

May 22, 1979

LB 357

and I think this is the case that illustrates that point. I am sure there is a way we can get the desired results without expending so much money and I think we at least should examine that possibility, the possibilities of a regional concept with an existing school of veterinary medicine that might surround us in a state surrounding us, and also using some of our facilities in this state for the final year in preparational course. In that respect we would be guaranteeing our students or a certain number of Nebraska students of a spot in vet college. We'd also be helping out our livestock industry by having the clinical experience being done in this state.

SPEAKER MARVEL: You have one minute.

SENATOR VICKERS: I am sure that this is not going to happen overnight but it is definitely something that should be examined and examined very closely, and from my research on this bill, I don't think it has been examined as closely as it should have been. I would urge the body's support of Senator Koch's motion to indefinitely postpone LB 357.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Johnson.

SENATOR JOHNSON: Mr. Speaker, members of the body, like Senator Vickers, I, too, see LB 357 as taking us down a road that has one logical conclusion and that conclusion simply is that we do build a building and we then have to hire staff and we have a continuing appropriation year in and year out. Now being a freshman legislator, I have watched and learned and undoubtedly will continue to grow and learn but one of the things that I have watched with great interest is our entire appropriational process and the thing that I have noted is that we have a penchant for brick and mortar. We have a penchant for buildings because buildings seem permanent and buildings have a very finite fixed cost to them, and in fact, this year I have noted that many of our priorities have been in the brick and mortar area and we have not gone back and we have not dealt with the ongoing problems. Senator Koch alluded to faculty salaries at the universities. We can also talk about such things as state salaries. Frankly we are doing a disservice to many of our employees at locking them in at a seven percent pay raise when, in fact, inflation is far greater than that. We have done nothing about the poor people in this state. We have done nothing about assistance payments which have not gone up for a number of years. There are a number of other areas that we have just set aside. Our priorities have been brick and mortar. Now I think that we need to take