

come to somewhere near \$23.6 million, or a total interest payment of \$9.1 million. Now I didn't really want to fight the committee amendments. I didn't think that it was...I just didn't feel that...in my belief I think that if a committee, they have that choice to adopt whatever amendments they choose and create the bill in the form that they feel the legislative body will support it in. I felt that that was the option of the committee, and I chose not to oppose the Appropriation Committee amendments at that time and leave the bill as it is, because there is no money in the budget for these projects. There is no money in the budget for these projects. The only way these projects are going to get built, this year, is if we go into debt. That is the bottom line. There is no \$4 million for Morrill Hall. There is no 8.5, 6 million dollars for the new gymnasium at Kearney State College. There is no \$2 million for the renovation of the Peru State College building. There is no money for these projects this year. So, instead of facing reality and saying we don't have the money this year to buy...to build these projects or renovate these buildings, the committee chose to go into debt to finance them. Now we all go into debt sometimes to finance worthy projects. I suppose they need a new gymnasium out at Kearney State College to stay in shape. We had a rather long debate about the new gymnasium that was going to be built here on Nebraska's campus. They chose to take the route of getting donations, increasing fees, increasing tickets on their football sales, but instead Kearney State College comes in and says, we need a new gymnasium and we want the State of Nebraska to pay \$8.5 million for this project.

PRESIDENT: Excuse me, Senator Abboud. (Gavel.) Please, let's hold it down, it's getting terribly noisy in here. Thank you.

SENATOR ABOUD: I think this project has been requested, in years past, just as tens of other projects have come before the Legislature. I think every state college has their own wish list. I think the university has their wish list of projects that they say that we need at this particular time, and they realize that if the money is there some day they will get these projects. But the money just isn't there, folks, this year. We all know that. But, instead of facing reality, they go into debt. Now state government in Nebraska has always been based on a pay-as-you-go philosophy. I handed out some information talking about this State Capitol. The nine, \$10 million that it took to build this State Capitol back in the 1930s in the depths of the depression was a pay-as-you-go philosophy. We paid it a million a year at a time. We didn't have the debt to pay off as