

March 19, 1980

LB 1002

SENATOR CLARK: Debate is ceased. Senator Sieck, do you wish to close?

SENATOR SIECK: Mr. President, members of the body, I'd like to respond to Senator Murphy's accusation that these all are built for recreation. This is not true and he was also speaking that this fund was earmarked for Natural Resource Districts. It is not earmarked for Natural Resource Districts. It is earmarked for the State Commission of Natural Resources and this money could be used for political subdivisions also. It doesn't say that it would have to go to the Natural Resource Districts. If the City of Omaha wants to build something and they need funds for a water project they could get it from the Natural Resources Commission. So I have got to contradict that accusation and, furthermore, anytime you build a water project, it is going to have recreation in it no matter how small or how big. I was involved in I would say over a hundred projects in Lower Platte South. Every last one of them have had recreation in. They were not built for that purpose. They were built for flood control, for water use, for better management of our water. They weren't built for recreation yet the people of Omaha they come down here to Branched Oak, and if I go down there, most of the cars are #1, they want some recreation so they come there. It is too bad that Papio Creek isn't authorized and built so those people could stay right there in Omaha. I would sure appreciate it. Senator Murphy or Senator Lewis said there was no money allocated for the Papio. I just got figures that there was \$192,000 allocated to the Papio watershed. \$51,000 of that money has been spent. I do feel that the conservation is a very important matter and I am one that's a believer in conservation, truly a believer, but we have the federal funds sent up, increased from \$2500 to I think it is \$3500 now for each individual farmer to put on his own land. There are adequate funds so I do feel that we are getting a considerable amount of conservation on the land and we do need it but we must remember we do need these large projects. We need to store the water in the State of Nebraska. We need this water for irrigation. I recognize this. Now the balance of my time I am going to turn over to Senator Schmit. He has a few things he wants to say.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Schmit.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Thank you, Senator Sieck. I would just like to say this, I didn't expect my colleague from Omaha, Sarpy County to attack me so viciously but then I shouldn't be surprised after more than ten years here. I just want to

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