

ever been in my 56 years. You know why? Because farmers who have had land and the farm for a hundred years are losing it. Business men who have worked their entire life and supported a business and supported a family now cannot find anyone at retirement age to whom they can sell their business. It has no value. They have lost the value of a lifetime of work. We talk about many other problems in state government. I would like to suggest and I do not know if the survey that was conducted brought into consideration the other benefits of state employees. Compare the days off that state employees have with those in private industry. I think you will find that we treat the employees well. The general attitude of state employees is a good one and I am proud of that, but I think that also there is a certain amount of security working for the state that you don't have with any other kind of a job and that goes with every other sort of entity. I would suggest also, take a look at the number of state employees we have. Take a look at the number of state employees in relation to our population. You will find it is very generous. We are one of the most liberal in that capacity. I would suggest, do it any way you like, perhaps you ought to take another look at a reduction, a reduction of state employees. I know that in some instances, and I have discussed this with some of the University people, they now have one person doing the job formerly done by two and they are going to try to do some more of that. And I commend them for it. I think that it is a good idea. All of us, as individuals, I think are working harder now than we ever worked before in our life and probably earning less and I think that that is one of the things that state employees expect. Many of them have told me, many of them have told me, we just hope we don't lose our job. Ladies and gentlemen, the alternative to a responsible pay plan is one of these days going to be that there will be a reduction in jobs and there will be people who will lose their jobs. I know that it is not easy to do that but I know that as we look into our own entity, the Legislative Council, we may well have to review that policy and I am willing to do it. I think that notwithstanding the fact that in some instances state government today has an increased load because of the problems in agriculture, I know the Social Services, I know the Attorney General's office, I know our own offices are beseeched with requests from people who we never heard from before and so to a certain extent there is an increase in the load on state government, but they have the same increase at the county