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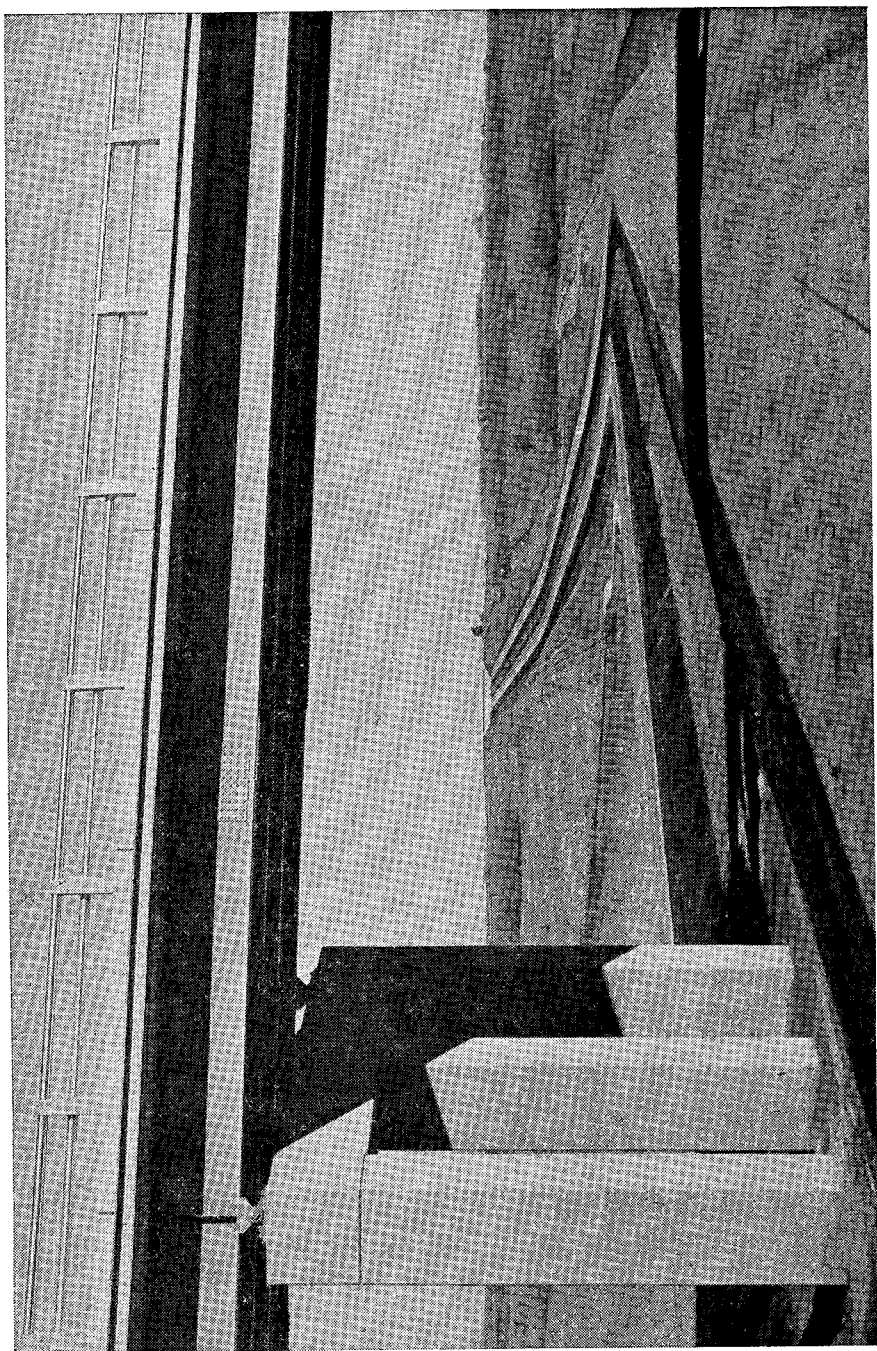
Interstate Highway Symposium—An Introduction

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Interstate 80 — Concrete on the Prairie

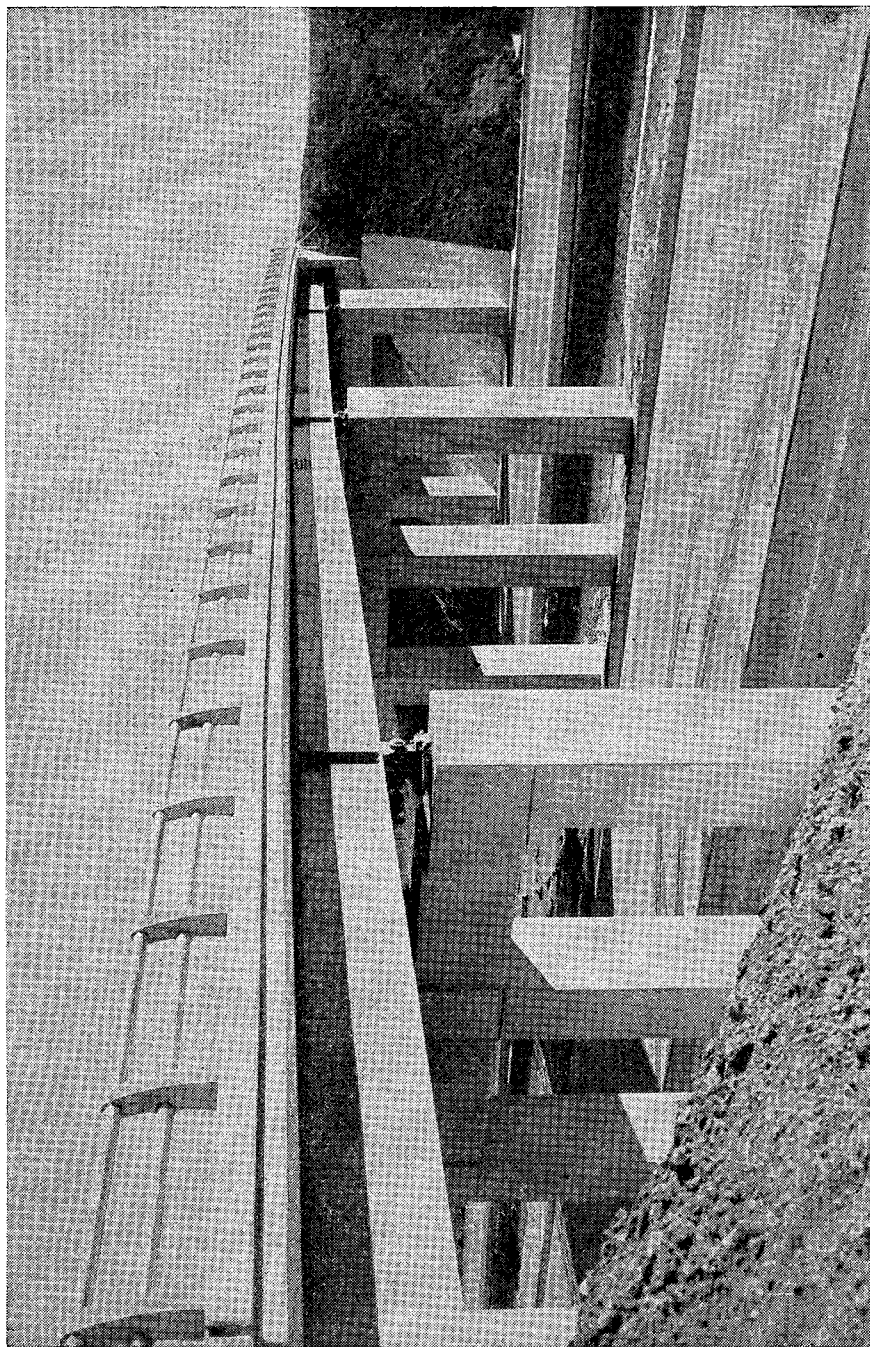
Interstate Highway Symposium — An Introduction

In January of this year, the Nebraska Department of Roads inauspiciously marked Nebraska's entry into a new era of highway construction and motor vehicle travel when it accepted the first segment of Interstate Highway constructed in this state and opened it to the public. Designated as a part of Interstate Route 80 and distinctively marked with the red, white, and blue shield of the Interstate System, the newly opened section typifies the type of highway construction which will eventually allow the motoring public to travel from coast to coast and border to border upon divided four-lane highways designed for both speed and safety. Within a few short years, Interstate Route 80 will span nearly 400 miles between Omaha and the Nebraska-Wyoming border, providing Nebraska with a major east-west arterial highway free of grade intersections, railroad crossings, and traffic signals.

After years of Congressional apathy in programming a national system of modern highways, the sudden passage of the Interstate Highway Act by Congress in 1956, and the rapid expansion of the program since that time, has found many legislators, most of the general public, and not a few attorneys with little or no comprehension of the Program and the many legal and social problems involved. In order that members of the Nebraska Bar may more fully understand the new Program, the Nebraska Law Review is pleased to dedicate this issue to the Interstate Highway Program, and to a discussion of its major features and problems.

Mr. David R. Levin of the United States Bureau of Public Roads leads off the symposium with an article which, in excellent fashion, outlines the main features of the Interstate Highway Act of 1956, and the supplemental Act of 1958. Following this, Mr. Frank M. Covey of the Northwestern University College of Law presents a valuable discussion of the legal aspects and problems involved in the control of access to highways, a major feature of the Interstate Highway System.

(Continued on page 375)



County Road Bridge Near Gretna, Nebraska

Condemnation procedure in Nebraska is discussed by Mr. Harold S. Salter, Chief Counsel for the Nebraska Department of Roads; Mr. John C. Burke then points out the pitfalls awaiting the attorney who fails to properly brief his most important condemnation witness, the land appraiser. Continuing in this vein, Mr. Keith Miller discusses the Federal income tax problems awaiting the condemnee and points out methods in which the attorney may save his client the loss of money by a proper application of income tax.

Mr. Louis R. Morony of the Automotive Safety Foundation then presents an article noting our antiquated motor vehicle and highway use laws in a day when highways and automobiles are designed for speed. Mr. Morony points up the need for modern motor vehicle laws and presents a demand for legislative action to replace our present series of patch-work laws.

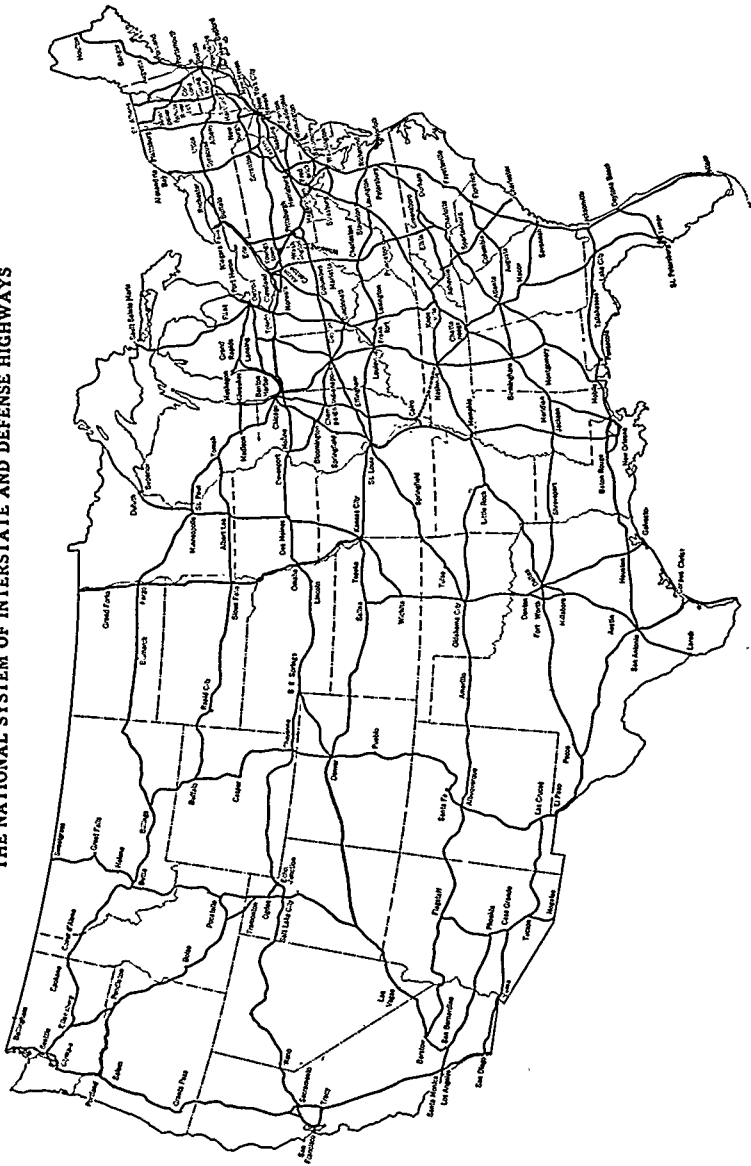
Both "Comments" also point up problems involved in Interstate Highway construction and control. The first, by Mr. LeRoy Powers, formerly Chief Counsel for the Oklahoma State Highway Department, discusses the problems faced by the several states in attempting to control outdoor advertising upon and along the Interstate Highway System, a problem area sure to be in the legislative arena during the coming years. The student comment then discusses the constitutional problems involved where the state attempts to reimburse public utilities for the costs of moving equipment out of the path of highway construction, a problem of immediate importance since recent decisions of an adverse nature were handed down in both Tennessee and New Mexico late in 1958.

Even the case note has been designed to fit into the symposium, being a discussion of a recent Nebraska decision applying the "Dead Man Statute" to testimony presented in an automobile accident case.

Thus, from start to finish, this issue is designed to give the members of the Bar a better understanding of the Interstate Highway Program and relevant problems from motor vehicle laws to condemnation procedure. The Nebraska Law Review is pleased to dedicate this issue to the Interstate Highway Program and Interstate Route 80, a new era in Nebraska highway travel.

The Editors.

THE NATIONAL SYSTEM OF INTERSTATE AND DEFENSE HIGHWAYS



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