

frequently on this floor and to the extent that I did not inform enough individuals about the proposed amendment that I was going to offer, I take responsibility for it and I should have communicated with the chairman of the committee and it was wrong for me not to do so. I want to say also that he makes an excellent point that there will be a time when the shoe will be on the other foot. I might add it has been on the other foot many times in my instance and we have from time to time spoken out about the problem that does exist because of a lack of adequate debate on this floor and because of our tendency from time to time to debate issues of no value or inconsequential issues whereas issues which are of substantial interest to the people of the State of Nebraska go substantially untouched. I would suggest that there will be more debate on this bill on Select File. Senator Wesely has raised an issue, Senator Landis and I have visited with him a little about that and there will be some additional debate. Nothing is cast in stone and certainly I believe that we need to be more informed on all of these issues than we are. I'm concerned. I have expressed my concern many times on this floor about what seems to be an unalterable trend toward concentration toward larger and larger institutions no matter where it is. There have been some concerns now and I want to just remind the group that a few months ago the Nebraska cattlemen got together and decided that there was an alarming trend toward concentration in the beef packing industry, something to the effect that more than 70 percent of the cattle are slaughtered by three institutions and they are going to have a resolution, they're going to study it and a number of our other farm organizations joined in that same conclusion. Well, ladies and gentlemen, back in 1974 when myself and several others pointed out that alarming trend and it did, in fact, file a legal action and said unless we do something now, the day will come when the slaughter of livestock will be concentrated in a few hands. If we allow the various entities to dominate the market for dressed beef, our small packing plants will disappear and at that point we will then, as livestock producers, be faced with the necessity of dealing with one, two or three entities. Needless to say, Schmit and others were ridiculed. Nonetheless, what we predicted has come to pass 16 years later. We have an obligation to continually review what is happening within the banking industry. We have an obligation to call attention to the fact that our concerns transcend all entities, all individuals, all institutions in the state. We have no greater obligation to anyone than to our constituencies. I would suggest that Senator Landis's