

about the hunting season on deer and the children understood this real well, that these animals need to be hunted so that they would not overpopulate and like I said before, I was real surprised that these sixth grade students knew so much about the white-tailed deer. We have a state flower. We have a state bird. We have a state rock and so I think adding one more to this collection would be real good. I think that the white-tailed deer is a beautiful animal and I know it was brought out at the committee hearing that maybe we should designate some other animal as a state mammal but in the end the Miscellaneous Subjects Committee felt the white-tailed deer was the best possible choice we could make and it was advanced to General File by unanimous vote. Thank you.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Vickers.

SENATOR VICKERS: Mr. President, members, I feel compelled to say a few words on this bill. I have no intention of attempting to damage Senator Marsh's attempt to bring to the attention of the people of the State of Nebraska a very beautiful and, I consider, a pretty animal but as Senator Kahle pointed out, I think also as a matter of the record that needs to be pointed out that there would be some danger if in the future somebody should decide that this particular mammal should be removed from the game list. I, for one, have quite a herd of deer that live on our place and they can be destructive. They can be very destructive, not only to grain fields such as milo or corn. They are living on my wheat this winter. I wouldn't pasture that wheat as dry as it is with cattle but the deer are living on it anyhow. We also had an outbreak of leptospirosis a few years ago in our cattle and the veterinarians seemed to think it probably was brought into the area by deer so there is some damage, a considerable amount of damage that can be done by these beautiful animals. I would hasten to add that I am not a hunter. All I do is raise them and, therefore, I have nothing against honoring these animals simply because of the fact they are a beautiful animal but again for the record I would be adamantly opposed to protecting these beautiful animals to the extent that they could seriously damage the livestock industry of this state. I would like to ask Senator Marsh one question if I may, if she would yield.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Marsh, do you yield?

SENATOR MARSH: I do yield.

SENATOR VICKERS: Senator Marsh, as I have indicated we do have a considerable amount of deer out there in greater