

SENATOR MILLS: No, they are not all locally owned.

SENATOR MERZ: There are a few foreigners there, aren't there?

SENATOR MILLS: From foreign countries?

SENATOR MERZ: Thank you, that is all I need to know.

SENATOR MILLS: If there is not from foreign countries, I have never met them.

SENATOR MERZ: Well, naturally you wouldn't meet the foreign people. Why are the farmers in trouble? Right now they are paying 50¢ a gallon for oil or for diesel fuel. Why are they paying 50¢ for diesel fuel? Because we never planned ahead. We let foreign oil get to us. Now, this I want you to understand. Every man, woman and child in the United States today is paying \$9.00 a month for foreign oil and what is this \$9.00 going to be done with? Are those Arabs going to invest it in Arab land? Do they want that desert? Have you read the Kansas newspaper here just about three weeks ago? They didn't want a couple farms in Kansas, they said they would buy the whole state. How much more warning do we need? How many more of these things should go on? Is this the way we want to end up? There is about twenty five farmers sitting up here in the left balcony and I am sure they are not here to give their farms away. They are here to protect their farm. They want to stay on the farm and if we don't give them any protection how are they going to stay on the farm? I think it is time that we looked to the future. As we know, our oil supply is going to diminish in the next ten years and if we don't have oil to farm it and somebody else does, who is going to do it? Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Senator Bereuter.

SENATOR BEREUTER: Mr. President, and members of the Legislature, intrusion of large scale corporate farming in American agriculture and now foreign interest in American agriculture has been a matter of concern to me for some time. It has been a matter of concern to my constituents. I have been hearing about it in my area since at least 1972 or 1973 because they have followed what has happened in other states around us as they have taken their attempts to try to do something about the intrusion of large scale corporations. There are some parts about this bill that I don't like. I think that the language in Section one is unnecessarily inflammatory. There are some questions that need to be resolved, for instance, related to the term within the third degree of kindred and I hope that will come forth today. I don't intend to telegraph at this point my intentions on the bill but I do need to address a few important aspects about the concept and about the bill. I think it is time for a little straight talk on this issue. I think it is time to think what has happened in this state. Back in 1975 Senator Burbach's bill was changed into a reporting law and reports were sent out across the state with his name on those reports and of course that was a matter of concern to him as it would be to any one of us because the legislation was not Senator Burbach's legislation and he took a lot of abuse concerning that. Now that corporate farm reporting bill which came out of Agriculture and Environment Committee in 1975 is unduly cumbersome on people. It is being widely ignored. In general it is ineffective. The first year the excuse, when it was clear that it was not yet, it was not yet clear that it was ineffective, the excuse was we don't have enough information to deal with it appropriately. So the