

would have abolished the death penalty. She had said for any degree of murder, anybody sentenced, would have to work the road but the thing that amazes me that Senator Newell and Senator Goodrich will reject money from the state for an Omaha project. I have never seen such a thing in my life. Oh, that's right. Senator Newell is running for the Douglas County Board. So maybe he wants to show that he doesn't raise taxes but he should let everybody all over the state contribute to an Omaha project. That would be beneficial. When Senator Goodrich said there is a more standard source of funds for roads, I don't know what source would be more standard than the funds set aside for roads in Nebraska. This is not a part of the interstate. This is to become a part of the state highway system. Senator Newell said that maybe eventually the state will have to belly up and contribute sizeably to this project. I submit that that time is now. There is an individual here, his last name is spelled Koltnow, Koltnow, first name Peter, who is President of the National Highway Users Conference, and in the Lincoln Journal, March 18th of this year, he said the nation's interstate system is about ten years past its prime. Because of Reagan's New Federalism program, states and local communities can expect to assume greater responsibility for road maintenance and construction. So the point is this, with the primary obligation of the federal government being the maintenance of the interstate system which is falling into disrepair all over the country, it is clear that the federal money which will be available for road construction and maintenance is going to be directed toward the maintenance of the interstate highway system and not these little boondoggles that exist in individual cities and states to placate some local politicians, who as a February editorial in the New York Times said a lot of roads were built by these people and planned by these people because federal money was readily available. The roads were not needed. Everybody who is supporting this project, the North Freeway, insists that this road is needed. I can't understand what is going on here this morning, so to try to get a clarification, I would like to ask Senator Newell a serious question. Senator Newell, you said that \$26 million is too much to be used at this time, and I think it might not be feasible to lay money aside, suppose that amount were reduced from \$26 million to \$5 million.

SENATOR NEWELL: Senator Chambers, I don't know right now the planning has gone ahead and finalized the plans on the road. Now that is paperwork sort of stuff. That is not moving dirt, et cetera.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Right.