

that for many, many hundreds of years, notwithstanding some of the biased pronouncements to the contrary. It reminds me a little bit of the story that was told when Senator Church went back to Washington and he...his family was following him around the Capitol and he was showing them his office and his resources and all of the various people he had working for him. That night his children said to his wife, said, mommy, how come daddy is so rich and we're so poor? And I can't help but think that some of the same thinking is prevalent here today. We happen to have a little surplus this year, maybe, maybe. And so we have embarked upon a number of the frills that we don't normally embark upon. Now I know it's been said we're going to do them now or we're going to do them later. Well, ladies and gentlemen, in Nebraska agriculture in the last 10 years an awful lot of projects have been put off for 10 years and I just happen to believe that some of these projects are necessary, some are worthwhile and some are desirable, but certainly they're not all of the same priority. And I just don't believe that at this time without knowing more about it that we ought to commit ourselves to a \$4 million plus project out there. I'm not against it entirely but I just think that I would like to know how many people in the State of Nebraska have been out there. I think it's a beautiful part of the state. I think more people ought to be there. I think they have done a lot of good things. But, very frankly, it's quite an investment. I do agree with Senator Scofield on one aspect. I believe that western Nebraska deserves some of this investment and to that extent I would like to wish her well. But I just hope that we can afford it. I'm not sure we can. I think the Hall amendment is a reasonable approach to it and I would ask you to consider that.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Lamb, followed by Senator Owen Elmer.

SENATOR LAMB: Well, Mr. President and members, I stand here committing political suicide. I think Senator Scofield and I are probably two of the most vocal people when it comes to talking about western Nebraska and the needs and the unfair treatment we get from our city slickers down east. But I think in this case she has overdone it, just a little bit. She's overdone it just a little bit and I think that Senator Hall has a reasonable amendment here, put in the planning money, see what we want to do and then go on from there. And I have to agree with Senator Schmit that I'm not completely convinced that this is the highest and best use of the resources of the State of