

Viking Bar, circa 1972

Arnold Munkel Collection, lcg2327

Transcript

00:00 MUNKEL: This recording is being made in Kornmeyer's tavern and the fellow playing accordion is going to be Lyndon Johnson from Houston and Grant Melbostad on the piano [banjo].

00:26 "Saturday night waltz" aka "Lordags valsens"

02:12 MUNKEL: Right now Rinaldo Ellestad in violin and Lyndon Johnson on piano. 02:44 unidentified waltz

04:14 "Trinity waltz"

06:06 "Snow deer"

07:20 "Helena polka"

08:42 unidentified waltz

10:43 MUNKEL: Back in 1945 our Highway 44 going between Hokah and westward through Spring Grove to Prosper junction was getting to be in a bad state. It was really rough. And the guy that drove our bus every day, or several times a day, he was getting pretty preturbed about it. So in 1945 in May there was a poem published in the Spring Grove Herald written by Harriet Dudley. I think he was the guy that drove the bus at that time. The poem goes like this:

*I've driven over lots of roads in this state and others, too
I hope that you will believe me 'cause so help me it is true
Some roads are smooth as velvet, some were but not anymore
And one of them that never was is that blankety-blank 44*

*You just get in the saddle and hang tightly to the wheel
Then, brother, you start bouncing, let the Goodyear rubber heel
The old road hits you solid, almost takes your breath away
And if your heart ain't up to par, you had better not drive today*

*To think that I must drive that road is nearly more than I can bear
And if my passengers hear me curse, I'm sure that they won't care
For it's true we run on schedule, but we're more than often late
So no wonder my eyes are bloodshot and my mouth is full of words of hate*

*Now if you think I'm kidding you or that joking is my repertoire
Then just take a trip from Caledonia to Prosper on that doggone 44*