

was able to call and talk to them about it. I asked all of them, by the way there were 38 calls, if they had ever read the bill. Only three said they had. Only three had read those eight hundred and some words in the Constitution. When I talked to some about what I read about alfalfa, growing poultry, or whatever, raising poultry, or whatever, it was interesting how little most of them really knew about it. I think we all probably realize that the reason 300 exists is because there were about 12 years of frustration pent up in farmers and farm groups as it involved the family farm and their concerns about corporations taking over and the unfair competition that goes along with it. I am also convinced that their biggest helper in having it passed was in fact a large corporation, Prudential, who cranked in \$200,000 and caused me and some others to vote for it without knowing what it was all about caused us some concern. What concerns me about this whole thing though is that corporations are generally bad rapped and I don't think corporations really deserve that. You know, what would Ogallala be without TRW, or Sidney be with Cabela, or Omaha without Western Electric and Northwestern Bell and Mutual of Omaha and all the rest? An awful lot of jobs are provided by corporations. They are not evil. They are an important and vital part of our industry and commerce. I think we have to recognize that. We also have to recognize that there are working poor in the rural areas of this state as well as in the urban areas. I am concerned for them as well the way 300 is now written. I think we also understand that land is our most important resource. The water under it only nourishes the land, makes things grow, and the people who have always been the best stewards of that natural resource has been the family farmers and the pride that they have in protecting that resource so that they can pass it on from generation to generation. We also know that the most important and obvious violators of that land have been corporations and others who have purchased it, put in center pivots, washed away the couple inches of ground that exist on top of the sand, and left it there to die. We all are aware of that. But the way this is written now we don't describe the meaningful role that corporations can play in the ag related rural economy and what they should be playing, and we simply exclude in most cases the possibility of their ever existing in a meaningful way in the rural economy and ag economy in this state. So I bring this back to you to consider this because I think we have to think about the fine balance between the role of corporations and