

been present the day of the public hearing before the Miscellaneous Subjects Committee. Several school classes, representatives from several school classes were there to watch the proceedings. Three of the students presented testimony to the committee. Their research had been involved since last fall. Nebraska is one of, I believe, seven states which has not yet designated a state mammal. As you are aware, a state mammal would lead to all kinds of interesting things for tourists. If you are interested in seeing the white-tailed deer, this is an example of an article which could be sold in our state representing our state's mammal which would be of value to tourists, something interesting to take home, something the children would love. As you know, the white-tailed deer is not only the most graceful and the sleekest of the deer family but it is a native to Nebraska. It is found in all ninety-three counties of Nebraska. It has traditionally provided food, sewing instruments, tools for the Indians. It continues to provide food and other leather goods for citizens of our state. I urge you to join with me in supporting the advancement of LB 27.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Rumery.

SENATOR RUMERY: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I would like to ask Senator Marsh a question or two if I might. Senator Marsh, as I understand it the Legislature many years ago designated the State of Nebraska as the Beef State. Would this bill conflict in any way with that previous law?

SENATOR MARSH: Thank you for asking, Senator Rumery. No, it would not take away from what the action has already been for we continue to be the Beef State but this would designate a special category of state mammals. We have a state bird, state tree, state grasses, state rock, state gemstone and this would add to that very fine collection.

SENATOR RUMERY: Also a state insect.

SENATOR MARSH: Yes, sir. Thank you. State soil.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Wesely, we are speaking to the bill as a whole.

SENATOR WESELY: Yes, Mr. Speaker, members of the body, I would rise in support of the bill. Originally I must confess, I had thoughts of offering an amendment to change the designation of the state mammal from the white-tailed deer to the cow. My feeling was that there is no mammal in the State of Nebraska that has done more for economy