

March 18, 1981

LR 26

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator DeCamp. The question has been called for. Do I see five hands? Okay, shall debate cease? All those in favor vote aye, opposed vote no. Shall debate cease? All those in favor vote aye, opposed vote no. Record.

CLERK: 26 ayes, 7 nays to cease debate, Mr. President.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Debate is ceased. The Chair recognizes Senator Kremer to close.

SENATOR KREMER: Mr. Chairman, members, I will tell you very briefly it is time to go to our respective places of interest, whatever it may be. First of all, I am really glad that Senator Wesely is endorsing the Norden Dam and reservoir. I am going to expect you to stay with us on that one when the times comes. Secondly, Colorado has, through the Colorado Water Conservation Board, approved this project. They represent the same interests that our Natural Resources Commission does here in the State of Nebraska. So I understand that Governor Lamm of the State of Colorado has had some reservations in time past but he has withdrawn those reservations as I understand it. The last question I asked, he has not yet taken a firm position but no doubt he will. Our own Governor has taken a neutral position and he had questions in times past. I would like to review for you again very, very briefly what we can inherit from this project here in the State of Nebraska. The supplemental water, now that supplemental water applied to the hundred and sixty-nine thousand acres that will be irrigated downstream, mark that, downstream, from the Narrows Project will certainly firm up the return flows in the South Platte. It has been estimated, how accurate it is I do not know, but it has been estimated that between forty to fifty percent of the water used will return to the river and flow into Nebraska. What more could we want in way of a Christmas present? The Narrows Project will provide floor control. Again, I repeat that, and that is of great necessity here in the State of Nebraska. The storage of flood flows in May and June and a subsequent release of the flood storage during succeeding months will provide the more useable and stable supply of flows into our state. The Narrows Project will provide major sediment control. We talked about that. I talked about what it will do...in the way of the quality of our water. We could go on and on and there are those of us that have strongly supported any kind of project. We need to wake up to that. Now there are those that are saying today, well, we got the Ogallala study now and sooner or later we are going to get some water out of the Missouri. It is going to come down into Nebraska and going down into Kansas. You know there is not going to be any of us around when that happens. The cost figure per acre foot for a project like that is upward, as high as