

absolutely in my opinion ridiculous to pay one man \$500,000 a year part time to sit in judgment on an issue that was resolved in one afternoon by the Select Committee on Water of the Wyoming Legislature and the Natural Resources Committee of this state. It's resolved, it's resolved. Let me explain to you how it was resolved. The State of Wyoming said we have no desire to shut off the water to the inland lakes which provide water for the Nebraska irrigators. We know we've got to abide by the 1904 decree, we just threw it in there because you guys were aggravating us. Mr. Jess has said the issue of Deer Creek is not that important, let them have it. That simple, he proposed that to the Wyoming engineer. Then I asked, why do you want to continue the fight? Why does Senator Moore and the Appropriations Committee want to say, okay, we don't think there's going to be a fire here, but just in case there isn't, we've got this gasoline over here, and in case the fire dies down, it's available to be poured on the flame, can be escalated. That's exactly what we are doing. Ladies and gentlemen, we have just heard from the Governor about a proposed constitutional amendment to revamp the tax status of the State of Nebraska in a major way. One of the reasons why, and I heard it again this morning from Senator Elroy Hefner and from a whole bunch of other senators, is that we never, ever stop and look at what we really don't need to be doing. I understand that today the Department of Agriculture, who inspect grain elevators and stored grain, because of the reduction in the amount of stored grain, will, instead of inspecting elevators every nine months, have now escalated the schedule to every three months so as to keep people busy. I don't know if that's true or not, but I'm going to find out if it's true. Ladies and gentlemen, it's time we call a halt to this kind of unnecessary expenditure of funds. There are legitimate needs of the people of this state. There are legitimate responsibilities of government. We have a legitimate reason to...

SENATOR WARNER: One minute.

SENATOR SCHMIT: ...be concerned about the situation between Nebraska and Wyoming. But, ladies and gentlemen, we are being irresponsible if we continue this appropriation as it has been proposed. I'd ask that you support the amendment. It gives the department the money necessary to fund the master. It takes a peculiar kind of arrogance to call that gentleman a water master, or a master, whatever the hell he is. I think that's a mistake in the first place. But the facts are, ladies and