

land in a Class II or a Class III and the roof caves in on your school and you've got to have a new roof, you go to a bond issue. You vote on that bond issue and then all of the land and all of the taxing authority in that district are subject to pay for that roof. Or, if the school grows and the town prospers and the area prospers and there are more children and you have to expand, same thing. You get a bond issue, you underwrite the expansion. It goes against every piece of property because it goes against the tax obligation in that district. Is that true for everybody in this state? No. No, it's true for about two-thirds of all the farmers and all of the urban landholders. They all face up to that obligation to support the school, to keep it there, to keep it open, to keep it maintained, to keep the roof in place and to follow expansion and build new buildings. But the other third of the state doesn't. They shop around. They have a price tag called the tuition that they have to pay in various places. That price tag is low in some places, it is high in others. It is high to the point of penalty in some places because of the resentment of those who are having their schools used by others and their desire to recoup money towards that end. It is because of the basic inequity between the two obligations that all of the other inequities follow. This Legislature in a long history has tried to deal with the issue of free high tuition, just some of the bills and some of the testimony that we've taken on the question of what is fair free high tuition and we can't set it. We can't set it because it is based on inequity. Its as if your two children come to you and one of them has broken the toy of the other and you as the parent say, I'll tell you what, to the one who is crying because their toy is broken, you go back and break one of their toys of equal value, find out what it is and do it and that's the way we'll solve the problem. That's what we have. We have Class I's and all the rest of the classes and because they have an inequity, we've created the power and the tuition then to make some kind of recoupment, but there can be no recoupment because of the basic inequity. Once it's there you can't assuage it. It doesn't go away. It's there because one classification of people have one set of obligations to support education and another group has a different set. Can rural Nebraska pay for it? Two-thirds of this state is now meeting the obligation, and we're talking farmers and ranchers, two-thirds meet the requirement of supporting education K-12. As a matter of fact the counties that are completely K-12 include Kimball,