

aid. Those cuts in state aid cut across the urban and the rural areas. It contains a shift in the gas tax funding. It hurts the urban areas as much as it hurts the rural areas if you understand how that operates. Senator Higgins was concerned about the University, but if you look at the package, \$4 million out of the \$10 million, \$4 million out of the \$10 million comes out of the University, much of that out of the University at Lincoln. The Lincoln Senators are hurt to the extent that Senator Wesely is not going to vote for it as I understand. But surely, surely people are able to come together and make a sacrifice to avoid a tax increase. Do you understand what kind of ninnies we are going to be thought of out there in the public when they read that all of us are in favor of no tax increase? We are all in favor of it but we couldn't figure out how to get half of us to do it. I mean, what does that say about us? State aid. People are concerned about additional cuts in state aid but what are the facts? 1971, 1972, state aid was \$90 million. 1985-86, \$426 million; 90 to 426 million. And as a percentage of the budget, listen to this, as a percentage of the state budget, it has come from 42 percent to 50 percent. We are doing well on state aid. When times are good and the economy is good, the budget is going up, we are going up on the roller coaster. But when times are bad we have got to come down a little. We have got to bear up...bear down...bear up a little on the people. But all those people in the lobby, all those people representing the special interest groups, when the roller coaster starts to come down, they get scared. They don't want the roller coaster to come down. But it has got to go up and down. You can't be a burden on the people. You have got to have consideration for their feelings. Tax rates from 10 percent to 19 percent in the income tax in a bare twenty years. If you look at that in historical terms, what are we doing? What are we doing? Ten percent to 19 percent in twenty years since we have had the tax. What about in the next twenty years? In forty years will it be up to 30 percent? Sales tax has increased from 2 percent to 3.5 percent in twenty years. We are increasing the tax rates and here we are about to do it when the economy is in the worst shape it has been in in years. The University. The University is doing fine. Over the ten year period since we started having annual appropriations, they are far ahead of inflation. And that is as it should be. When the years were good, when the economy is strong, we were doing better by the University than the rate of inflation, much, much