

million dollars, which brings back to the school children of this state somewhere around 12 million dollars, which if sold and properly invested would bring back five or six times that much money on an annual basis. Now there are people who talk about the sale of the lands almost as if it were immoral.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Time.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Ladies and gentlemen, the school lands were given for the benefit of the children. Today rental income does not compare favorably with interest income, and that brings to mind a totally different set of facts and figures, ones which we ought to consider. And I, therefore, ask you to seriously consider the sale of the school lands of the State of Nebraska.

SPEAKER BARRETT: We have an amendment on the desk, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Warner would move to amend the bill. Senator, I have AM1581 in front of me. (Warner amendment is on page 1961 of the Legislative Journal.)

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Warner.

SENATOR WARNER: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, the amendment that is filed, I filed it yesterday and I suspect I will not pursue it today, but perhaps on Select File, if the bill is advanced. I became sort of interested in this issue a few weeks ago when there was some discussion of when in lieu of tax payments began and when I was reading...listening to the figures that Senator Schmit just quoted as to how only 2.3 to 2.4 million in revenue would be raised if land was sold, and currently 6 million is being returned, and that, as he indicated just now, seemed to be a discrepancy. It was kind of a curiosity to me. Well the staff went back and kind of checked a little bit what the history might have been. And it was interesting, I thought, that in 1921 was when the first in lieu of tax concept was enacted by the Legislature. And from that time, until 1957, I believe what the in lieu of tax was given to each school district was an amount of tax the same as if that property had been in private hands. Then apparently, as you will see with the handout, in 1957 there was an amendment attached on Select File to a bill that apparently must have gutted the bill, because the introducers changed on the bill after the amendment was adopted. And it was an amendment that in such a way actually increased the in lieu of tax something