

the most magnificent gymnasium I have seen, bar none. This is for a student population of seven hundred. This is in a community that my daughter, eleven year old Schuyler said, is the land time forgot. This is without...this is in a facility the administrators of which told me ten days ago when I was there will have an incredibly difficult time weathering the 1980s, given the declining school population though with good fortune may make it in the 1990s. Now in the vernacular I frankly believe that the Physical Education Building is boondoggle but I don't want to necessarily use the vernacular on the Physical Education Building. I say, you know we've got to quit putting money down the rat hole and we have an opportunity. Sitting next to the Physical Education Building is Majors Hall. Majors Hall was constructed in the 1960s to be used as a dormitory for the growing Peru State population. Well Peru State population only grew during draft evasion times and has now gone down the tube. The population just isn't there. The dormitory has not been used. It is an empty dormitory and, in fact, a year ago it burned out. It has been gutted by virtue of fire. The purpose of our \$300,000 very simply is to remodel it so we will have locker rooms. It will have health centers and the like. Now that is included in LB 997. LB 999 is the bill that authorizes Peru State College to lease this facility from the trustee of the revenue bond holders. We don't own this building. The revenue bond holders own this building and we have to lease it back from the bond holders. We are going to put \$300,000 in to remodel it so we will have locker rooms for our gymnasium and then we are going to lease the building at the cost of \$27,000 a year. Now I went to our fiscal analyst. You know, I trust the Appropriations Committee to do right and I think by and large they do right but I went to the fiscal analyst and I said give me a report on this because I want to know whether I should continue to put money into what probably is a rat hole and they write this, my note: "LB 549, 1977 appropriated \$2,300,000 to Peru State College for the construction of a new Health and Physical Education facility, \$300,000 of which was to be used to renovate Majors Hall into locker rooms, physical education offices and a health center to be used in conjunction with the new facility. The use of general funds for the renovation," now listen to this, "the use of general funds for the renovation was contingent upon Peru's ability to purchase Majors Hall with nonstate funds. To date, Peru has been unsuccessful in its attempts to raise money, that is \$300,000 needed to purchase Majors Hall. Approximately \$30,000 of that amount has been raised. The construction of a new physical education facility has, however, moved ahead as