

SENATOR GOODRICH: Yes.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Okay. Senator Kremer.

SENATOR KREMER: Thank you, Senator Goodrich, I can proceed with my furthermore. I would like to reemphasize some of the comments I made relative to what the courts had to say when they interpreted the Constitution as we know it very clearly. So if the court was right, and we have to assume they are until their decision could be reversed if that time ever comes, okay, then if the water in all of the streams in Nebraska belongs to all of the people, and there is unappropriated water, then all the Director would have to do is to just appropriate a certain measure of water like he does now when it is within a basin. But the court said the water belongs to all the people. So the Director should have the right to make an appropriation to another basin just like he does within the basin, if what the court said is right. What would he do? Then he would appropriate unused water. Do we have unused water? The court addressed itself to the data that was submitted by the Director when he made the decisions that he did on the request and they clearly said that there was at least 500,000 acre feet running out of just the Platte every year with the exception of one year, I believe. I would have to go back and read it for sure...just the Platte. Now we know that in all of the contributions that the streams in Nebraska make to Nebraska's stream water supply there is about six or seven million running out of the state that is unused. Now if that continues...let me warn you about something, there are two states lying west of us that contribute something to the water that comes into Nebraska, namely Colorado and Wyoming. Colorado and Wyoming both have plans to use more of the water that is coming into our state, many of those plans, and if we don't prove that we need this water and we are using this water, I can well see what is going to happen to the states west of us. It is going to cut down on some of the water that comes into our state. Now, how about the states south of us? I have told the Public Works Committee I will invite anyone that wants to attend, I will make a presentation of the Ogallala study. We have got some overlays and it is going to be most interesting, and if you will come I will show you what is going to happen to the water in the states south of us, mainly Texas, Oklahoma and Kansas, they are going to be practically out of water, especially groundwater. Now, when you take the water out of a stream and apply that to the surface, it does recharge underground water. Nebraska is the most fortunate state that we do have the water and if we got common sense enough to use it and use it wisely and to store it, we are