

days ago and probably all would have been better off. But that didn't happen. The last 10 days is always difficult for anyone, and ethanol bills are no exception. Let me just call your attention, however, to the fact that most of the problems, if you will believe me, and you probably won't, have emanated from the ethanol bills that were passed the last few days of the session are the result of amendments adopted over my objections, not amendments or not language which I had in the bill, number one. Number two, there was nothing wrong with 1230, simply Governor Kerrey raised valid questions. We did attempt to reassure him. For a number of years, we were able to protect the fund from being raided. We didn't build anything, right. Didn't squander much money either. The point is this, that when the federal law changed, then it made it more practical to build plants. I would be willing, and I have not had a chance to sit down with Senator Warner and others on this, but I would be willing, and I think it is only fair that eventually the producer checkoff be funded from two sources, first, the checkoff ought to come from the grain, of course, and then there ought to be a General Fund appropriation. It is only agriculture which funds all of its own economic development. All other entities dip into the General Fund under one guise or another. It is not necessary that we tack onto the motor fuel user the cost of economic development as it pertains to agriculture. It used to be that if we took \$10 million out of the Highway Fund that we reduced that amount of money to the roads. But Senator Warner was able to include in the variable tax formula that amount of money that was depleted by the gasohol program, and so we really do, I believe, it might not be quite right, Senator Warner can correct me, but we do not deplete road funds but the highway user, principally, persons like myself and truckers and those who drive a lot help to pay for this part of the fund. There ought to be some kind of long range plan, and that is one of the good things I like about what Senator Rod Johnson is doing, and I appreciate the fact that Senator Rod Johnson and other younger members are taking an interest in this. I have been working at it on this floor for 20 years, and for 15 years before that, and I will not be here 20 years from now, so it takes you younger folks to come along and take an interest in it, and I am glad you have. But I hope you don't throw the baby out with the bath water. I have been the first person, and as Senator Coordsen pointed out, many of the problems we have had. He served as Chair of the Sorghum Development Board, and he watched those entities come before that board and try to get their dipper in the bucket, and it was