

March 12, 1980

LB 918

got funnelled last year out of the state entirely with crop dusting firms all outside the State of Nebraska, no dollars of this respend in the state. The department is making efforts to keep part of it in the state this year but they are not going to be able to keep it all on this route. This would keep the dollars in Nebraska to be spent in the State of Nebraska and stimulate the economy of the State of Nebraska. I really wish you would take a look at this amendment because we have grown it into \$2,000,000 and I think we ought to give the little people in the state a shot at the grasshopper funds and not leave it where the majority of that money is going into the larger ranches and keep it with the small ranches and farms in the state, not just a few of the bigs with a scattering of small ones in the fringe areas to those largest ranches. I appeal for your adoption of the amendment. If you have questions I will be glad to answer them on the amendment. The amendments have been passed out on your desk and the first amendment deals with 918 alone, creating a separate fund and dispersing that money. My intent is to keep the monies there that are administrative monies for the department to cooperate with the feds on distributing the federal money in the state. I ask your support of the amendment. Thank you.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The motion is the adoption of the Burrows amendment to LB 694 (sic.) Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature, I have a couple of questions for Senator Nichol if I may. Are we under attack? Are the grasshoppers particularly bad this year? Is this a one time thing or is this a continuing program for ever and ever and ever?

SENATOR NICHOL: No, this is one year at a time. Ordinarily about this time or a little bit later it is decided whether or not we even have a grasshopper program. Last year we did have a bad grasshopper infestation. The year before wasn't so bad and the year before that was practically nothing as I recall from memory. This money is set aside in case the grasshoppers are bad and it can't be determined at this time whether it is going to be good or bad because spring isn't over with. The weather in the spring having to do with temperature, snow cover, melting, heat and so forth in the spring determines whether or not the grasshoppers will or won't be bad. This is a one year project. It always goes one year at a time. This is to put \$6,000,000 aside in case we do have it. If we don't have a problem it stays in the treasury. We have the money left. It is not spent for anything else. Does that answer your question, sir?