

nominal fee, \$5,000 checkoff board, they could have a Protocol Office and know exactly what they're doing. So I think it is within the realm of possibility, yes, Senator.

SENATOR WEIHING: If you were a person your age and looking for a position such as this and it was advertised and you were told that the commodity boards may fund it, this puts it on a pretty soft area, doesn't it?

SENATOR MOORE: Yes, it does. It all depends on how a young man like me would sell himself to those commodity boards.

SENATOR WEIHING: Thank you very much. I want to point out that agriculture, true, that's true, is the very dominant force in this state at the moment, but not everybody that comes to the State of Nebraska is involved in agriculture per se. Senator Ashford, I imagine that there are quite a few people involved in law that come to the State of Nebraska from other parts of the world, attorneys and judges. That is an example. The University of Nebraska State Colleges attract a great many foreign personages. They are not directly involved in agriculture and what is being suggested here is that one segment foot the bill exclusive of the others. I really cannot support this amendment. I feel that this should be on solid, hard money with the full State of Nebraska backing it because the people that come to this sovereign state are coming to the State of Nebraska to see some citizen or citizens or an organization or a business here in this state. I oppose this amendment.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Crosby, followed by Senator Moore.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman and members. I cannot let LB 177 slide through without voicing my opposition to the...I understand the concept and perhaps the need, but setting up a separate office for a Protocol Officer goes against the grain with me and, incidentally, I watched you on EduCable last year when you were debating this same issue so don't think I just came in off of the street on this problem. I can't believe, to start with, that it couldn't be implemented through other agencies, Department of Economic Development, and along with that I don't really think that people in Russia, Japan and other countries are sitting over there thinking, well, if those Cornhuskers don't get with it pretty soon and learn how to treat us, we aren't going to go there anymore. Those arguments do not