

May 22, 1979

LB 357

today needs animal science in terms of disease, then I submit we should put our money where it is needed most. Go out and capture and pay the highest priced researchers we can find to animals and their disease problems and put them out here at the campus so that they can help us but for us to put another campus out here I think is sheer folly. Not only that, in Washington the other day I found out it is unlikely that the federal government is going to provide any dollars for a veterinarian college based upon studies of HEW and others. I watch some of the individuals here who say that we are so poor, but then I watch them turn around and say but we need LB 357. I watch the faculty at UNL being shelled down every year to the point where they do not get even the cost of living but we are willing to bring in seventy or eighty other faculty members who are going to be high priced and that is going to be a high priced commodity, because if you are going to get an accredited vet college, then you are going to have to find the people who are going to make it accredited. So we spend a million dollars a year for seats for our vet students. I would sooner spend a million dollars a year for those seats on an annual basis than I would to put a monument out here that we cannot justify. In 1955 this body talked about a vet college. They seriously considered it but in 1955 they could not really justify the need. So here we are 25 years later, we are talking about a vet college simply because the former Governor committed us to the Old State Regional, the Old West Regional. He is now in Washington bathing in the Potomac and we are here grappling with a situation that is somewhat, I think, perplexing to all of us. I offer this in good faith, but if you do not want to accept this, then you are going to have to live here in the future and you are going to have to vote the money because I don't believe the Old West Regional can afford the vet college, not only in dollars and cents but not only in students. They don't have them. How many students are you going to get out of South Dakota, four? How many are you going to get out of North Dakota, five and two jack rabbits? How many are you going to get out of Montana? You take the human resource of those five states plus their financial capabilities and you come up almost with zero. You cannot justify it on dollars nor can you justify it in terms of needs for students nor in terms of veterinary medicine. If you are looking for the answers to the problems of sickness with animals, then hire top researchers and you don't need DVMS to do that. Anyone who can work in a laboratory and knows how to work with cells and knows how to look what they are looking for can find those answers. We do not need a veterinarian college in this state. I don't care if