

preclude the receipt of matching federal dollars and the response that we got from several of our congressional offices in Washington was technically no. The federal appropriation is a permanent appropriation with no specifics as far as when it will end. However, they have pointed out to us that if we don't use the money, quite frankly someone else may come in and try and take the money and use it for another project. And so we are at a dilemma in which if we do not take part and use the financial commitment that is there by the federal government, certainly maybe someone else, some other state that has a project in the works may see that money available and may go after it. Now quite frankly the budget, it's my understanding that Virginia Smith informed us that in the next two to three weeks Congress will be working on the 1985-86 appropriations and certainly this will be one of those dollars and cents amounts that, while it's not a big item when you compare the federal budget, it certainly is a big item to us at the state level and especially for this particular project. So all I can say to you is I recognize that there are individuals in this body who have philosophical differences with the concept of building a vet school in Nebraska. The question that I always ask myself, is there a need and is there financial support in this body to commit ourselves to assisting the University in building a vet college for the State of Nebraska in a cooperative venture as being proposed to us today?

SPEAKER NICHOL: Excuse me, Senator Johnson.

SENATOR R. JOHNSON: Yes.

SPEAKER NICHOL: (Gavel.) Could we have it quiet, please? We can't hear the speaker. Thank you, Senator Johnson.

SENATOR R. JOHNSON: Speaker Nichol, I'm not sure that what I had to say will convince anybody or attract anybody's attention, but I would like to get this on record that cash income in Nebraska from the livestock industry amounted to almost \$4.2 billion from the livestock industry itself in our state and I think that is a significant amount of support of our income in this state and I think the vet college is a concept that we can support. As an individual in agriculture and also in the livestock industry I see a great need for committing ourselves along these lines. I certainly hope that you feel it is important because I think