The Buck Ends Here

By IVAN D.E. BEAUMONT

A fire which destroyed a vacation home at Lake Wa-Con-Da has prompted the local lake authorities to seek protection. The group has asked property owners to volunteer to serve on a fire department, planned to outfit firefighters and is inquiring about a storm alert system.

So, it seems that the idea of "getting away from it all" just ain't true. No matter where you go to play, you've got a certain responsibility.

My suggestion was that Mrs Russell Palmtag, one of the Wa-Con-Da property owners, be appointed fire chief.

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Joe Fletcher, the ex-GI who sells washing machines, and everything else from Jerry Hall's Sears catalog, says he will be back on the baseball diamond this summer.

Joe hopes to coach the "old" Optimist team. He coached the boys to many victories and would like to get them back together for a team in the Jaycee league.

We attended a few practices of the team several years ago when they were "little guys." Joe used to get the boys on the diamond at 7 a.m., for a workout.

One morning he asked me to help. So, I picked up a glove to catch for righthander Gary Nerison. I caught two of his hard throws and suggested that it was time for me to go to work and leave the playtime scene to the boys. (My hand hurt for a week, but I never told that to Gary).

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We've never attended a school evaluation session, but we've been fortunate to sit in on the reports given after the lengthy studies.

What may seem to be a dry, drab and uninteresting affair to lay people, is serious work done with dedication by school teachers and state department of education officials.

What it amounts to simply is — a better education for our kids.

The visitors attempt to find out what the school has to offer, look over the teaching materials, talk with teachers and students, look for flaws and then put it down in writing.

Nebraska City residents and school personnel should feel pretty proud. The committees liked what they saw. One item which kept coming up concerned new school facilities.

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The old school just doesn't hack it in today's world. There's a new breed coming in every year and they're smarter than the grads who walked the halls of the 40 or 50 year old schools.

Schools have changed and many authorities say they must because education is the real meat of the hungry world. Those changes often require physical changes — new schools.

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Gerard Timothy and me joshed with Bill Tempelmeyer who is with the Stella Southeast school system along similar lines. We weren't as gentle with "Temp" as the evaluators were with the Nebraska City schools, but our thoughts were along the same line

In fact we envisioned great moves in school consolidation (if you want to get your head chopped off) in the Greater Stella Consolidated district.

The puns hold some sincerity. It was pointed out that perhaps the big hold up in school mergers is the tax levy. It's no surprise that rural school district tax levies are much, much lower than the town district levies

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There is one hope, schoolmen believe, and that is in the increased school aid authorized by the legislature. When fully funded under the law the Nebraska City tax levy will be sliced. As an example, school people in town have pointed out that if the law was in effect now, Nebraska City's operating school tax levy would be cut in half.

And podner, no matter how you look at it, that's what you call bargaining power or horse tradin' sense. Ask anyone in Union and they'll tell you about school mergers and the hope of school consolidation

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Don Chapin and Frank Bataillon were named by the rescue squad the other night to organize another city wide disaster drill. We had one a couple years ago and observers said it was worthwhile. The idea behind it is to find out how the town functions if a tornado swept across the community.

The job of organizing such a drill is mammoth. It takes so many people to put it over And it's no good if everyone knows that tonight at 5 o'clock or tomorrow at 6 o'clock is when we're going to have the drill. It's gotta be a secret. There are a few who will be in on the know and they include law enforcement officers and civil defense authorities.

What we know about it you'll read in the paper. But then we are not likely to know any more about the date for the drill so we'll probably jump out of our chair when the siren on the courthouse blasts off

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Sam and Belle (Mr and Mrs Le Headley, Auburn) are pictured with Sen. Calvin Carsten, Avoca, at the Arbor Day ceremony.

You won't believe this. . . . .

But, the other day ole' Sam the Brownville headhunter and his woodchopper (he makes Belle do all the work) visited Nebraska City and took in the shindig on Arbor Day.

They met up with a feller dressed in a city slicker suit by the name of Cottonwood Cal Carsten, Avoca. Cottonwood (call him Woody, if you like) assured the hill people that he was a good guy and that he was a state senator and as such represented the people of the district. That really got ole' Sam.

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Right off, the hunter offered his peace pipe to the senator. Woody obliged, putting away his Sir Walter Raleigh going to light up the shavings offered by the buckskin clad voter (?).

"Hold on thar, hoss," Sam said. "You ever smoke shavings afore?"

"Well, no," the senator said and then smiled as he remembered his corn silk days

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Anyway, ole' Sam leaned Betsy (that's his 99-pound rifle) up against Virg Pitstick's gingko tree and reached for his pouch.

In all the excitement of coming to town and seeing all the Shriners and their gay costumes, Sam filled the senator's pipe from the wrong pouch Actually it was the right pouch, but Belle didn't want Sam to get into any trouble in town shooting off Betsy so she switched the black powder and tobacco.

Guess what happened You've got it

"B-a-l-o-o-e-y!"

The senator was thrown 40 rods, rolled in the rose bushes and bounced across the tulip patch.

He was still holding the pipe in his hand when he walked back to Sam and Belle

"That's a little on the potent side," he said

"Here," Sam said, "you didn't get enough . .fill 'er up this time."

"No, no," the senator said "Thanks so much but I believe I'll pass this round."

After visiting a few moments, the senator left He walked wobbly-legged dusting off his suit

Ole' Sam eyed Cottonwood Cal all the way

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"Whatcha thinkin' Sam?" Belle asked

"Don't trust him," the hunter replied

"Why not?" Belle demanded "He smoked with you didn't he?"

"Yup," Sam answered, "but he ain't much can't even hold up to a little shavings smoking "

Before every silver lining there's a cloud.



Grumpy friend whose stories are always being cut says we have a "mangling" editor

Neighbors have 17 dogs — it's a "pupulation" explosion.

Business up during March

WASHINGTON (AP) — The government reported today its index of Business indicators rose a substantial 1.7 per cent in March. Secretary of Commerce Frederick B. Dent said this pointed to a gradual improvement in the economy in the months ahead.

The index, which is intended to forecast future performance of the economy, now has climbed for three months in a row.

In March it stood at 172.2 of the 1967 average. This was four per cent above the December level. It rose eight-tenths of one per cent in February.

Dent cautioned that the indicators have been giving conflicting signals in recent months, possibly as a result of the nation's extremely high inflation rate and distortions from wage and price controls.

Some economists contend the high inflation rate has diminished the accuracy of the index, which has been pointing up in recent months although the economy has been headed down.

The March index is based on preliminary figures, the Commerce Department, cautioned, and is subject to revision when more conclusive statistics are received.



Cub Scouts in Pack 343 and Boy Scouts in Troop 343 recently dedicated a Sweet Gum tree to Scoutmaster Bill Dawson and Cubmaster Leonard Hoskins. John Grooman, assistant scoutmaster, was at the ceremony at Arbor Lodge State Historical Park for Mr Dawson who was unable to attend. In the front row from left are Tim Nelson, Brad Potter, Randy Hoskins, Mr Hoskins, Mark Huss and John Chapin. In the back row are Mr Grooman and David Grooman.



Four fifth grade students at Fourteenth Street school recently planted a chokecherry tree in the school yard in observance of Arbor Day. From left are Tim Nebelsick, Todd Mather, Steve Mangum and Dough Pummel.

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NORMA JEAN
BATAILLON



Republican Candidate
For
Otoe County
Register
Of Deeds

"Economy and Service"

I WILL NOT NEED A DEPUTY

This ad paid for by Norma Jean Bataillon



For a job well done
Vote for a man who cares

Vote for
Nelson O. Murphy
For

Otoe County Sheriff
Your support and vote appreciated

This ad paid for by Nelson Murphy

NEED AN APARTMENT?

Some of us in Nebraska City think there is a need for two bedroom apartment units.

We are interested in obtaining information concerning the demand for two bedroom apartments in Nebraska City.

If you would be interested in renting a new, two bedroom apartment for approximately $185.00 per month, all utilities except electricity furnished, please check the appropriate box and mail to Box 534, Nebraska City, Nebraska 68410. Your signature is not required to be counted.

☆I do desire a $185.00/mo., 2 bedroom apartment.

☆I would rent a garage for an additional $12.00/mo.

Signature if desired

RE-ELECT
VIRGINIA NAVIAUX



Democratic Candidate For
CLERK OF THE DISTRICT COURT
Present Incumbent

Your Support and Vote will be Greatly Appreciated
This ad paid for by Virginia Naviaux

Omaha Public Power District
plans to build a
power plant near Nebraska City

You are invited
to a public meeting
to discuss the plant
with OPPD people.

Tuesday Evening - April 30 – 7:30 p.m.
Nebraska City
Senior High School Auditorium

OPPD is planning to construct a 575,000-kilowatt electric generating plant on a site near Nebraska City. The facility, which will be needed to meet Southeastern Nebraska's growing electrical needs, will be the very latest design coal-fired generating plant. We would like to tell you more about the plant and answer any questions you may have frankly and openly. Won't you join us for a cup of coffee and a presentation?

OMAHA PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT