

lady in my district who adopted a child that was brain damaged, and some how or other the adoption fell through the cracks and the family has spent tens of thousands of dollars, and because the child was never a ward of the state, went directly from the mother to the family, the family doesn't qualify for any assistance. And so we turn our back on that family. And it's disrupting the family terribly, and it's not helping the family or the child. Each one of us on this floor can recite time after time, instance after instance, the same kind of situations. And, ladies and gentlemen, we do not have, and I do not criticize the Appropriations Committee, nor you as my colleagues because you do not appropriate those funds. I argued here some time ago about the repayment of the Commonwealth depositors. And some of the people who voted the first time, of the 23, dropped off. One of those persons said, Loran, we just don't have the money, we just don't have the money. And so we vacate, we abdicate, we run from our legitimate obligation to those individuals. And what do we do? We appropriate money at the rate of \$275 an hour, and no one asked any questions. Just read Mr. Dorr's story in the paper, critical of the fact that maybe the investigator for the Franklin Committee, who lost his life in the pursuit of his job, might possibly have overcharged us 32 hours at \$24 an hour. Not in my book he didn't, but in their estimation. Mr. Caradori is dead, so he can't answer. But here no one asked the question, is a special master worth \$275 an hour? Do we need to spend the money? If we spend the money, what do we get for it? If we don't spend the money, what are the risks we take? I think the risks are overemphasized. I do not want to put this on a personal basis, but I am inclined to do so, ladies and gentlemen. I did not chair the committee that was involved in water projects all these years without becoming a little bit knowledgeable about it. I understand what the risks are. And I do not necessarily or casually walk away from those risks. But there is no way, ladies and gentlemen, that in these times or any other time we can justify this kind of continued appropriation. And the day will come when it's going to be a day of reckoning, and we're going to have to look at these kind of appropriations and ask ourselves why. What public purpose was served? Whose ego was massaged? Who benefitted directly, financially as a result of this kind of an appropriation? And was the money better spent in this instance than to have been spent to help clean up the flood damage for the people of western Nebraska? I have spent many hundreds of hours talking to people in western Nebraska. They look at their Wyoming neighbors differently than we do. They like them, they