

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

March 14, 2000 LB 1217

get some federal money for one year by putting up \$317,000 and then buy into an ongoing debt of over \$3 million a year and that debt is not going to provide a solution to a problem or even an addressing of the problem in a substantive way. Somebody is gaining politically from that Wilderness Camp. That's why it's being done. We got conservatives in here and you're going to take on a three hun...a \$3 million debt every year from now on in perpetuity for something that's not going to solve a problem? If a Democrat was sitting over there as the Governor, I can imagine the outcry that would be going on over here. Politics is at work and when we get to the budget that's when it shows its head the most. But when the children are the ones who are suffering and there's no great outcry, it makes me wonder about all this concern for fetuses, zygotes and embryos. Before they get in the world, everybody's heated up. I don't see the Catholic Church saying anything on this issue. I don't see these pro-life people, who want to call the university people Nazi's, saying anything on this issue, because these are living children. These are children in being, in esse, children here right now. Nobody questions whether or not they're full-fledged human beings except when time comes to accord them treatment, proper treatment and consideration. Nobody cares. I couldn't get 28 people to sign a bill to say we're going to put up enough money to provide services for these children. If I could get the same 28...

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...who are concerned about cells from fetuses to say we'll do something for these children, I'd probably be one of the happiest people, at least at that point, on the face of the earth, but I couldn't get 28 people and you know it and I know it, because they don't care. But for a political boondoggle like the Wilderness Camp, yeah. Senator Thompson has to settle for a multipurpose building. And Senator Redfield was asking very penetrating questions that are in my mind too, but I'm not going to derail the train from getting what it might get, but those to me are much more important. If a fire broke out today, just like those 18 girls burned up on that island because they were in a dormitory that was locked up, that could happen to our girls in this state.