

is stop looking at the means by which a person earns a living, and consider the broad issue of the necessity of earning a living by whatever honest means are available. Churches, philosophers, psychologists, all kinds of people who deal with the mind and the ability and the efforts to try to produce a just and fair society have talked about a natural right that every person has to the means to earn a living. There are a lot of people in this state who have tried to earn a living through the land. There is a crisis in this area. A lot of people who might know how to put a seed in the ground and make an ear of corn grow don't know how to manage money, don't know how to study and understand financial trends, so they might be the best farmers in the world but the worst managers. Then we have a lot of people in legislatures around the country and in the national legislature talking about the plight of the farmer and how something needs to be done but it is so big that nobody can do anything. The state cannot deal with it because it is a national problem. The Congress cannot deal with it because it is an international problem. So that puts everybody in a position to say, nothing will be done. What the Legislature in the State of Nebraska ought to do is that which is available for it to do. Now if, in fact, those people in the rural areas are experiencing the difficulties and the various traumas that we have been told, that people on this floor from time to time have said is the case, then the least we can do is to offer some means by which people can at least understand where they are, what they have to work with, and what they ought to be considering for their future, whether there is even a future for them on the land in agriculture. \$50,000 is not that great an amount of money. Again, you are not looking at the amount of harm done to the people who would benefit from this program compared to the tiny amount of the budget involved. If you cut the \$50,000, you still are going to have to raise the income tax and you will have slapped the people in agriculture again by showing, not only do you not care, but you are less than caring. You actually have a negative attitude toward them. If the Legislature could just be neutral, the people in agriculture would be better off. We can talk about this being an agricultural state all we want to, but when you look at the program that the Legislature will go for, agriculture is the furthest thing from people's mind. When something is done by the Legislature that we say or try to characterize as being agriculture oriented, the agriculture is just incidental to some bigger