

SENATOR VICKERS: But it seems to me that we're at a point where we're really picking the direction that we're going to go as a state and to do it lightly and to do it with the knowledge that the Governor's Office is going to pull the strings is very frustrating to all of us and I think we all feel that. Thank you, Mr. President.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Lamb. Let's see, Senator Schmit.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President, members, I think Senator Vickers reinforced some of my earlier statements. I want to repeat again that if these are hard times, then the only way that the message is going to be conveyed is if everyone suffers a bit. Coming in this morning, five-thirty news, I heard Mr. Johnson, I believe a University professor, say that a dollar worth of farm assets in 1980 is worth 42 cents this morning. Now, there is Senator Sieck, Senator Carsten, I can see a few more around here and Senator Vickers, who know precisely what that means. That's a 58 percent reduction in your assets. You're lucky if that is all it is. I want it understood, that if we are going to get into the game of protectionism, then there is going to have to be 25 people agree upon it. That means you have to protect enough areas so that 25 people in this area have a constituency which they are protecting and I want to warn the other 24 of you that if you think you've got hard times now, you just wait, because the budget, the revenue has not increased any and that means if you shave a million, six off of the cut that the University takes, there is going to be a million, six coming from somewhere else. It may be tech schools. It can't be natural resources. You've taken all of that. It's gone, but it means someone else has to give it up. We haven't found any manna from heaven and I want to say again that we get back to the same old situation. The more you feed a gorilla, the more he wants and that is not implying that the University is a gorilla. I'm just telling you very plainly and very bluntly that there are resources out there that can be mustered. I'd like to see the University come out with some assistance to bring us out of the economic slump in which we are in. We've talked about this. I have visited with them directly. I get all kinds of rhetoric. I get absolutely no assistance. I want to tell you very frankly that the same people now who are saying we are going to see two or three more years of hard times in Nebraska were the ones who five years ago said