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the Y2K problem, so if you think that's funny, great. If you don't, forget I passed it out. What are some of the other areas around the country doing about Y2K? Well, Milwaukee public schools are really thinking about delaying the start back to school after their Christmas vacation. They are afraid that if there are computer glitches that their school bus drivers could be stranded on vacation someplace, that the cafeteria food might not be delivered on time, and the gymnasium might well be filled with neighborhood people coming to a place of warmth and safety because their own homes are without power and without heat. No one is exactly sure what is going to happen so there have been tests around the country to see how compliant they are, how ready their systems are. Some people think that we could just be in for a major crash. Others think that there might be just a minor disruption. The Coyote Ridge Correctional Center in eastern Washington shut down their power for two days just to see what would happen. Well, they were gratified to know that within seconds all of their systems had switched over to back-up generators. The U.S. Marine Corps held a mock training session on what they would do. How do you deal with government workers that are angry because computer problems keep them from getting their paychecks? Another concern is that a large number of smaller cities and towns have chosen to do nothing and so they might be in for a major shock. It's not that there won't be a solution to the problems that arise. It's just that it might not be immediate. It might take a day or two to fix, and it's the wrong assumption that everything that you need to fix this problem, if there is one, is going to be available on the third of January. Municipalities think that, well, the federal government can fix anything. There's always help available there, too. But Y2K has the potential to hit every part of the country in a single day. Federal officials have decided to find out what happens in Australia because they're going to meet the new year a full half day ahead of what happens here. So this would be like getting advance warning of a tornado and we never get at least a half a day's warning of a tornado. One of the senators I was visiting with earlier said he wasn't really concerned about what was going to happen. He wasn't going to stock his freezer with food. He thought he might run down to the store and get a quart of milk. That was what he was going to do. My husband was on a flight from Chicago back home. I was just about ready to leave to go get him at the airport. He