

March 12, 1980

LB 918

SENATOR BEUTLER: Yes, I think it does. Members of the Legislature, I guess I have a lot of trouble sorting out what is a disaster in the true sense of the word and what is an ordinary risk of doing business. It seems to me that in agriculture the weather, the bugs, all that is one of the risks of doing business and in bad years you take your lumps and in good years you reap the benefits and it seems to me that what you are doing with grasshoppers is saying, here is one risk we want to get rid of. All right, today it is grasshoppers but there are lots of other bugs in the state too as I understand it, bugs that attack corn, very hard on corn, bugs that attack almost any crop you have. I guess I really don't understand why funds from the whole state go into one industry to take out the risks in that industry. I think, I hope that I would be as much against that if it was an industry here in Lincoln, a manufacturing industry, as I would be, as I am, in the agricultural sector. So to me it seems to me that if we are going to have a program like this, that the individual rancher should pay his share of it and we should let it go at that. Thank you.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Keyes and then Senator Schmit. We are speaking on the Burrows amendment.

SENATOR KEYES: Can I talk on the bill? I don't want to talk on Burrows amendment.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The Burrows amendment will be the bill if it is adopted. It strikes the whole bill.

SENATOR KEYES: Okay then, I am going to speak in supporting Senator Nichol's bill and opposing the amendment that my good friend Senator Burrows has put on. Now, Senator Nichol, as I understand this, this not only goes on the roadsides and state parks but the funds are also used on private property. Isn't that right?

SENATOR NICHOL: Well, yes...let me...a no to the first part of your question and yes to the second part. There is a special program having to do with roadsides and farms. This is predominantly, and I would almost say entirely used on ranch land in large sections. It is done by spraying with airplanes.

SENATOR KEYES: That is for the private individual. Yes, and as I read it, there is a \$1,000,000 from the general fund and \$2,000,000 from a grasshopper fund and \$2,000,000 from some other fund.