

March 27, 1974

SENATOR KIME: I don't know whether they have these thistles confused or not, but we have always had Canadian thistle but this musk thistle is moving into the sandhills and it is spreading over the pastures. When you cut it in the hay, the cattle won't eat the hay, and they won't graze around this weed. I don't know whether \$50,000 is enough or not.

SENATOR CLARK: I don't know if it is enough or not, I only know that it hasn't been used, I think that there are many ranchers who will not even apply for it or try and control it. Certainly they could certainly try and control this musk thistle or Canadian thistle. Canadian thistle is moving in stronger now than musk thistle really.

PRESIDENT: Senator Keyes, and then Senator Mahoney.

SENATOR KEYES: Well Mr. President, members of the Legislature, Senator Rasmussen I would like to ask, how much money are you putting in and how a..a...what is it going to do? What are we going to do then with this money?

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Keyes, this is \$60,000 for the start of a research program. There has never been any money spend on researching this. In other words this is going to come up with a chemical or some way to eradicate the musk.

SENATOR KEYES: I'll say this that at \$60,000 if you were to hire men and cut out all the musk thistles that is on four sections of ground. You couldn't do that in Sarpy County, I don't know how bad it is in the sandhills, but I can tell you it is there. If we are going to use it for a plan to study how to eradicate it that is fine, but if we are just going to spend \$60,000 to go out and cut the musk thistle or spray it we just as well go home and say boys that would be better spend on buying me ice cream cone.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Keyes, you couldn't cut, I have five counties out there that you and I couldn't recruit enough men together to go out there and cut them.

(end belt #9)

(start belt #10)

SENATOR KEYES: Oh, there aint enough holes in the state to cut all of the musk thistle this year.

PRESIDENT: Well lets see, I'll have to go back and start all over again. Senator Schmit do you want to be heard on the issue again? Senator Keyes if you are through please turn your light off. Senators please turn your light off if you are through speaking.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Facetiously when I spoke the first time I hope that it was not taken that way. The point that I would like to make now is that in the area of the musk thistle it is very cantaceros and a very difficult weed to kill. I speak from personal experience over many years of work with it and there is a need for research because temperature, humidity, the time of the growth of the plant and all of these things have a bearing on the ability of a specified amount of chemicals to control or eliminate the growth of it. As you know