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(Start of Belt #10)

all over Nebraska. When you have damaged agriculture all over Nebraska, the individual family farm, you've made it possible, in fact probable, that the conglomerates or whatever you want to call them are going to have it easier to take over. So, I have to oppose this from the standpoint that it is more damaging than good. Now, the problem Senator Chambers hopes to solve don't exist to the degree that he possibly believes they do. They don't exist to that degree because we have, you might say, self-help remedies in the rural area on injuries that occur. I don't think, either in Committee or today on the floor, we have had any evidence or statistics brought to our attention to show that a serious problem does exist. We have just assumed that a problem exists and this is the simple solution. Now, to put it in real simple terms or more graphic, as an example, somebody could look up there and they could say, "Well, by golly, those windows up there in the Capitol are dirty. Let's get them cleaned." Now Senator Chambers coming from Omaha and possibly not being as familiar with agriculture as some of the rural Senators looks out and he says, "There's a problem there. It's like the windows are dirty." There are two solutions. You can put somebody up there and you can clean the windows. Well, that's the way we do it now in rural Nebraska. We take care of it with self-help methods and exchange of labor, this type of thing. It is not a serious problem. Senator Chamber's... Senator Chamber's solution is, in effect, saying, "The windows are dirty. Let's get them cleaned, but they are up there and we are down here." So, we start pulling the blocks out down below to get the window where we can reach it. By the time we get the window where we can reach it to clean it, there is no purpose in cleaning it because there isn't any building left and that is exactly the same type of effect that this legislation would have on rural Nebraska. It would be more damaging than good, so that any good it might achieve is really irrelevant. I would recommend that Senator Chambers and a whole bunch of others of us who are concerned about this potential problem get together during the next year and, maybe, come up with some reasonable solution if a solution is, in fact, needed. I don't think this bill was pushed or sponsored by rural Nebraska and I think this is an important factor to take into consideration. We are tampering with the economy of rural Nebraska at a dangerous time and we could end up destroying it, so I would recommend that we kill it as quickly as possible and go to finding a solution, if a solution is needed. As I say, I personally sponsored this bill two years ago and so I can say that this isn't done with any...any small thought before hand. I would have supported it if it would in any way achieve the good that is desired, but it will not.

SPEAKER: Senator Kelly.

SENATOR KELLY: Mr. President. Mr. President and members of the Legislature. Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I rise as a strong supporter of Workmen Compensation in concept and in being, and I believe that this bill is a detriment to Workmen Compensation as we know it, and I suggest that exemptions in the Workmen's Compensation bill has always been based on nonhazardous occupation and in this proposal, it's going to be hazardous or nonhazardous according to how much money you make. Now we have enough trouble in the Workmen's compensation settlements now. If we increase this to include practically every citizen in the state of Nebraska, the Workmen's Compensation court is going to need more than one more judge. Now, private industry competes with everybody else for employers. Now an employer has to qualify to be the employer just as well as an employee has to qualify to be an employee and Workmen's compensation is a very definite management tool to make each and every place a better place to work. It's protection for the standard full time working employees in industries in Nebraska. This is an extension of