

May 10, 1979

LB 357

the city of Lincoln if you put the issue to a vote the school of veterinary medicine would come out on an equal par with the theater arts building. Now, I'm willing to pay a part of that cost for the new theater arts building. We don't have that much culture in Bellwood, Nebraska. But, I'm not against it, I just haven't been exposed to much of it. I think that that probably shows. But, nonetheless I think that I can point out to you and I think that most of you will agree that a school of veterinary medicine will bring benefits back to the state far in excess of the original cost. Now, I'm not going to accept the argument that you can find in other slots, because it is not there. We have tried all of those arguments. Senator DeCamp, who is on the fence on this issue has tried it also. He probably spent as much money on postage as it would cost to send a couple of kids through veterinary school. I don't know if he spent any on telephone calls or not. But, I know that there has been a lot of money spent trying to locate slots in schools in other states. We haven't found them. This is our opportunity. If you pass it up it will be gone. It may not come to pass under any circumstances. But in any event bear in mind that if you vote no at this time you are rejecting the opportunity for Nebraska for a long while in the future, perhaps forever, to have a school of veterinary medicine. I ask for your support of the bill.

SPEAKER MARVEL: There is an amendment on the desk, Mr. Clerk. Do you want to read the amendment?

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Beutler moves to amend the bill on page 3, line 9 (read amendment).

SPEAKER MARVEL: Chair recognizes Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Mr. President, members of the legislature. I have had a lot of problem with the cost figures on this veterinary school. But I think I finally figured out how this could be arranged in a way that it is acceptable to me. The effect of the amendment is this. It has been advertised and asserted very strongly that the total cost of this vet school as far as Nebraska's share is concerned is going to be 6.2 million dollars. There has also been a very strong campaign in recent weeks, maybe for real, maybe for show, to raise private funds to cover a portion of Nebraska's share of the cost of construction. It has been said that they can raise at least three million dollars and considerably more. It seems to me that if the total cost of Nebraska's share is 6.2 million and if they can raise 3 million from private funds then we should