

they have over at the art gallery. You know, I did some checking on the lodging tax which we passed several years ago with the leadership of Senator DeCamp and we have a lodging tax that in '84-85 the Department of Economic Development will expend over a million dollars to encourage people to travel into this state, from within the state and from without, a million dollars at the state level and about \$1.7 million at the county level to encourage people to travel. Well, the really silly part of all this is as we try and encourage people to come to Nebraska we shut down one of the bright lights, one of the real star attractions that people will come to Lincoln or to Nebraska to see and that is Sheldon Art Gallery. I should know. I was a tour guide on the interstate for the Department of Economic Development and I used to help people as they stopped to consider staying in Lincoln or in Nebraska for a few days to look at the attractions of our state. And one of the things that really appealed to a lot of people from outside of this state was Sheldon Art Gallery. It had something to offer that they were excited about and they were interested in. It is a beautiful building and a beautiful art collection and these people would stay and when they stayed they would stay for maybe a couple of days or at least a night and that meant revenues in this city and in this state and I think that is one thing we lose sight of. But it really doesn't make any sense to start cutting promotions...to start cutting the attractions that we are trying to bring people to and to continue to fund well over a million dollars, actually \$2.7 million to promote tourism in Nebraska. Little by little as we cut down the Sheldon Art Galleries and the other attractions that we have, there will be little reason for anybody to come into this state to enjoy the good life that we have because the good life will be gone. I think I know the handwriting on the wall but let me go on. The \$25 million collection that Sheldon Art Gallery has is very valuable, obviously. Senator Hannibal is harassing me here. The value of the art collection is \$25 million. About a third of the collection is owned by the Nebraska Art Association. The Nebraska Art Association did provide for a number of private gifts to purchase, like I said, a third of that collection and so the private sector has provided a great deal of private support. But it is just like the situation with Morrill Hall. The private sector will help put in the exhibits and they will help buy maybe art work. They will do the sort of things that make the museum special, but at the same time they expect the private sector