

January 27, 1975

SENATOR SWIGART: Would the Clerk please read the resolution.

CLERK: This is set out in full on page 92 of the Legislative Journal. "Whereas critical starvation conditions prevail in both Asia and Africa causing tens of thousands of our fellow human beings to die, Whereas particularly in the sub-basin area of Africa thousands of animals have died of food and water shortages thus depleating herds for future human needs. Whereas the earth and such areas is cracked and parched to such a condition as to require many years to regenerate to a productive capacity and whereas no nation or group of nations has come forward with a cohesive plan to solve these catastrophic human needs. Now therefore be it resolved by the members of the Legislature of the eighty-fourth Legislature of Nebraska first session, one, that the Legislature and Governor of the State of Nebraska hereby request the government of the United States to formulate and adopt a comprehensive plan for resolving world starvation problems. Such plan should include the following elements: a) the United States should take immediate steps to increase its quota of contributions to the starving world, and that the government urge all other nations to do the same; b) the United States government representatives meet with representatives of the mid-western grain state governments in a cooperative effort to provide more food for the starving; c) that the United State government establish a policy to aide stricken nations in their efforts to rebuild damaged soil, aide in rebuilding their depleted herds of animals and to envoke modern methods of agriculture to enable self-sustenance for the future; d) that the United States government develop a long-term policy of working with all receptive nations where critical over-population exists and information, education, and other aides which will bring about controls of the over-population of the world."

SENATOR SWIGART: Mr. Chairman, may I speak to the motion?

PRESIDENT: Chair recognizes Senator Swigart.

SENATOR SWIGART: The main object of this resolution is to have a planned attack on the problems of starvation. The main thrust is in the words "formulate and adopt a comprehensive plan for solving the starvation problems in the world". It is well understood that the United States cannot feel the whole world, but there nations that are doing nothing and other nations that can do much more. What is needed is an organized plan. A plan so that food gets to the people and that more of it gets on the way very soon. On top of this, fellow Senators, some ground areas are so cracked and parched from the drought, especially in Africa, and herds of animals have been depleted that it will take years to rejuvenate these lands and these animal herds. Something should also be done on these items as well as a more cooperative effort to curtain over-population in the world. Ladies and gentlemen, on this 27th of January it may well be that one thousand persons on this earth will die this day from starvation. Surely we can do something. Surely America can do something more. Surely a combination of nations, over a period of years, through planning, can solve these tragic problems. There ought to be organization and planning and it should have already started. I think it