

tell you what. I have watched my ten children come home from their first job and they worked 27 hours, and this comes out, and that comes out, and Sue says, my gosh, Dad, how discouraging. You know, I didn't realize how small an amount of money I am going to get for doing that. And I said, young lady, that is the facts of life. I am not suggesting that the employer is taking advantage of those kids. I am not suggesting that they can afford more and it may well be true that some of those jobs are going to disappear...

PRESIDENT MOUL: One minute.

SENATOR SCHMIT: ..but what is the difference between a job which pays nothing and a job which pays so little that you really don't take anything home? I don't know what the answer is except I know this, that rural Nebraska doesn't earn any money; businessmen in those areas, whether you are in the car business, or the fertilizer business, whatever you are in, don't earn much money, we can't pay much. But there are areas, there are areas where I believe those young people have earned the right to more money. I have an amendment on this bill which I am sure is going to interest most of you because it does impact upon businesses which I think can afford to pay more, and I am going to talk at more length at that time. Thank you very much.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Schmit. Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Madam Chair and members of the Legislature, touching on those small towns again, Senator Robinson, for the last ten years I have gone to Iowa to address young people from all over that state with a group called the Iowa Agricultural Youth Institute, and I am very conversant with the problems that people have on farms and in rural areas. Not everybody in a rural area lives on a farm, but they are dependent on the farm economy. What has to be recognized in this state and throughout the agricultural industry is that farming, as it is discussed, as it is romanticized, and glorified, is already a thing of the past. It is just a matter of burying the carcass. The concept of the small family farm, as an entity that can be considered an economic unit, is over. If you have a small family farm, maybe you can use it for subsistence and then get you a job to make some money, you grow some food, but with the cost of production, the high rate of interest, purchasing and maintaining equipment, to have enough equipment and land to operate at a level where you can earn money is a practical impossibility for anything