

of their resources, because they might have been wasteful in their own. I really do not know what would happen if we allow this to continue in the manner of which it has started...

SENATOR LEWIS: One minute, Senator Schmit.

SENATOR SCHMIT: ..but I can give you a brief estimate. At the present time one mill of valuation levied across the state of Nebraska will bring in I believe Senator Warner said six or seven million dollars. I think that when you look at the amount of money that we have made available to the Natural Resource Districts in that process, that the twenty-five hundredths of a mill is satisfactory, that those districts that have problems will be able to solve those problems and that the reevaluation will bring in more money than they can use at the present time, and I am not in favor of providing additional funds to draw interest in banks or to be left to the discretion of someone who might decide to become ambitious and invest that money in a project, or in a control activity, that cannot be justified. I ask you to vote against the Kremer amendment to the DeCamp amendment. In fact, I'm against the DeCamp amendment.

SENATOR LEWIS: Before we go to the next speaker, I'd like to introduce a very special guest of Senator Bill Nichol and that's today from Gering, Nebraska...sitting beside me is Mike Delaney. Mike. Senator Hefner.

SENATOR HEFNER: Mr. President and members of the body, I rise in support of Senator Kremer's amendment. I feel that we need to increase this fund. I'm not saying that we need to increase it a whole lot, but we need to increase it some, because when these NRD Districts have a control area we need to provide them more money to take care of the extra help, and the extra duties that they'll be required to do. Now we know that the valuations are going to increase, in fact, in some of the areas of the states they have increased already, and so I feel that this 3/4 of a mill will...is a real fair and reasonable figure. We need to go ahead with water conservation, and I feel that by going to the control areas and the NRD Districts is the right way to go. Some of the areas have had a terrific drop in their water level, and of course, this will take a lot of monitoring in the years to come. I feel that if we do not do this well then the federal government will come in and see that it's done, and I don't think we want that. The NRDs are governed by local boards and this is where we need the control. I think the people on these boards are fair and reasonable and they'll see that this money is wisely spent. I urge you to support the Kremer amendment.