

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Kahle and then Senator Haberman.

SENATOR KAHLE: Mr. Speaker, members, I certainly hesitate to speak on this bill because I think the young farmers need all the help they can get but I think that we need to be realistic. Senator DeCamp was mentioning collateral. I don't know what he was talking about but you have to have something to have collateral. If you are going to start from nothing as you are talking about in this bill, I don't know where they are going to have it, where it is going to come from unless they have a dad or an uncle or somebody who can help them. Young farmers really can't compete with established farmers. That is the whole crux of the story. That is our problem and all the amount of money we loan to them really isn't going to change that. It only makes them deeper in debt at any interest rate. That is the problem. There is not enough profit in agriculture and land is too high and machinery and the things that are needed. So, I think that we are whistling in the dark when we think we are going to help young farmers by loaning them money at a cheap rate. Unless they have some other source or some other funding that they can get from their dad or an uncle or from somebody to get them started. It is nice sounding, boy it is great. We are going to help these young farmers. Yeah, you are going to help him get himself in debt so far and work his fool head off and he is going to wind up with nothing. I got a kick out of a story that was in the paper a couple of days ago about President Reagan and his old tractor. He paid, what was it \$1,500 for, and now they would give him \$4,000 for it on a trade for a new one. At least the editorial, I don't know if the president feels this way, thought this was a pretty good deal to keep that old tractor. I'll tell you one thing if old machinery and old tractors were profitable, you would see some out there on these farms. You don't see them out there. There is no way that you can use machinery that is 20 or 30 years old and compete in the agricultural industry today. It is just not in the cards. So, I can't really vote for this bill at this time. Maybe if something is worked out we can do something about it. There are government loans available to young farmers. There are federal land bank loans to buy land at about as cheap of interest rate as you can get for a period of a long time up to forty years. But more than that, I don't know what we can do. I can't imagine the State of Nebraska getting in the land business and they may well wind up with some of it. I wish it was different but that is the way I feel about it, that is the way it has to be. I have two sons that farm, they had some help from their dad in the beginning. They work hard