

April 10, 1975

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Then Senator Keyes how can it be a problem if it's on high ground? You mean if the river rises quite high then it would flood them?

SENATOR KEYES: No, the dike holds it back. The lakes stay at the same height as the river.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: What would cause the flood then?

SENATOR KEYES: The dike breaks then is what's gonna cause the flood.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: And where would the water come from that would break the dike?

SENATOR KEYES: Out of the river.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Is the river . . . is the water in the river higher . . . is the level of that higher than the land where the houses are located?

SENATOR KEYES: No, but you see the water in the river is flowing and it will flow and bust the dike away and come in.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Into what?

SENATOR KEYES: Into the lakes.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: And then the lakes would rise up and flood the houses?

SENATOR KEYES: Well you see, if we get a flood, let's face it the water doesn't seep through and raise up as fast as the flood waters come up. If they was to sit there for a week they would both seek the same level. See water always seeks its level, through gravel it will do that.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: But here's what I'm asking you, if we could forget about the existence of the dikes and the lakes and just have the river on one side in our mind and these houses on the other side in our mind, which level is the higher, that of the river or . . .

SENATOR KEYES: The houses are definitely higher.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you Senator Keyes. I believe, again, that this resolution does nothing. If the Legislature's convinced that these people are imperiled, why won't the Legislature have a bill introduced right now. It can be drafted this afternoon. We can suspend the rules and introduce it. We can pass it without a public hearing. We can get it on General File. We can expedite it and get it to the Governor, that way we have cooperation. We're passing the bill and he's signing it. If he refuses to sign it, then you've really got him between a rock and a hard place. Now, since he's the one who declares the existence of an emergency and he chooses not to declare one, he's not bound to spend any emergency money. The circum-