January 19, 1982

LB 375

state by the wise and proper and efficient utilization of its irrigation water and for those of us who have been irrigating for a long while we have developed new methods, new equipment which have required many times new investments which have increased efficiency of our system tremendously. The very fact that the cost today of irrigation is so...almost prohibitive, mandates to the individual landowner a wise use of that water resource. I sometimes wonder when I see some of the statements that are printed what kind of business person would make such a statement when we talk about the wasting of water for irrigation purposes and the attempts by government to control the wasting. I ask you how many of you would leave the engine on your automobile run here all day long just to be sure it was ready to go when you went home tonight. Not very many I think. By the same token when it costs seven, eight, ten dollars per hour to operate an irrigation system and you have the cost squeeze which we are faced today, no individual is going to do that very long if at all. We have heard many comments about the wasting of water. I disagree with 99% of them. Senator Kremer has touched upon the need for storage and recharge and I want to reemphasize my concern of that area also. There are several schools of thought we can follow ...

PRESIDENT: One minute left on that five minutes.

SENATOR SCHMIT: We can either say we will do nothing in regard to the development of that resource and we will allow it to flow out of the state or we can develop it, we can impound the waters that we deem to be important to this state and we can recharge the reservoir to the benefit of all Nebraskans and that is I think what the public wants us to do. Mr. President, thank you very much.

PRESIDENT: We are ready then, Mr. Clerk, for a motion on the desk on division.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Beutler would move to divide the question on the Kremer-Schmit amendment by dividing the sections of the amendments into eighteen portions. Section one would be treated separately, section two separately, section three separately, sections four separately, five separately, six separately, seven separately, section eight separately, section nine separately, section ten separately, section eleven separately, section twelve separately, section thirteen separately, section fourteen separately, secfifteen separately, section sixteen, seventeen and eighteen separately, section nine teen separately and sections twenty through twenty-three separately.

