

Douglas County if we did take into this agreement, the boiler house. So in the interest of saving money and saving the state some trouble I am moving to amend the Fitzgerald amendment.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Clark, speaking to the amendment to the amendment.

SENATOR CLARK: Mr. President and members, I took the time last Saturday to go up to look at this facility. I would imagine and I have built a lot of buildings myself, I would imagine that perhaps it would take thirty to fifty million dollars to replace this facility to start with. If you are going to take on this, and I don't think you are taking on a Santa Claus up there, you are going to have to have some responsibilities. I have never seen a building that is fifty years old in my life that is maintained any better than this particular building. Whether you want to put a veterans home up there or not is going to be up to the Legislature and I am not speaking to that point. I am speaking only to the condition of the building. That building is built with a completely fireproof structure all the way through, all cement floors. They have terrazzo floors pretty near throughout the building. It is all steel structure and it has a tile roof on it and anyone that has ever built a building knows that it takes a tremendous building to hold a tile roof to start with. This structure, I think, is absolutely ideal. I think the fact that the boiler is going to be owned by the State of Nebraska and prorated for the heat that we would sell the Douglas County, certainly you are not going to expect everything out of this for one dollar a year. If you ever had to replace a boiler it certainly wouldn't be anywhere nearly as expensive as trying to put up a new building. If the rest of you would just take the time to look at the facility, I think you would be amazed. This was built in about 1927. The doors, you can get beds through them just like you can today on a new modern structure but I'll bet there isn't a modern structure in the State of Nebraska that is built as well as this building is built. It is absolutely a fabulous complex for a dollar a year. You ask why they are giving it away at a dollar a year, I'm sure it is going to save Douglas County money because they are going to have to dispose of the complex one way or another anyway but I think Nebraska and the veterans particularly, are in a real, real good position right now to get a facility for one dollar a year. Now the maintenance I think is probably going to be as much as it would on a new facility but you don't have the initial