March 16, 1981

LB 245

SENATOR SCHMIT: I just want to comment briefly on the comments by Senator Dworak, Senator Vickers. Senator Dworak wants assurances as to what is going to happen next year and the year after and the year thereafter. I guess that I am a little ill at ease when I listen to Senator Dworak's arguments. He can become extremely conservative in those areas that have to do with livestock and agriculture. I would just like to suggest that this proposal is more definitely laid out than the bulk of the proposals that come from the Appropriations Committee. Most of those proposals provide planning money and then notwithstanding the fact that one body can not bind the susceeding body, we know that we are committed to the expenditure of those funds. If we start down the road to build the six million dollar athletic center at Chadron, we know that we are going to finish it. We begin to build the thirteen million dollar Historical Society Building, we know that we are going to finish it. We know the processes thereby which we shall finish it. We have done the best possible job that we can do to put together a cooperative effort to construct a college of veterinary medicine. If the proposal as outlined by those of us who have signed the bill carry through, Nebraska will have a veterinary college costing approximately thirty million dollars for a total capital construction outlay of approximately five million dollars. Now if this were the Play Pen at Kearney or the Historical Society Building or the Marina in Omaha and I don't mean to pick on my Omaha friends, we would be severely chastised if we would oppose a project which can provide such extensive benefits to the State of Nebraska and such minimal outlay for capital construction. Senator Vickers says everyone can't afford a steak in their skillet and I'll tell you very frnakly Seantor Vickers, if they can't it is not because Senator Kremer and myself are getting for the live cattle. The price of live cattle is down \$12 a hundred from what they were a year ago. The retail spread has increased 25%. It is because the retail price has not followed the wholesale price down. That is why. If we can't afford one of Senator Goll's Mark IV's it is not necessarily because Senator Goll has the Mark IV over priced. it is probably the gasoline to push the thing around might be a little out of reach. We can talk about those things forever and ever. I just want to say that the Beutler amendment is not an amendment which will do anything which we have not already done. But we must make a commitment. There are those of us who are willing to make that commitment and stand by There are some of you who for obvious reasons and for it. good reasons, I am sure, choose to vote against it. That is your responsibility to do so. You should do so. But let us not confuse the issue by hanging on to the bill, those kind of gualifications which we know will first of all guarantee

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