

Legislature? Are these kids who are on these lunch programs eating more than the teachers? Eating more than the social workers can buy with their money? That is why we have got to cut \$8,000 off the program? To show how piddling and trifling it is, I wonder how many individual programs there are in the State of Nebraska and I'm going to see if Senator Hannibal can help me and if he doesn't have the answer that is all right because I have no idea. How many individual programs, is there a rough number that I could be given that are in the state? School lunch programs? Okay, he doesn't know and I don't either. I wonder if there are a thousand. I wonder if there are a thousand school lunch programs in the state? Senator Hefner says no. Are there 500? Oh, you don't know. Okay. Nobody knows so I'm going to say a thousand. So you cut \$8.00 off of each program and can go back and tell your constituents, by God we sure are whittling that budget away. We know that there are a lot of cheaters in the school lunch program, there are children who come there and say they are hungry and they really aren't and we don't want them cheating. But the school lunch program helps the Agriculture Department. But farmers have that problem of dealing logically because they spend a nickel to make three cents. Senator Goll showed me that there are more programs than I thought, 1,105. So you have to divide that and they don't even cut eight dollars off each program. So let me ask you a question. For those of us, I'll speak only for myself, maybe I'm the only one who feels this way, who feels that in this madcap budget cutting which is occurring, with the meat ax to use the example that some people have used here, why can't we eliminate this program from a cut? Do you think that if you don't cut \$8,000 from the lunch program, you are going to force a tax increase? I don't think so. On the other hand, if you cut \$8,000, are you going to hurt the school lunch program, as far as its operation? I doubt it seriously. So what is to be achieved by cutting the school lunch program showing that nothing is sacred unless it comes from the banking lobby, or some of those others that fund that lobby room over there? What I intend to do though is step by painful step go through this that we have been given and try to bring it closer to what I think it ought to be. Maybe I won't change a single item in it, but we are going to spend the time on it that we ought to because it is very serious. I wish the Governor who portrayed himself as a compassionate, caring person, and all of these democrats running around here supporting him would try to talk some sense into him. He is