

about the expensive payloader that was purchased to replace an old John Deere Tractor. That goes on and on and on and on. It's kind of embarrassing for me, I got my tax notice on my best automobile the other day, \$28.50 for a car worth \$1,185. I don't see any state automobiles traveling across the State of Nebraska with 200,000 plus miles on them. I see a lot of my constituents driving those kind of vehicles. Now there are all sorts of records that indicate that it does not pay to drive a car beyond 70,000 miles. My problem is that I've never been able to convince the banker that I can afford to invest in another \$20,000 in an automobile when I drive 70,000 miles a year. And so it's interesting to me that everyone else can cut. We expect people to cut. We expect to do without. We expect the constituents to tighten their belts. We expect them to improve their efficiencies, with one exception, we steer away from government. Now I know and I am the first to defend government employees, I know that we have a host of highly motivated, dedicated, competent state employees. This system could not function without them. And I think thanks to the work of Senator Warner and others who have developed a personnel plan and a pay plan that is comparable at least, if not better, than some other pay in private industry, we keep those good employees hired. That does not alter the fact that as our fortunes change we need to change. The fact that Governor Thone could cut state employees, nonuniversity employees by more than a thousand during his term of office speaks eloquently to that argument. The fact that Governor Kerrey, twice, did have substantial cuts in his budgets in December when he found the revenue was lacking indicates it can be done. Government is not going to grind to a halt. Very few employees are going to quit. Very few services are going to be sacrificed. If we have a few less inspections, it will probably be a good thing. If we terminate some of the travel, it would probably help. I would guess that we would increase the efficiency of business to a certain extent if we did not harass them quite as much with some of our supervisory activity. The point I want to make is one which I have made time and again but which this body doesn't seem to want to accept and that is that in periods of adversity all cost ought to be borne equally. So we have a problem in the area of the taxes, so what do we do? We cast around. Obviously, we can't touch inventories so we leave those owners exempt. We certainly are not going to do anything about household goods so the owners of expensive household goods take a walk. We take a look also at the nonprofits and that can't be done. A few years ago Senator Carson Rogers and I had an amendment to return all