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some of the rest of us were in making the sale of this school land mandatory. Now this amendment, as Senator Syas has already said and I am not going to dwell on this, but this amendment defeats the purpose of this bill and it's an indirect way of continuing the mandatory sale of this school land. Only, it, now, if the amendment were adopted, it would be sold in three hundred tracts if that happened to come out in that particular year. So, I believe if we are going to vote on a bill and make the school land sale permissive, in the interest of the state, and I know the many figures that have been juggled around about how the school systems benefit, the real purpose of this bill is not to benefit the school system and I very respectfully disagree with Senator Whitney on this but I have to, the real purpose of this bill is to sell the school lands. Now, since 1965, I do not know what the statistics would show on the...in the area where most of the school land is located but I do know that in my own community and my own area, the price of land has, at least, doubled and it is still going up and it is still... there is more and more demand for it all the time. So, we are not just talking about the income that is derived from the funds received from the sale. We have a great built-in appreciation value on this land and it is a secure investment for the school land system itself. Now with this country, with the financial condition in this country, anybody who watches the stock market and who studies the financial picture of this country has to have some apprehension as to what we are getting in to, in a nation that is probably as debt ridden today as it has ever been in any time in its history, and what the future holds in the way of investments, in stocks and bonds and securities of various kinds, nobody knows but we know this land will be there and we know there is going to be demand for this land, more and more land, more and more demand for agriculture products, and I hate to be putting myself in the position of appearing to oppose the people in western and northwestern Nebraska because I do not...I like the people and I know the fine job they are doing and it is not a matter of pitting one section against the other. We have to look at this realistically. We should not get into a policy of selling land on a mandatory bases by hundred tracts or by fifty tracts or by three hundred tracts. This should be done on a discretionary baese so that we can protect the school land, itself, and the school land fund...and the Educational Fund, themself. I would urge you all to vote down this amendment.

SPEAKER: Senator Lewis.

SENATOR LEWIS: I would like to speak once more to this amendment. There is something that has been persistently and consistently overlooked in this and that is when the Board of Educational sell these leases which they do each time it expires or which they would like to have authority to do, a bonus, the buyers of these leases have been bidding substantial bonuses on for the benefit of using this lease. Now these bonuses have been a substantial income and this is something that hasn't been reflected in some of the statements that have been made here.

SPEAKER: Is there any further discussion? If not...Senator Burbach.

SENATOR BURBACH: Well, Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I, too, am one of those that was here in 1965 to vote for the passage of the sale of the school lands. I, also, was one of those who voted to override the Governor's veto, and I felt the school land should have been sold. This is going to be somewhat repetitious to what has already been said. However, due to so many Court cases, hold ups, and one thing or another, this land has bunched up. There will be, because of the short leases, I remember that I offered