

SENATOR KOCH: Mr. President and members of the body, for the record, and I want it to be very clear, Senator Schmit, particularly, I do not choose to try out for your team, because under the present conditions, your game plan is really bad and it is poorly designed. We went through this issue yesterday. This is one more attempt to place the MUD position in a nebulous position, uncertain position. I think that you know the testimony before the Urban Affairs Committee, and it is no different today, they have used hydrologists and they have assured virtually everyone except a very few that there is indeed no drain down upon the Platte River for their needs that they are now looking at. They have also utilized the staff of the University of Nebraska, a Mr. Dreezen, the Director of Conservation Survey Division, who substantiates their position, that it is a desirable water field, and not only that, the integrity of the Platte River and its water will not be damaged. You talk about the westward movement of the cities, certainly there is a westward movement and it will probably continue because of willing sellers and willing buyers and you know that market. Those men who farmed west of Omaha at one time never would believe they would get \$5,000 an acre for raw land but that is the fact, and as long as that type of endeavor is allowed to go on, there will continue to be a westward growth and there will continue to be an additional water supply, not only for the domestic needs of that community, but also for the commercial industrial needs as well. I see no reason to put the MUD entity of government through these kinds of exercises in futility. We here today should be spending our time on bills before us rather than trying to raise those from the dead and we are absolutely spending excessive amount of time. I would also say to Senator Schmit, if this westward movement he speaks of and sprawl he is concerned about continues, it will well be into Saunders County and so, therefore, there could well be a need for the water fields we are talking about for Saunders County and they would not be prohibited from getting that water from MUD. It would probably be much more economical for them than to drill their own well fields and put in their own transmission lines, in many cases not as efficiently as MUD can do it, because they have the efficiency to do this. That is their specialty. Therefore, I urge the members of this body not to support my good friend and a bad coach at this time on LB 894.

PRESIDENT: Senator Murphy.

SENATOR MURPHY: Mr. President, I have a little bit of a problem. For the last two days, Senator Schmit has been trying to save Omaha's bacon, now he is trying to shut off their water, and I don't know how to vote.

PRESIDENT: Senator Mills.

SENATOR MILLS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, Senator Murphy, I can sure tell you how to vote, if you will just pay attention. We heard this bill in the Public Works Committee, as Senator Kremer has described to you, but I differ from his opinion in relationship to 894. I think that the bill is where it should be. The bill we talked about yesterday is the same bill we are talking about today except with different mechanics involved in it, and again as