

May 14, 1973

(Start Belt #32)

Clerk reading.

SENATOR CARPENTER: Now Mr. Pr--

PRESIDENT: Chair recognizes Senator Carpenter.

SENATOR CARPENTER: This has to do with the experiment station which is located in Mitchell, Nebraska. It's been in operation I presume, 40 or 50 years. It's in a completely run down state. This experiment station is the hub and the beginning and the end of the experimentation in the area of those crops which are peculiar to my part of the State. The land, as an illustration, has been used for a long period of time until the point, because of its rapid use and the turnover in the area in which they operate, has got to a point where they say and contend it's pretty well worn out. They feel that the land has to be, should be left, for example, to be revitalized and to acquire additional land in order to bring that about. In the area of research we have been told as many people on water, use it or lose it. Now we're having in the area which is required of the Science bill, that and other things to the point that we're now attempting to find a plan where we can keep reusing the water and only suppling that--supplementing that which is being lost by the natural elements. One of these days that's going to be the one project what--this State and that particular area and every area, is going to be concerned about. Now the experiment station is like everything else. If you go through channels, what happens? They go through the channels the University of Nebraska and by the time they get down to the experiment farm in Mitchell, Nebraska, it's almost non existent. It's it's one of the most important areas of this State. They have a heating plant, for example, the boiler is unworkable. They have to replace it. They have a number of things in, in the entire complex what ought to be replaced and re-instructed in the area of this important function, and I--this is something that has been gone too long and I ask for the adoption of this amendment by this body.

PRESIDENT: Senator Waldron.

SENATOR WALDRON: Mr. President, Members of the Legislature. I rise in support of Senator Carpenter's amendment to increase, to increase the pr--the activity at Scottsbluff experimental station. Many of you might wonder why we have one in North Platte and then one in Scottsbluff, but let me assure they're involved in different types of research. The land and the crops they raise at Nor--at Scottsbluff and the cattle experiment things they do at North Platte and the agricultural products they work on in North Platte are entirely two different things. The land is entirely different in Scottsbluff, in Western Nebraska they have different problems so that's why we have the experiment station there and then one in North Platte. I think if we can help agriculture which is our number one industry here in the State of Nebraska, that it will help this state and it will especially help Western Nebraska. As you well know, the average income in Eastern Nebraska is considerably higher than that in Western Nebraska. I think anything we can do to help the income levels in Western Nebraska and ha--help our agriculture industry, we should certainly do it here in this Legislature.

PRESIDENT: Any further discussion of the motion? Question is shall the Carpenter amendment be adopted? All those in favor