

is exactly what has happened. We can go back into the history of the conservation fund if you want to and dig it up if you want to, I'm perfectly willing to do that. That is a mighty murky little stream if you want to puddle around in that a little while, because I'll tell you what that is going to lead to and you are not going to like that either. The plain facts are the conservation fund was designed to give everybody a little piece of the pie, everybody a little bit of the action. Pork barrel at the lowest level. Well what has happened is, and I find this difficult to believe, that the areas that need the work are going to be ignored because any manager worth his wages, and most of them are, are going to learn quickly that they have got to be at the starting gate 24 abreast when the legislature fires the starting gun to get their share of the action. If they aren't there heel and toe the most nimble a foot and the fastest guy with the figures is going to wind up with a lions share of that conservation fund, whether they need it or not. It is going to depend upon who can come up the fastest with the mostest. The purpose of the development fund is to create a fund where worthwhile projects designed to store water can come to this legislature and to the commission, justify the need and secure some assistance. The facts are that we will never put the amount of money in there that ought to be there. I pointed out and find it difficult to believe that many people in this body are willing to saddle individual land owners with an amount twenty and thirty times as much as they are willing to put into that development fund. You are willing to say for example that we are going to put a meter on every blooming well in Nebraska at the cost of 25-35 million dollars. That is all right, that is private industry, let the private individual pick up the tab. But then when we say that we are going to put two or three or five dollars per capita into the development fund everybody runs for cover. Senator Johnson pointed out where we could save some money this morning, this afternoon. We pointed out time after time after time but the course that you are following today will spell the ultimate destruction of water conservation funds in the State of Nebraska because it is going to be who has the most clout. It is going to be just like the fight between the Peru campus and Kearney campus and the Chadron and the Wayne. It is going to be like the fight between UNO and UNL. Who has the most members on the budget committee, who can zip them up the tightest and nail them down the fastest and run off the quickest. That is what it is going to amount to. Now I don't think that leads towards wise development in the State of Nebraska. I know that when I tried to annihilate the conservation fund a year ago there were those that said well Schmit is trying to get back at Senator Bereuter or