

what would you say, knowing your district as well as you do, how many would you say are in that organization in your county?

SENATOR MARESH: Oh, I would hate to guess because I don't know.

SENATOR MAHONEY: Well, you'd have some idea.

SENATOR MARESH: No I don't, I--

SENATOR MAHONEY: Don't you--

SENATOR MARESH: In my former district I don't believe there were very many members but in my additional part of the district, there are active members, right.

SENATOR MAHONEY: But is it considerable or just very small group?

SENATOR MARESH: Oh, no, part of it would be very few, but in the new part there are quite a few.

SENATOR MAHONEY: In the new share of your district?

SENATOR MARESH: Yes.

SENATOR MAHONEY: What, what, Senator, what actually does the NFO try to do for its membership, can you tell me?

SENATOR MARESH: Well, to improve the farmer's lot, I'd say they do try, they're working for higher prices for the farmers but I don't believe they force everybody that's a farmer to join their organization to accomplish this.

SENATOR MAHONEY: Would you say they pay dues.

SENATOR MARESH: Yes, they do but they don't ask anybody else besides their members to pay the dues.

SENATOR MAHONEY: Are they always out trying to solicit members?

SENATOR MARESH: Right, but on a voluntary basis. They don't force them to pay their dues.

SENATOR MAHONEY: Would you say that this organization should be put out of business.

SENATOR MARESH: No, I, I wouldn't say they should be put out of business. I don't think the unions should be put out of business.

SENATOR MAHONEY: Mr. Speaker, Mr. President, that's fine Senator Maresh should answer my questions and I would just like to say as I end my second time here to speak that the NFO in legislative bills that they have had before this Legislature, have always had good hearings, they have had just causes. We have been here before this Legislature in the past years, the 12 years that I have been here, in which we discussed their situation on this floor. I can see nothing wrong with the agency shops having that same opportunity to come to the floor this morning so that at a later date we can hear the pros and the cons and make up the decision finally once and for all, allowing this bill to at least have a pre-hearing on the floor of the Legislature rather than to be killed in the Labor Committee.

SPEAKER: Senator Proud, then Senator Carstens, then Senator Skarda.