

May 2, 1985

LB 204A

agricultural community of our state by giving up the name vet school so what we will have is we will have a cooperative program with maybe Mississippi State and maybe Kansas State, who knows exactly where we're going to cooperate. But we'll have a cooperative program and instead we'll build a clinic, it will be called the vet clinic and we may provide one year formal education for our Nebraska students and other students at this clinic and then ship them off to a vet school elsewhere or maybe two years worth of formal education. We're not sure exactly what it is going to be, but we're going to give the Board of Regents a bunch of options or they can exercise the options and in the meantime we will appropriate \$200,000 in 1985 and '86 to begin the construction of the cooperative, to begin the construction of the physical facility that will house the cooperative venture. And of course in subsequent years we are going to appropriate even more dollars, that is \$1 million in '87-88, that is \$2,709,000 in '88-89, that is \$2,361,000 in '89-90 and finally \$2,419,000 in '90-91, but we can get you in on the ground floor today on the cheap, \$200,000. If you buy the on the cheap says the A bill, then of course it will only cost you an additional \$8 million or so over the next five years. Now I'm going to support the kill motion on 204A. I think that the issue needs to be put to an end. It's kind of like the Norden Dam, is it not? It's kind of like the Norden Dam. The Norden Dam had a life of its own in the U.S. Congress even though two of the three Nebraska Congress people decided that the Norden Dam ought not to be supported, it continued to stick around, even though hundreds and thousands of Nebraskans petitioned Congress not to fund the Norden Dam, it continued to stick around. It's like a bug. You know people kept stomping that bug out, stomp, stomp, stomp, stomp, stomp, that bug would get away. It would just scoot away because it had a life of its own. Well that's the story on the vet school. Since 1980 at least, if not earlier, we have been discussing this bug and you know we can't get the states to join with us on our financing venture. So rather than simply squash the bug out, rather than simply acknowledge that the rationale behind the vet school was weaker than we had hoped it would be, we let the little thing live and wriggle around and we commit ourselves to an \$8 million expenditure, if not more, over the next four to five years for a cooperative veterinary clinic program. These are hard times. These are hard times. I picked up the Lincoln Star this morning and discovered that we have a revenue shortfall of \$20 million.