

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office

April 28, 1999 LB 382

confuse this, and these people wanted me to hang around because they found me to be, as they said, a delightful conversationalist. And I told them I had a plane schedule and I had to leave then to make connections in Chicago, and they knew I was from Omaha. They said, why are you going to Chicago? I say, well, no, I live in Omaha and that's where I'll make my connection. They said, why would you make a connection in Chicago when you'll get to Omaha before you get to Chicago, and they were being serious. They have no concept of the geography out here. They don't know where these cities are. They may not even know where the state of Nebraska is. There are some states where I get kind of confused on exactly where they are until I look at the map. I know that there are some of those people who love Omaha and they think because they love it everybody loves it the way they do. They know that Omaha is not going to be a tourist center. They ought to know it, because they know what they look for when they go someplace and they don't find it in Omaha and that's why they go other places. I'm sure if Senator Smith wanted to impress some young eligible lady and show her a really good time and how he is a man of the world, he's not going to say, honey, we're going to fly out of here, I'm not going to drive, we're going to fly out of here. And she say, well, baby, where we going? He says, we're going to Omaha. She says, oh, Gering, we're going to Omaha. She says, what? He said, oh, yeah, because they have the Old Market. She said, why would I want to go to a market? Oh, well, it's not what you think. I meant they have restaurants there and...in these restaurants, you can buy all...you can buy food. You can buy meat, you can buy potatoes, you can buy coffee and tea and they give you water free if you want it. She says, and that's why we're going to Omaha? Well, that's not all. They have a place called Joslyn Memorial. And she said, what do they have there? He says, well, it's, first of all, made out of marble and it's named after a family and they got all kind of art stuff in there, but we can't go inside because they're not going to be open when we get there. So she says, okay, what next? Do they have any theaters there, do they have any movies? And he says, now you know, to be quite frankly, Senator Kremer, I don't know if they have any operational movies downtown anymore, but they got them scattered around the outskirts so he could tell her that she has her choice of going to west Omaha to the Westroads, she can go to the Crossroads, or she can go to the Southroads to