

equalization of the support for schools. It has been my feeling for many years that if we could get the support for those schools shifted from the property to a more equitable sort of support being principally sales and income tax we would remove most of the opposition that we face today from some of the consolidation groups...or anticonsolidation groups. I know there are people here who have strong feelings about this. Every year we get on this floor, we talk about increased aid to education. There are a number of bills that are resting in various stages of repose today, in the Revenue Committee, some on the floor, many of them designed to give some kind of state aid to education. As Senator Vickers said, I don't know if this body will vote, if we have the courage to vote to provide that kind of support for schools. But I can tell you very frankly you don't have to be any wizard or any high intellect individual to understand that rural real estate will not continue to support the kind of school systems which we want. It is not going to happen. We can pass a reorganization bill. We can force consolidation, but you can't force...you can't get blood out of a turnip. If the money is not there you are not going to be able to support those schools. It would be kind of ironic that if we are successful and if we do pass LB 662, and the situation continues to deteriorate in agriculture, and I would like to point out to you there was a story in the World Herald last week which pointed out that the prices that farmers receive today for all of their commodities, cattle, hogs, corn, wheat, soybeans, all of those are at a lesser level than they were back in 1960 when they adjusted for inflation. Incidentally, some of them are also at a lesser level than they were in 1960 without that adjustment for inflation. So what I am telling you is this, I am telling you in advance you'd better take a good look at how you are going to support those schools and support them in a manner in which they can be supported, or it isn't going to do any good to pass a reorganization bill. I know you have a tendency to say well Schmit doesn't know what he's talking about. Let me tell you this I think I don't like revenue bills. I don't like to work in those areas. I've told Senator Carsten and other members of the Revenue Committee I think it is the toughest area to work in. But I know that Senator Carsten has stood on this floor a number of times over the last 15 years and tried to explain revenue bills to you, and you didn't listen, and then in a year or so you come screaming out of the hills and say what happened to us. Well, you better listen now because if you don't