

problem but, you know, that's really unimportant as compared to the benefit and the gain that can be made for all of us. It's a futurist thing. I compliment Senator Beutler on thinking not about us today but about those that might exist in the future who can...who can use it. If we lose it, we lose it forever and lastly I would like to say that I was one of the senators who sat behind Howard Lamb over there, who I don't think ever voted for anything that helped Omaha. I tried so hard to think with him but I never did think of anything he ever voted for that would help us. But, on the other hand, I couldn't hold that against him or the people who lived in that area when Senator Wickersham wanted his railroad. I was one of the urban senators that supported that railroad and, most importantly, the funding for it. But now if those same people who want the railroad or the funding for the railroad then oppose this now because you're worried about whatever and don't want to keep and preserve that for future generations, seems to me to be a little inconsistent. I would urge you to support the amendment and, of course, the bill.

SENATOR HALL: Thank you, Senator Lynch. Senator Haberman, on the Beutler amendment.

SENATOR HABERMAN: I have some questions of Senator Beutler, please.

SENATOR HALL: Senator Beutler, would you respond?

SENATOR HABERMAN: Senator Beutler, it's my understanding that three counties in Senator Jones' district will lose a total of \$86,779 if the railroad track is taken up. It's my understanding that the railroad paid personal property tax of that amount. Now if this is turned over to a government agency, the government agency will not pay personal property tax or real estate tax so my question is, how do these three counties pick up that 86,000 dollar loss that they can't afford to lose?

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator, first of all, Game and Parks does pay real estate taxes. It doesn't pay them at the level that Senator Jones would like, but he and I are working on a bill that would improve that situation and I might indicate that that's a bill where I'm supporting, for example, what is a rural interest, I think. And I also think this bill is a rural interest, by the way. I mean,...