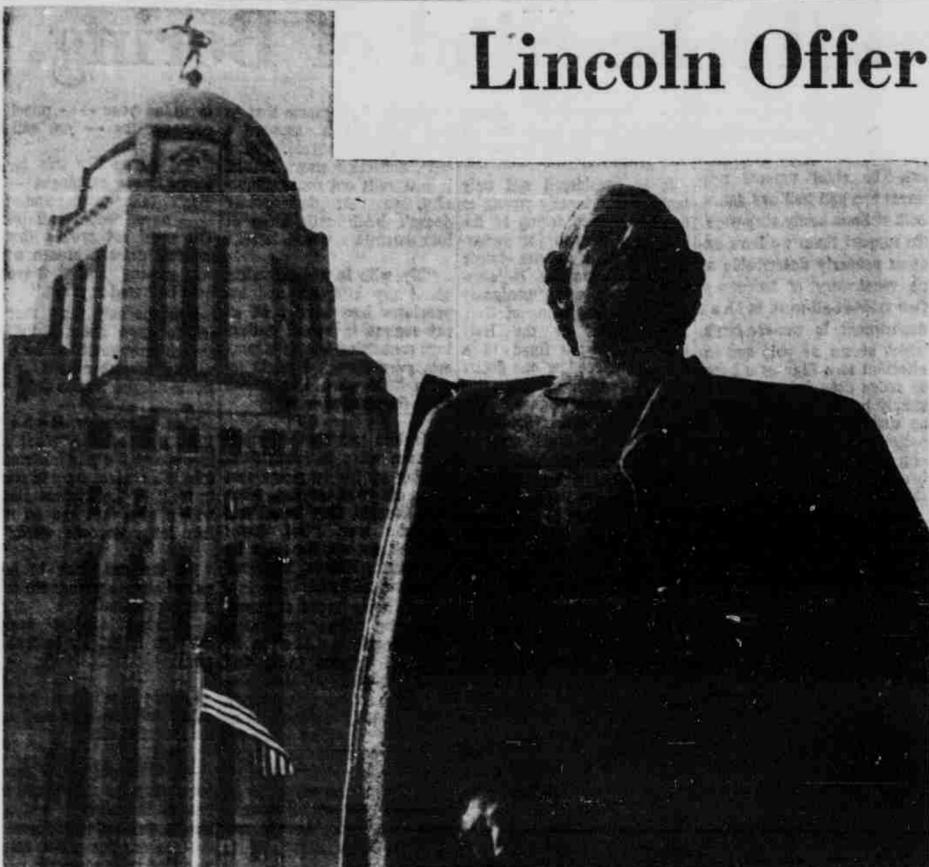


# Lincoln Offers Summer Enjoyment

## State Capitol Offers Beauty And Heritage



Nebraska's Capitol Building stands towering over a statue of William Jennings Bryan and the American flag, located at the north end of the Capitol.

### Historical Society Tells Story of Nebraskans

By Sandra Andersen

The basic function of the Nebraska State Historical Society is to preserve the record and tell the story of Nebraska people, according to Marvin Kivett, Director of the Society.

"Many people think of the Historical Society as part of the University, but it isn't," Kivett said. "It is a state agency operating independently, but in co-operation with the University," he explained.

The Nebraska State Historical Society was founded as the State Historical Society and Library Association in 1867, the year Nebraska was admitted to the union.

The Society operates in three different areas, Kivett said. One of the areas is the museum and archeological research. Museums are located at Fort Robinson, the William

Jennings Bryan Home in Lincoln and at the Society Headquarters, 1500 R St. in Lincoln.

Another area, the State archives, preserves all the state and county records that have become obsolete.

The reference library, the third area, contains books, manuscripts, archives, newspapers, geneological materials and photographs related to the history of Nebraska and the West.

Kivett said that almost every issue of every daily or weekly Nebraska newspaper published since 1850 is on file on microfilm for permanent storage. "There may be a few gaps in the earlier parts of the collection," he said, "but we are always on the look-out for missing issues."

Kivett said that some people are surprised that the Historical Society is interested not only in artifacts, but in documents of any kind belonging to early Nebraska families. He added that the State Historical Society works closely with about 60 county historical societies in gathering information, documents, and display materials.

More than one-half of the Society's collection is in storage at any given time. Kivett explained that this helps when changing the displays. Displays are changed periodically depending on the season, on the interest of the display, or various other factors.

About 100,000 people tour the museum at 1500 R St. annually. There are approximately 12,000 visitors every month during the summer, according to Kivett. "Last month we had our one-millionth visitor in the new building," he said.

The Nebraska State Historical Society is open 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Monday through Saturday, and from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Sundays. Admission is free at all times.

### Lincoln's Parks Offer Relaxation

By Wayne Carlson

Pinewood Bowl in Pioneer Park spotlights "My Fair Lady" every evening from July 16 through 19 at 8:00 in the evening. In addition to the opera there are events there most Wednesday and Sunday evenings.

The summer opera is only one of the many opportunities for recreation offered by the Park and Recreation Departments of the City of Lincoln, according to James Ager, director.

There are six swimming pools in different parts of the city. They range in size from the relatively small neighborhood pools to the new Woods Pool, which is built to Olympic specifications, and is the site of many swimming meets, according to Ager.

If tennis is more to your liking, there are tennis courts at seven of the city parks, and the facilities of the Lincoln Tennis Club at 31st and South are open to the public, Ager said.

The Park Department operates two golf courses at Pioneer Park and Holmes Park. Ager said there are events every weekend at one golf course or the other.

The zoos at Antelope Park and Pioneer Park are a great attraction. The zoo at Antelope Park has over 100,000 visitors every year, according to Ager. In addition to other animals Ager said, "We have a fine collection of monkeys and a fair collection of birds."

Pioneer Park, which has between 400,000 and 500,000 visitors a year has a collection of larger animals "which can stand being outdoors during our winters," Ager said. The animals are deer, llamas, water buffalo and several others.

#### Swimming Facilities

Swimming is available at: Ballard Park, 66th and Kear-

ney; Eden Park, 46th and E; Irvingdale, 19th and Van Dorn; Municipal Pool, 22nd and M; University Place, 49th and Lexington; and Wood Park, 33rd and J.

#### Tennis Facilities

City tennis courts are located at: College View Park, 45th and Prescott; Cooper Park, 8th and F; Lincoln High, 22nd and J; Lincoln Northeast, 2635 No. 63rd; Lincoln Southeast, 2930 So. 37th; Lincoln Tennis Club, 37th and South; Peter Pan Park, 32nd and W; Roberts Park, 56th and A; University Place Park, 49th and Francis; and Woods Park, 33rd and J.

#### Park Facilities

Lincoln City Parks are: American Legion Playground, 1.05 acres, 26th and Randolph; Antelope Park, 177 acres, 27th and D; Ballard Field, 4 acres, 64th and Kearney; Bethany Park, 10.62 acres, 64th and Vine; Children's Zoo, 5 acres, 30th and A; College View Park, 5 acres, 44th and Prescott; Cooper Park, 11.57 acres, 6th and D; Eden Park, 10 acres, 44th and Antelope Creek Road; Havelock Park, .98 acre, 63rd and Morrill; Holmes Park, 65th and Normal; Irvingdale Park, 21.9 acres, 17th and Judson.

Municipal Playground, 22nd and N; Northeast Park, 2.58 acres, 67th and Baldwin; Oak Lake, 259 acres, 1st and Y; Pentzer Playground, 3.65 acres, 26th and Fair; Peter Pan Playground, 11.3 acres, 30th and W; Piedmont Park, 9.61 acres, 50th and C.

Pioneer Park, 600 acres, Van Dorn and Burlington Ave.; Roberts Park, 16 acres, 56th and A; Rudge Memorial Park, 4.5 acres, 14th and Lake; Sawyer Snell Park, 86.3 acres, 1st and Harrison; Seacrest Park, 50 acres, 70th and A; University Place Park, 13.5 acres, 48th and Garland; Van Dorn Park, 19.6 acres, 10th and Van Dorn; Woods Park, 47 acres, 33rd and O.

By Beth Robbins

The Nebraska State Capitol Building refuses to be overlooked. Dwarfing the Lincoln skyline, its tower soars 400 feet into the sky, making it the tallest building in Nebraska. Its base rests solidly on four city blocks.

Neither is it ignored. About 700 people visit the building daily, according to tour guide John Bartenshaw. "It'll jump in August, though," he said.

Nebraskans notoriously brag about their Capitol building, and rightfully so. More than native pride backs its reputation for beauty. In a 1948 poll, America's top architects listed the world's 25 best buildings. The Nebraska Capitol was fourth.

Built from 1922 to 1932 at a cost exceeding \$10 million, the Capitol would cost five to six times that amount if built today.

Much of the beauty of the building comes from its underlying unity—unity with the surrounding plain and unity of the parts with the whole structure. The tower rises from the square base just as the Nebraskan's dreams and aspirations drive him upward from his prairie origin.

The Sower atop the dome is 19 feet high, a hollow bronze shell 1/2 of an inch thick. In it is personified the hope present with every spring and every seed time.

This, then, is the theme basic to the entire building, that of the future rising from the past. Or, as Bartenshaw said, it is "the development of primitive man in an agricultural area."

Symbols of our agricultural, pioneer, mythological and Indian heritage are carried from room to room. Both the mosaic ceiling of the rotunda and the front tapestry in the Senate chamber are of Indian maidens. The brass railings in the chamber were designed from original Indian beadwork. Its ceiling has scenes from Indian life inlaid in tile. The Indian tree of life is represented on the 750-pound chamber doors of Honduras mahogany.

On the exterior of the Capitol, flanking the steps to the

main entrance are two bas-relief buffalo. Indian chants are engraved on their sides.

"In Beauty I walk," says one, "With Beauty before me I walk; With Beauty above and about me I walk; I walk in Beauty."

The theme of mythology is found in the entrance ceiling mosaic of the 12 signs of the zodiac. The largest floor mosaic is that of Mother Nature in the center of the rotunda floor. Surrounding her are smaller mosaics of the four elements basic of the ancients — fire, water, earth and air. Each is encircled by reptiles, fish, birds or mammals. All are native to Nebraska.

Everywhere the visitor encounters the words "native to Nebraska" — the wood paneling in the Governor's office, the animals in the ceiling murals of the entrance, the walnut of the Senators' desks.

Much of this is symbolic. The building basically is of Indiana limestone. Most of the marble columns, some of the largest blocks of solid marble in the world, are from Italy. The mosaic tile came from New York state. Nebraska has no materials strong enough for building purposes, Bartenshaw said.

Nebraska acknowledges her debt to ancient cultures with a series of bas-relief and sculptured works on the upper corners and over the entrances of the base of the Capitol. Here "The Spirit of the Law in History" is recounted from ancient times to modern. No ornaments have been tacked on the building. Everything was built or sculptured together as a single unit.

As the Capitol tower rises, its design simplifies, culminating in the simplicity of pure color — the red, blue and gold of the dome.

This successful design is greatly due to the close cooperation of its architect Bertram Grosvenor Goodhue, sculptor Lee Lawrie, muralist Hildreth Meiere and Philosopher Hartley Burr Alexander. The work of each blends with that of the others.

### Campus Has Variety; Astronomy To Picnics

By Dorothy Bush

With one-half of the summer school session past, there are still many activities in which the student may participate.

The Teacher's College Convocation and Elementary Education Forum today will feature Anna Espenshade. Miss Espenshade is chairwoman of the Department of Education at the University of California in Berkeley.

Tomorrow two seminars will be in progress. The seminar for graduate students of Physical Education will be in the Nebraska Union and the seminar for graduate students of Educational Psychology will be in Burnett Hall.

In addition to the seminars will be the Artist Series, "Lords International," in the Nebraska Union Ballroom. Daniel Lords will present a modern approach to the art of puppetry.

Clair Callan, congressman from Nebraska's First District, will appear at the Nebraska Union Ballroom Thursday at 1:30 p.m. Callan will give a report from the Nation's Capitol. In the evening Cinema International "Fingerman" will be shown in the ballroom.

During the sixth week of summer school activities, Continued page 4

State capitol buildings are often squat imitations of the Capitol Building in Washington, D.C. The Nebraska State Capitol is a radical departure. Rooted in the past, reaching for the future, it continues to be a tangible symbol of the spirit of the state.



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