

March 25, 1980

LB 999

SENATOR KELLY: It would be my guess probably in the neighborhood of \$3,000.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Upon what do you base the \$3,000 figure?

SENATOR KELLY: Because they won't have to buy a filing cabinet next year.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Would that in your experience be the first time that a budget was ever reduced after its initial phase or would that be a normal situation?

SENATOR KELLY: In this situation, Senator Schmit, it would be very normal, that this is not a program, as such, this is just an increase in the folklore archives, and the archives are not all that active. They are a place where we are going to collect folklore attitudes and stories and we are also going to collect these paranormal experiences.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Okay, thank you, Senator Kelly. At least you were able to give us some answers. I appreciate that one member of the committee knew what the Paranormal program was about and was able to get up and articulate it, although not to my satisfaction, but somewhat to his, at least, and that is something. I want to point out that at this time, I have stood here several times in the last few days and asked this body to be reasonable, I have asked you to take a good look at the various programs. I have asked you, and I am attempting to be realistic, that I think the addition of this program, small as it is, and I know that there are those who are going to say, well, Schmit is nit picking again, but I want to point out that very few programs start with millions of dollars of appropriations. The old foot in the door technique works very, very well and I would suggest that whatever we do that it really doesn't make sense, it really doesn't make sense, to start some kind of a program which no one demands, which no one wants, which will serve no useful purpose, which will spend \$7,500, minuscule though it is, it is not minor to people across the State of Nebraska. It is a lot of money to some people. It is especially lot of money when we know where it will go. Now I believe that if Senator Kelly were going to be here next year, and as a very vibrant member of the Budget Committee, he would probably see to it that the program was reduced to \$3,000 level. Unfortunately, Senator Kelly will not be here, and in the absence of any other explanation from the other eight members of the committee, we will have to get the