

was sensitive enough to know that, we had a conversation about that, and having lived in Omaha, I knew what he was talking about. He said, well, it is true that even in Omaha, people in Omaha, if you live in west Omaha, you say you live in west Omaha, and if you live in south Omaha, you are proud of living in south Omaha, and it is also true in Lincoln, as you know. In fact, that is why I mentioned Benson in this resolution, that is why I mentioned Havelock, to make a point that this is a two-way street. We have an obligation, those of us who live in other parts of the state, to know as much as we can, I think, about this state. So I would suggest that there isn't any appropriate term that you can use to lump all the rest of the state together outside of Lincoln and Omaha, that we should try whenever possible to be more precise in referring to a particular area. Sometimes when, in fact, legislation applies to every place but Lincoln and Omaha, that is acceptable, probably, to talk about that, but the rest of the time I think that we probably ought to be a little bit more precise about what we talk about so we appreciate the variety and the diversity of the state. I think every town has a story. In fact, I have a neighbor who worked in an abstracting office for a long time who tells me every quarter section has a story in this state. While obviously, none of us are ever going to master that, I still find myself coming across communities in Nebraska that I didn't know about. That is probably true of all of us and always will be, but I think it is important that we encourage people to know the state better, it is important that we do what we can to encourage state unity, and to act as if we are all part of one state, rather than dividing ourselves and causing confusion by the use of such imprecise terms. I think it is too easy for people who have governmental responsibilities to talk about Lincoln, Omaha, and everybody else, which may, in fact, lead to bad policy. If you look at the diversity of this state, and the regions, and the rivers, and the landmarks, and the communities, there is perhaps within the boundaries of Nebraska enough diversity that we have more diversity than a lot of individual states around the country. So I think the message here is that we want to be part of this state. We want to be included as part of the state. We all want to be good loyal Nebraskans, and since there is a renewed interest in geography in this nation, as well, it seems to me that it would be appropriate for all of us in Nebraska to begin by making sure that we know our own geography in Nebraska, the regions, the landmarks, the rivers, where our state parks are, where the Sandhills are, where they are not, and so on. Now you may want to take issue with the punishment