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maintenance, perhaps even yet not enough for the backlog that we have, whether that's 250, 300, 350 million dollars. But we do have a significant amount of money. The university is doing a significant progress on building maintenance through a bonding program. We are now putting, and I'm not really current, but I think about 7 to 9 million dollars a year in 309, building maintenance, to try to get Nebraska on that track as a state. It got as low, by the way, and I don't...once again don't have those numbers in front of me, but in the late eighties we were down to about a million dollars a year, 1 to 2 million, if my memory is correct. So we are putting significant money into repair and maintenance of Nebraska's buildings, which most of us think is an absolute necessity. But it is reflected in our spending patterns. That's just an aside for some of the issues that we probably will be discussing. Senator...Mr. President, I would like to yield the balance of my time to Senator Schimek.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator. Senator Schimek, you're recognized for about two minutes.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Thank you. Mr. President, members of the body, I would like to withdraw my amendment at this time. I think it's a very good discussion and it's something that we might possibly want to come back to at a later time. But I think there's some other ideas out there that I'd like to see get into the mix, too. So, for now at least, I'd like to withdraw the amendment.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: The amendment is withdrawn. For further discussion then on the committee amendments, Senator Crosby, would you like to speak to the committee amendments?

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Mr. President, yes, I do very quickly. I said to somebody a little while ago, I wish Senator Landis was here, 'cause he could sing that line from "1776" for us that says...that goes, "Is anybody there? Does anybody care?" I think some of you are listening; I think some of you are not. I think some of the points that we need to make this morning have to do with...the A bills have been talked about, but the essence of that discussion is that those of you who have A bills should be paying attention because that is the culmination of whether or not we set some kind of goal...growth