

April 8, 1974

PRESIDENT: Senator DeCamp do you care to respond.

SENATOR DECAMP: Mr. President, let's clarify some other things. First of all, I'm not questioning Senator Whitney's expertise. I think he's probably the first or second most expert person in this body on the question of school land. I happen to disagree with him on this particular interpretation of a constitutional question.

SENATOR NORE: But he is not tricky, is he?

SENATOR DECAMP: Pardon?

SENATOR NORE: I said I would say that he is not tricky.

SENATOR DECAMP: Well, I would hate to say anybody is particularly tricky or untricky in here.

SENATOR NORE: You said so. Now most of this school land is marginal land. Marginal land is land that you normally can't make a good living on. Most of the good land has been sold. Now, we get these land experts, probably thirty day wonders, out of the Ag College, probably never lived on a farm before. They come out and say I've got a quarter section of land in Boone - County, and I spent about 15 years getting this into grass. What I call marginal land. Now, this spring, I didn't complain any, I paid it. But they have a crop land rental on it. A crop land rental. Because I know because some of the pasture land is about a fourth of what it is on my land. Now if I break up this...my school leased...If I break up this quarter, I owned land before it...below it, and it's going to become a mud flat, or a mud bottom, and I know that's what they are going to do. Now, for two years they are going to show real good income from this particular piece of land. That is if it rains. Usually we don't get too much rain, but if it happened to rain. But eventually there will be just like it was when I took it over, eroded, causing dust storms, and land that you can't normally make a living on. Only in very good years. We only have dry land up there, we only have about the past history of about two out of five years that we get a good crop on that kind of land. See, we have these experts come out there, the ninety day wonders, folks that have never farmed before, probably, or have, but they don't know the country, and you don't know land until you have farmed it. Like an old cow, you don't know an old cow, until you have rented it. So, I'm very...I'm like Senator Stull, I want to talk on the bill and want to kill it.

PRESIDENT: All right, Senator Duis. Excuse me, Senator Nore. finish.

SENATOR NORE: About this whole bill that is passed.

PRESIDENT: We are speaking only on the amendment.

SENATOR NORE: The DeCamp amendment will end up in dismal failure. We'll have eroded land, we'll have dust storms, we will have bad management, we'll have city management, which is bad. And the man that knows that land, if you want to find out what a piece of land is worth, you go and ask your neighbor. That's what the real economists tell us. Ask the neighbors what that land will do. You can't have someone come up here and from Lincoln to say what it will do, whether it should be plowed or not. You