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We produce a variety of other crops but most or a majority of those crops, at least, find their way to market through livestock. In addition, of the fifty-five million acres that comprise the State of Nebraska, a substantial number of those acres lend themselves only to the utilization of their production through livestock. Now I know that it is easy to stand here and argue against an expenditure such as we are talking about this morning which will, in effect, run into millions of dollars over the years and which at some point in time this Legislature will have to fund but I want to say that there are other aspects to the construction of the School of Veterinary Medicine other than just purely the treating of animal diseases by veterinarians. First of all, as I said the livestock industry is becoming more sophisticated. The livestock is becoming a very major operation. Farmers who are engaged in livestock production because of high cost find it necessary to practice preventive medicine in order to reduce the incidence of diseases and frequently the diagnostic services that would be available through a school of veterinary medicine could be more important to livestock producers than the actual treatment of an ill or diseased animal. We have had over the years some very excellent people in research veterinary medicine in Nebraska. I want to say this that we have lost some of the very top people in veterinary medicine in Nebraska. A young veterinarian who formerly practiced at David City, Dr. Clair Hibbs, who was in charge of the station at North Platte for a number of years, performed a very valuable service to the ranchers in that area and to the entire state has left the State of Nebraska, believe it or not, for Albuquerque, New Mexico where the livestock industry is not nearly as important as it is here in this state. A school of veterinary medicine will attract the best people in the profession. It will attract the most qualified veterinarians. It will provide backup services to the veterinarians in the field. It will provide ongoing education for those veterinarians who are in practice, but most of all, it will serve as a fountainhead of knowledge for the livestock industry in the years to come.

SENATOR NICHOL PRESIDING

SENATOR NICHOL: Two minutes left.

SENATOR SCHMIT: I know that it is easy to say we have a great many needs and we do have but the livestock industry, if we can through the establishment of a school of veterinary medicine improve that industry by only one percent, the cost of the school of veterinary medicine will be repaid