolor TOY TIGER

Starring Jeff Chandler, Laraine Day and Tim Hovey, with Cecil Kellaway, Richard Haydn. It's got that "Toy Tiger" tune. That lovable little boy of "Major Benson" fame—Tim's back—with a tiger by the tail and the world by the hair! Adults 50c; children 12c; matinee Sun. 2:30. All children under 12 free when accompanied by parent

Program Closes

Bible School

EMMET — The Bible school at the Methodist church closed with a picnic and program Friday evening. Work the children had done was displayed. Twenty-eight were enrolled for the course. Teachers included Rev. and Mrs. Glenn Kennicott of O'Neill, Miss Linda Serck, Mrs. Paul Newton and Mrs. Grant Peacock of O'Neill.

Other Emmet News

Miss Jeanie Foreman was an overnight guest of Miss Norma Wittfeldt last Thursday. Miss Shirley Schultz was a guest at the Albert Wittfeldt home Friday.

Miss Rita Clara Hoehne spent most of the past week at the Ray Richards home.

Donnie and Lee Pierson, sons of Mr. and Mrs. George Pierson of Wyoming have been guests at the Norman Wayman home for three weeks.

The Howard Newton family were special guests of the William Newtons. Mr. and Mrs. Earl Whaley and daughter of Los Angeles, Calif., visited his mother, Mrs. Bill Teske, Friday.

Mrs. Leon Beckwith and Mrs. P. W. McGinnis were guests at the Garden club meeting at the Earl Houts home west of Emmet last Thursday.

The Glen Burge family of Chambers were Sunday dinner guests at the Bessie Burge home. Kristie Abart, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Keith Abart, spent the past week at the Charles Abart home.

Mr. and Mrs. Louis Sidek and family visited the George Skopec family Friday evening.

Mrs. William Newton called on Mrs. George Skopec last Thursday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Winkler went to Humphrey Friday to attend the funeral of his cousin, Max Babl.

The Charles Winkler family of Atkinson were Sunday guests at the Joe Winkler home.

Mrs. Ed Etherton called on Mrs. Joe Winkler and Mary Alice last Thursday afternoon.

Miss Nancy Sipes, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Sipes of Seward, is spending a few days visiting at the Gilbert Fox home.

The South Side club will meet Tuesday afternoon, July 17, with Mrs. Walter Pease. Roll call will be to answer the question, "Does your garden really pay?"

Fourth of July dinner guests of the Max Grenier family of O'Neill included: The Albert Sipes family of Seward, the Gilbert Fox family, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Tomlinson and Veldon of Star, Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Rapley of Watsonville, Calif., Mickey and Casey Tomlinson and Mr. and Mrs. Eddie Tomlinson.

George Schaaaf, son of Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Schaaaf of Atkinson,

spent last week and this week as a guest at the Elmer Schaaaf home.

Miss Suzanne Brainard, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Brainard, is spending this week with her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Brainard.

Miss Maureen Higgins of Valentine is spending a few days visiting at the Al Havranek home. Gerald Wills visited his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Wills, and his brothers, Ronald and Art, July 4.

Mrs. Dean Perry and family were dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Joey Staub last Thursday.

Miss Maureen Schaaaf, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Schaaaf, spent from Tuesday, July 3, until Friday as a guest at the John Schaaaf home.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Perry of O'Neill visited the Dean Perry family last Thursday evening.

The Elmer Schaaaf, Herman Schaaaf and Alfred Schaaaf families spent the Fourth of July in Neligh.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Fox were Sunday supper guests of the George Brainard family.

Miss Patricia Mullen spent Sunday with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Mullen, and family. The Elmer Schaaaf family were guests of Mrs. Ruth Barnes of Atkinson Sunday, July 1.

Janice Kloppeberg, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Kloppeberg of Sterling, Colo., spent a few days with her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Kloppeberg.

Miss Ellen Havranek, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Al Havranek, spent the past week in Valentine as a guest of Miss Maureen Higgins.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Tomlinson

and Veldon of Star were Sunday dinner guests of the Gilbert Fox family.

Misses Leah and Linda Serck spent last week visiting friends in the Rock Falls community. They were guests at the Henry Vequist home.

Mrs. Agnes Gaffney visited Mrs. Ed Flood last Thursday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. William Serck and daughters attended a Fourth of July picnic held by the Pleasant Day club of Rock Falls. That evening they were guests at the Albert Wittfeldt home.

Mrs. Agnes Gaffney and Mrs. Charles Abart visited Mrs. Mary Lewis Friday afternoon.

Visiting California — Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Marcellus and family left Monday, July 2, for Peco, Calif., for a two-weeks' vacation. They will be visiting his brothers, Leo and Lloyd, at Peco.

O'Neill News

Jim Klossner and Miss Joann Frenking, both of Omaha, arrived Tuesday evening, July 3, to get her mother, Mrs. J. A. Frenking, who had been visiting here for several days with her sister, Mrs. John Melvin, and with other relatives. They all returned Wednesday, July 4.

Mrs. H. E. Coyne entertained Monday at a luncheon in honor of Mrs. Bowker and also honoring Mrs. D. E. O'Brien of Chicago, Ill., the former Dorothy Jordan.

Sunday, Mrs. Louis Zastrow entertained at breakfast five members of the TNT club. The guests were Mrs. D. E. O'Brien of Chicago, Ill., Mrs. Don Berg of Sterling, Colo., Mrs. Francis Hickey, Mrs. Ray Bosn and Mrs. W. H. Bowker.

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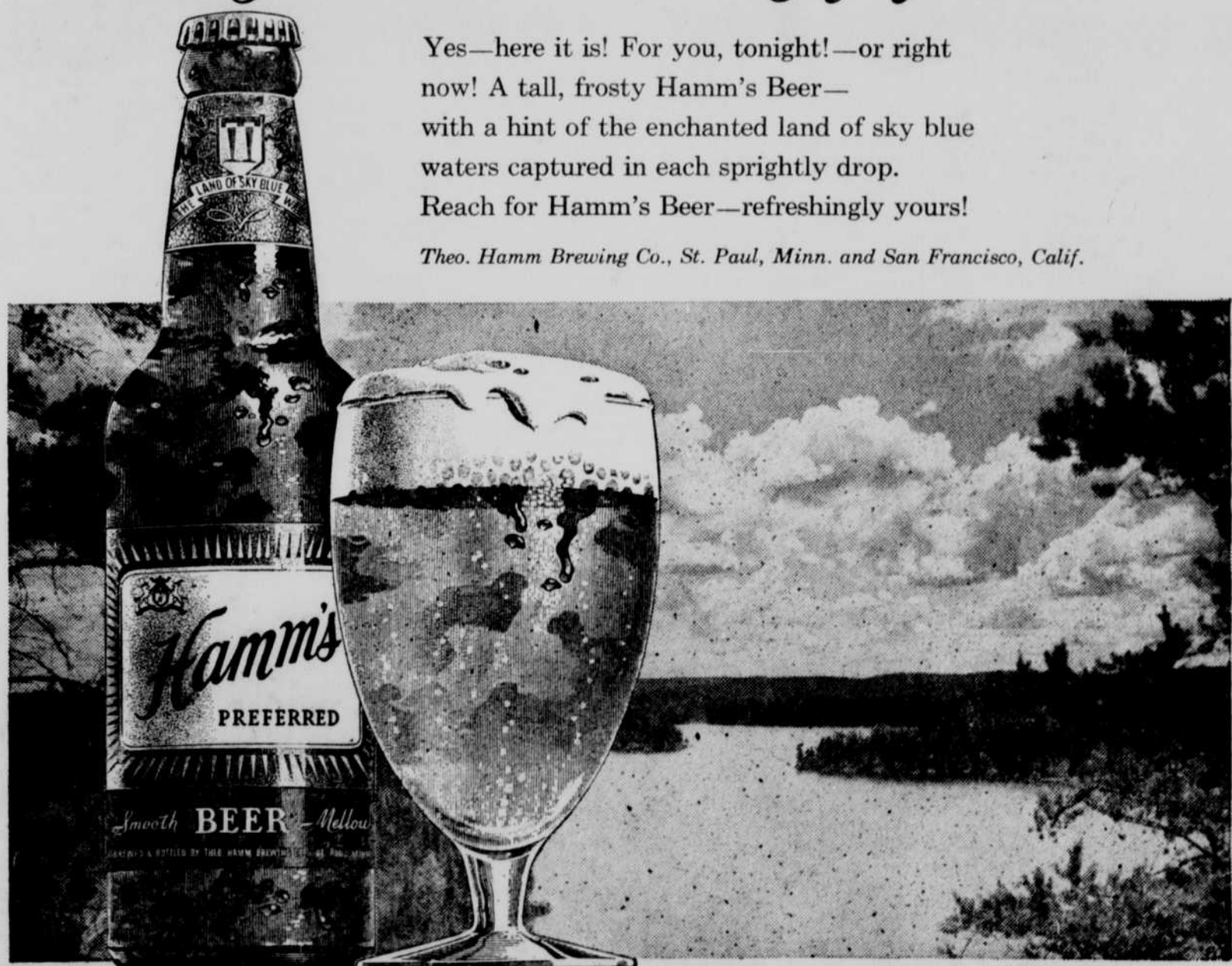
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