

March 15, 1979

LB 190

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...give me your opinion on this, or give me your opinion on that. So, I'm going to support Senator Burrows' effort to bring this bill to the floor.

PRESIDENT: The Chair would like to take this opportunity to introduce on behalf of Senator Murphy some thirty-three members of the Wayne County Extension Club, with Mrs. Don Ermeyer as their leader. They're up here in the south balcony. Would they stand up and be recognized, and welcome to your Legislature ladies. The Chair recognizes Senator Fowler.

SENATOR FOWLER: Well I rise to support Senator Burrows in his effort to bring this issue to the floor of the Legislature. I think Senator Chambers is right in identifying this as the only bill that seems to have been introduced to deal with what at least is claimed to be a crisis in American agriculture. At least, there seems to be in the State of Nebraska a number of people involved in agriculture that were concerned enough about the issue to go back to Washington, and to raise issues and demand action, and they found the government in Washington they felt was unresponsive. Well, I think if there is an unresponsive body with regards to problems of agriculture, it's the Nebraska Legislature, and that if we are unwilling even to discuss this issue before the full Legislature, and if the only senator from outside the urban areas that seems interested in trying to address this sort of question of farm ownership, is Senator Burrows, I think the farmers in the state are finding that the problems are not being addressed here, and that perhaps the tractors don't have to go beyond the Missouri River, they could just hang around in Lincoln to try and maybe get a little action out of this body. I think Senator Burrows should be commended for his efforts over the past years to address this question and to try and get this Legislature to deal with these sorts of issues. We have a lot of bills, I know, to consider, but I think that the farmer, at least, deserves equal time with the small loan companies. I think that the farmer deserves equal time with those who want branch banking, and I think that this is an issue that should come before the full Legislature so we can discuss it and look at it. And I think that Senator Burrows should be supported in this effort so that we have a chance to address the major issues of American agriculture for at least a half hour, or maybe an hour. I would think this body might be willing to give that much time to the issue.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Rumery.

SENATOR RUMERY: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, just for the record I would like to suggest to Senator Chambers how badly these farmers of Kahle, Maresh, Schmit, Lamb, and others have gouged you at the food market. I'll give you one