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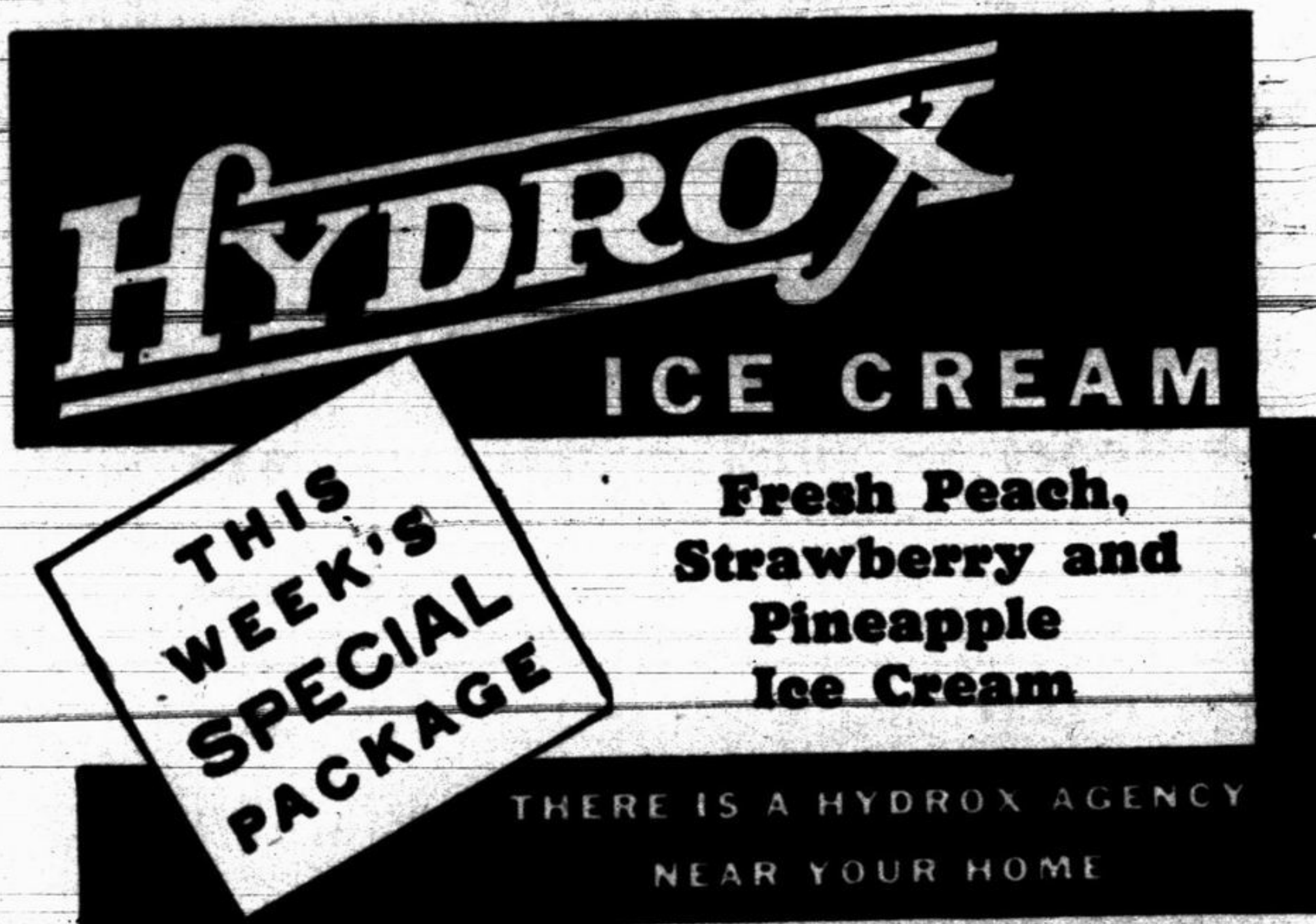
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Grass Lake Lotus Beds to Bloom Late in July, Early Aug.

The Grass Lake lotus beds, famous throughout the world as one of the only three lotus areas in existence, started to bloom one morning last week and 30 blossoms greeted J. O'Connor when he stepped from his Hotel Blarney Island that morning. O'Connor, who has watched the lotus beds in their splendor for the past 21 years, states that the crop this year will be unusually large and plentiful and he predicts there will be thousands of blooms during the last week in July and the first week in August.

The lotus flower blooms in only three places - China, Egypt and Grass Lake in the United States. It is probably one of the rarest flowers in the world and presents a spectacle of beauty, not only singly but massed by the thousands as they are at Grass Lake.

The flowers cannot be picked and they have only failed to bloom once. That was six years ago when high water drowned them out. O'Connor states. The Wild Flower Association of Illinois sponsored legislation during the regime of former governor Len Small against picking and merchandising the lotus.

Mr. O'Connor, through love of the lotus flowers has become their unofficial custodian and understands them as a sportsman understands his dog. He lives among them every summer on Blarney Island and is host to thousands of sightseers every year.

Chicago Boy Drowns in Crystal Lake in Effort to Swim Mile

In an attempt to swim Crystal Lake, a distance of about a mile, last week, Dennis Hickey, 19, son of Dr. Hickey, an Austin physician, suddenly sank and drowned before help could reach him.

Accompanying the youth, who was known as an expert swimmer, was a rowboat containing a man and two girls. Police dragged the lake at the spot where the boy went down, which is about 35 feet deep, but were unable to recover the body. It was found later.

State Police to Have Headquarters at Elgin

Headquarters for state police will be opened soon at Elgin, according to Sergt. Herman Nofs, in command of the northeastern Illinois district. Lease for a building has been signed and workmen are making necessary changes.

A desk man will be kept on duty twenty-four hours a day, and all members of the detail will be required to report periodically. The district includes Boone, Kane, McHenry, Lake and part of Cook counties. There are twenty-four officers under Sergt. Nofs.

The Elgin headquarters will be furnished with office accommodations and files, and a two-cell jail, so that prisoners may be kept there temporarily.

BRIEF NEWS ITEMS FROM LAKE COUNTY

Happenings About This Part of North Shore; Doings at County Seat

Sweeping raids on speakeasies and disorderly houses filled the Waukegan police court docket last Wednesday and the front window at the police station is piled high with evidence in the form of numerous bottles, a five gallon crock, a bottle capper and a tin can of alleged alcohol.

Postmaster Mancel Talcott, a leading worker in Homer Dahringer post of the American Legion, Waukegan, is being groomed by leaders in the second division of the Legion in Illinois as a state junior vice commander of the Legion at the annual election to be held during the convention at Danville, August 15-16.

State's Attorney A. V. Smith last Monday entered the last stages of proofs alleging insolvency in the Waukegan State bank in circuit court. Col. Smith said that he expected to conclude his case by the middle of this week.

Mrs. Viola Ritzenthaler, 38, of Libertyville, died last week at the Lake county hospital after she had been confined to the hospital for ten days. Death was due to an attack of peritonitis.

Harold Finer, prominent in Veterans of Foreign Wars circles in Waukegan, last week returned from Washington, D.C., where he was a member of the bonus army for a week. He stated that there are 40,000 men and women there now with additional men coming in each day.

The "Trained Seals," degree team of Homer Dahringer post, of the American Legion in Waukegan, will have the signal honor of installing the newly elected state officers of the Legion at the state convention to be held in Danville, August 16.

A safe was smashed but funds were kept intact in an attempted burglary at the Snow White Laundry, 1120 Glen Rock avenue, Waukegan, last week, according to the findings of the police squad that was called to the laundry by a watchman discovering the attempted burglary.

Any action to lift the boulevard rating from North Sheridan road in Waukegan, appeared destined for delay when the city council last week authorized arbitration with the state highway officials in an attempt to obtain state aid in maintaining another thoroughfare through Waukegan for heavy traffic.

Charles Koppleman, proprietor of the Independent Fishing company at the Waukegan lake front, last week celebrated his 40th year in business at the fisherman's colony on Harbor place. Koppleman, with Captain Smith, is the oldest in the point of service in the commercial fishing business in Waukegan. He is skipper of the Sea Bird, one of the fastest fish tugs on the lake.