

think you can do much about that. I think it is a much larger step than what we are talking about here today. I know that Senator Carson Rogers, and Elroy Hefner, and Howard Lamb, and others are going to be, and myself, are going to be on the same side on the personal tax fight. But I am telling you that a dollar is a dollar, and 8 million bucks is \$8 million, and that is probably going to grow. I would...I remember when we established a 25 cents per head checkoff here in Nebraska on cattle. I took a lot of abuse on that bill. The Congress passed a \$1 per head checkoff on every single transaction, and we just bit the bullet and took it. The 25 cents per head, by the way, was only on slaughter livestock. What I am saying is this, Senator Lamb, wherever he is at this afternoon, ought to be on the floor. Howard, we could buy the railroad with this fund, and that might be a very laudable goal, right up to the Sandhills and the cattle country. There are many other areas of expenditure which could be considered. I am not saying that it is not being done wisely. I am saying...

SPEAKER BAACK: One minute.

SENATOR SCHMIT: ...there isn't anyone on this floor that knows, that knows, and I would like to ask this. How many of you have ever been to a meeting of the present beef council? Is there anyone here who has ever been to one of those meetings? That is not too bad, 3 out of 49. A very enlightening experience. If you want to contrast that with going before the budget committee, either under Senator Moore or when Senator Warner had it, I will tell you one thing, I would much rather go before the beef council. It is a very laid back group, very dedicated I would say. On the other hand I want to say this, when you toss around 8 million bucks and say, casually, we are going to just take it and turn it over to a nonprofit agency, I hope you know exactly what you are doing. I may vote for the bill. I am not going to vote for the bill today. I will probably get a rash of mail in the next day or so.

SPEAKER BAACK: Time.

SENATOR SCHMIT: I am going to suggest that maybe that might be in order, but I want to just caution you that if we do this today, we can expect the other agencies to come forward and we may be hard-pressed to turn them down when they ask for the same prerogatives. Thank you.