

the industry that is moving into Nebraska because we do have an abundance of clear, clear good cold water. Because of your question, I will keep it tuned to irrigation. Since the year of 1900 the high plains of Texas which is in the coordinator that reaches from the boundary from North Dakota clear down to the Mexican border and we are right in that coordinator and we are all somewhat experiencing the same problems that Texas happened to hit first. They kept on and using the water without good management and with no plan to bring in water and to stabilize the water that they had and in 1967 we were in Texas and we were told then that by the year 1980 the high plains of Texas would be out of water for irrigation purposes. We were told then that the economic disaster that would follow that state. AT that time they had a plan that they were trying to appropriate I believe at that time 40 billion dollars to bring in water from the Mississippi or the Missouri Valley into the high plains of Texas to recharge their underground water and to stabilize their economy. AT that time it would have cost about \$40 an acre foot. That has gone up now to \$120 an acre foot and now they are throwing up their hands and saying that we are out of water by 1980 and we don't know what to do. Now Nebraska is still in a good position and we can still manage our water, we can still take care of it if we are willing to do it. This is exactly what we are trying to do and we are trying to get the local people involved and the one mil levy and I think that Nebraska should move in and I think that we should not talk about one million dollars but we should talk about twenty million dollars really and then expect to get some federal help in managing the water in Nebraska so that we can keep on as good as economy as we have here.

SENATOR STAHMER: Finally, Senator, one last question if you got the million and you tried to match with federal funds would this be for irrigation or preserving the water table or...

SENATOR KREMER: Senator Stahmer, LB975 says that it can be used for flood control and it can be used for wildlife and it can be used by the department of Game and Fish and it can be used for irrigation and it can be used for anything that pertains to the conservation of soil and water and also for recreation, recreation is in there.

PRESIDENT: Senator F. Carstens was next. I....thought that it was Senator F. Lewis but it is Senator F. Carstens.

SENATOR F. CARSTENS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I happen to live in...my district happens to be in the lower areas of both the Big and Little Blue. I hardly need to tell you that our experience with floods has been rather disastrous and not to mention costly. When the budget figures come out of these appropriations for flood control work and assistance to the Natural Resources District, it always sort of appals me that we do not seem to recognize or fail to recognize what is involved in these projects. I want to support Senator Kremer to the utmost and in fact, I think that it should be raised because a million dollars is a rather piddling sort of money for a state that is as large as we are, as Nebraska as I recall it has some 778,000 square miles in it and that is a rather modest appropriation to do something for the Natural Resource District. We have to do something and I can say this