

discussion on a proposal of the vet college. I think it is inappropriate for us today to argue the merits of a vet college. It is only appropriate we should argue who should hear the bill. A moment ago we got to talking about the number of animals in Nebraska whether they be cows or hogs. Now I will give you the figures that we have, the most recent ones of 1979 that was in the Governor's budget so that none of us are mistaken. First of all, in case you didn't know it, Nebraska is ranked first in great northern bean production. That is a historical fact. We are first in alfalfa meal production. We are first in popcorn production, and if you want to know how many cattle we had as of January of 1979 or '80, the number is 6,400,000 according to the Governor's printout, and I usually believe the Governor. The number of hogs and pigs as of December 1, 1979 was 4,150,000. Now that ought to take care of the guestimates. Now to get down to the issue. I am not going to support the Appropriations move right now at all. I am here merely talking about integrity of committees and I am not here to second guess the Reference Committee. I said in my opening remarks that I did not intend to get involved in a gutter fight over individual personalities and their philosophies. If you look at the makeup of the Education Committee, it has a balance as I look at its membership and I can assure you that veterinarian medicine is primarily education and the mission of that college will be education, even though it is somewhat confined to a particular industry which is mainly agricultural in its nature. I agree with Senator Beutler, we are setting a precedent here today and we live by precedence many times, but presently we contract for seats in Optometry with other states who offer that course. There could be a bill some day that would establish a college of optometry and ophthalmology. The question before the body is, where would you assign it? I think you would assign it to Education. Now you could assign it to Health because that deals with the health and the vision which is most important to all of us in regards to our future.

SPEAKER MARVEL: You have one minute.

SENATOR KOCH: So I am here, Senator Marvel and others, to try to be low key, to not show a great deal of emotion. I can assure you that whatever happens this morning I will live with it and I will hold no malice toward those who make that decision. I am talking about principle and that is all I am talking about. I am talking about the integrity of the men and women who serve in this body, and I am not one who is going to be the critic and say that there are some who lack it and some who have a great