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that gift should not be able to be accepted. I cannot see where for the life of me you would oppose this type of provision. What you have done is you are telling individuals that they cannot make private gifts. Now granted that gift can be accepted but if it is then you have to reduce the mill levy proportionately. I strongly oppose that. I think it is an individual's right if they want to to make contributions to their schools, to their cities to provide for some things that they may not otherwise be able to have whether it be an addition to a school library, whether it be whatever type of improvement and if you are talking about trying to hold the line on taxes that is one thing but what you are doing in amendment #3 has nothing to do with that issue. You are saying that as an individual you cannot make a particular gift to the community that you want to. I strongly oppose the amendment #3 as well as 1, 2, 4 and 7. I think the one good idea again that Senator Keyes has, amendment #6, dealing with electricity and fuel funds because they have gone up so much, I do think that is an area that should be exempted, so I would rise to oppose all the Keyes' amendments except for #6.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Frank Lewis.

SENATOR LEWIS: Mr. Chairman, now that you have got this bill in great shape, the bill was originally geared to get the schools, now with some amendments you have done a better job in getting the cities and I suspect you will hear from that somewhere down the line. I am absolutely delighted in terms of the process that the bill has taken. I am sure you are going to hear from a lot of people about that and I think that is what good government is about and that is what Senator Dworak has been talking about, the taxpayers. We have done some things on the floor I think that are interesting in terms of that issue but that is not what I am here to speak about. I wanted to divide them up so I am not going to talk about any of the amendments except #6. I think that that is a legitimate issue and of a legitimate concern and that is in terms of electricity and fuel. Almost everyone you talk to today, that issue is on their mind. That probably is the most inflationary part of anybody's budget over the last five years. Last Friday when we were out I visited a nutritious site in northeast Sarpy County where there were probably eighty or ninety people. Now these people are on fixed incomes and I asked them what their utilities bills were and how much they had increased. Those people, those eighty people that are senior citizens were involved with payment of utilities