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year maximum fee. And I'd suggest to the body that it's not going to be that high. I don't think it will be \$200. This is the maximum. But we will take care of the problem ourselves and not ask for any state appropriations, no funding. So, granted, Senator Beutler has a very interesting problem. If we wanted to dig through the dusty old pages of Nebraska Farmer, you can find an article there on me that featured myself plugging water wells on property we bought, and we do plug a lot of them, but I admit most of them are not addressed, and that's a whole different issue. So I would...I would still support the bill, of course, in its original form, but I think that amendment...I know the Oil and Gas Commission doesn't want anything to do with this and we're drawing in the NRDs and so on into the mix here and that's a...a whole different bill needs to be addressed to take care of the water well plugging. So I'd be glad to answer questions of Senator Coordsen or everyone...anyone else. We were going to have a class on oil well drilling and I should a done it before this morning.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator. Chair recognizes Senator Matzke.

SENATOR MATZKE: Mr. President and members of the body, we had a very full hearing on this bill before the Natural Resources Commission. I can appreciate the seriousness of the issue that Senator Beutler brings up with water wells, but it really is a separate issue. Here we're dealing solely with one industry and it is an industry that has specific problems. Most oil is produced from about a mile deep in the ground and that oil floats on saltwater. The oil was originally formed when Nebraska was the bottom of a lake. And so when you're...when you're producing oil from an oil well, after it has produced all of the oil what you get is saltwater. And often in a stripper well, now, a stripper well is a well that only produces maybe two to five barrel of oil a day, it may also produce twenty, or thirty, or fifty barrels of saltwater, which has to be disposed of and is disposed of by injecting it back into other wells. So what you're dealing with is essentially a saltwater problem. So the matter of plugging an oil well is a much more serious matter than...than plugging a water well. You have to protect the surface water. Now, when I say surface water I'm talking about the water that we use for irrigation and domestic use and