

spending a hundred....let me look at it real quick...we are spending \$101 a year in wasted fuel alone strictly from bad roads, strictly for bad roads. \$101 dollars just times the legislators here is what, \$5,000 bucks. Multiply that times the population of the state. At some point we have to make balances and one of those balances is saying, what can we afford? How much do studded tires cost? And I really believe, difficult as it is to accept, particularly coming from Antelope County, Holt County up there, we have to say it is more economical to abandon the studs and maybe to have two guys come along and push the gal away from the curb, maybe to be a little more cautious in where we go, maybe even on occasion to have to hire that wrecker. It is better to sacrifice the studs than to continue to sacrifice the roads. At the cost it is today, \$30.00 a barrel of oil, to replace those roads we can't afford to destroy them for the little benefits we get from studs. I admit, I recognize, I realize. just like Senator Haberman has pointed out, it is going to mean some farmers are going to have more trouble. It is going to mean some more difficulty, but the thing is you have to look at both sides, balance how much it costs for this benefit and how much you receive, and I think with \$30.00 a barrel of oil, it is costing way more than you can afford to pay for the benefits you are getting.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Newell and then Senator Hefner. Senator Newell.

SENATOR NEWELL: Mr. President and members of the body, I am going to echo Senator DeCamp's comments, but I want to go a little further and explain a little bit more about the benefits of studded snow tires, the cost of studded snow tires. Lastly but not leastly I want to really discuss the safety question about studded snow tires. Senator DeCamp talked about the cost, and I guess that what we are talking here about is a luxury item. It is not even a luxury item because in the end studded snow tires are a net safety problem. They create more hazards on the highway than they ever, ever, ever are in terms of a benefit. We have talked and I have sent around handouts...talked about how often studded snow tires can be a benefit and when they are a benefit. They are a benefit on glare ice when the temperature is close to 32 degrees and that occurs approximately three percent of the time in the State of Nebraska. That is about the total benefits that we derive from studded snow tires. Now let's talk about the problems that studded snow tires create. Studded snow tires wear tracks down the middle of the road. If you go to Omaha,