

May 2, 1985

LB 204A

dollars, we have to recognize that when we put those dollars there we're going to have to raise the taxes that year in order to provide those dollars. At the federal level it's different. At the federal level it's so easy to say to those people who you perceive are going to be out there helping you in your next re-election, yeah, I'll give you those dollars for those wonderful purposes, but we don't have to raise the taxes to do it. Well we've done that for 50 years at the federal level and I have heard people say well if we don't take those dollars that are available to us from feds, somebody else will so we may as well get our share. I can't say that anymore. I can't say that anymore. I have said that the federal government needs to balance their budget because that's one of the biggest problems with agriculture today and we are debating, supposedly, helping agriculture. We're going to build this wonderful vet school to help the animal industry in this state. Well I'll tell you what. I probably as much as anybody else in here know about the animal industry and if there's one thing that is killing the animal industry it's the damn interest rates that I'm having to pay. It's not the prices. It's the interest rates that's killing me and the interest rates are because we're spending too much money at the federal level. So in the pretext of helping that rancher out there because we're going to provide a veterinarian to him who he's already got by the way, we're going to help him save more livestock, which is poppycock by the way, we're going to do something for the livestock industry because it's the number one industry in agriculture in this state and somehow or other it managed to get to be number one in this state and number two in the nation without a vet school. I don't know how it managed to do that because now all of a sudden we've got to have a vet school in order to have that industry. Well that's poppycock as well. The fact of the matter is the livestock industry is doing just like all other business, that is they are becoming controlled by fewer and fewer folks. I've got a lot more cows today than I did and my father did 30 years ago or I did 15 years ago. I don't own them all, the banker owns them too, but we've got them and we still only use one veterinarian and we don't use him as much because we've learned to do an awful lot of it by ourselves. So it's poppycock to buy the argument that we've got to have more veterinarians because we've got more livestock. That is totally erroneous. It is totally opposite to what actually happens, first of all. I would suggest to all of you, you get the A bill out and read it.

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