

talk about the small business man in small communities, well let's talk about huge co-ops which are conglomerates. Sure, I know that certain farmers buy into those, that it's pretty hard for the man on the street to compete with them, and Senator Maresh in one of his opening remarks was talking about these corporations that come in there and they are going to buy everything wholesale, and they are just going to ship it in there and they are going to do their work. If we want to get down to trying to get back to total free enterprise, then let's look at some of these things. If I remember correctly, we used to think that was sort of socialistic in terms of those conglomerates. But I am serious about it, Senator Schmit, that I think this bill needs to be studied. I don't think that we should act so hastily on it because we had considerable discussion on this bill two years ago and I think you were on my side at that time. I can go back and check the vote, but I think the Senator from Walthill that is called the rural center was one of the chief supporters of the family farm bill and we had all kinds of concerns, and I think our argument at that time, Senator Schmit, if you go back and look at it, we were on the prevailing side to defeat the bill and we were saying that free enterprise should control the issue, and that is what I am saying. I don't think pension funds that go out here and buy expensive farmland can afford to sit there 12 or 15 years hoping that they are going to make a profit. I just don't believe that they are that careless in the management of those funds. How about big insurance companies that have a lot of life insurance? Are we going to put them in next, they can't buy land if they decide that that is a good, proper and great investment? Let's take on the Rock, Prudential. Let's take on a lot of those kinds of huge conglomerates and say, no way can you ever buy real estate in the State of Nebraska unless there are 25 or less beneficiaries. What I am saying is LB 9 is a very serious piece of legislation and right now Senator Dworak might have said it best, when it is like a spirit across the desert, it looks like it has got a pretty free ride. But I think before it ever gets to Final Reading some people are going to wake up in this state and find out what it is all about.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The Chair recognizes Senator Maresh to close.

SENATOR MARESH: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to call attention to who supports this concept to not allow the pension funds to be used to purchase farmland. This article states that it is like Who's Who in agriculture,