

February 26, 1992 LB 1063

farmers. Senator Landis, were you at the Norfolk meeting that the 3-R committee had? Did I see you there? I don't remember anymore.

SENATOR LANDIS: I was at the Falls City one, but not the Norfolk one.

SENATOR HEFNER: Okay. Senator Landis said he was not at the Norfolk hearing that the 3-R Committee had, and I just want to tell you a little bit about this meeting. We had over 1,500 farmers and small businessmen there, mostly farmers. And Senator Hall and Tax Commissioner Berri Balka remarked to me, they said to me, well, how did you get that many people there, 1,500 people? And I said well this is nothing. I said had the weather been good we would have had over 2,000 and the reason for this is because the farmers are fighting for their survival and they wanted to get to Norfolk to tell their story to the 3-R Committee, and I think they did get Senator Hall's attention because Senator Hall hasn't been supporting LB 1063. In fact, he helped us get LB 1120 out of committee so we could debate that on the floor first. And I realize that the 3-R Committee says we want to put farm machinery back on the tax rolls so we can get at those centrally assessed property owners. Well, folks, like I told you before, I don't believe that we'll ever tax our railroads on their personal property. I believe that they have the federal act that will keep them from paying this, so we need to consider that. As to some of the folks that are supporting removing the sales tax on farm machinery like the state chamber and the Governor, but we can't get them to put it in writing.

SENATOR CONWAY: One minute.

SENATOR HEFNER: I think that we need to get those to put it in writing. And, Senator Landis, did you hear me talk about the two different cows a little earlier?

SENATOR LANDIS: I did.

SENATOR HEFNER: And I never heard anybody explain to me what's the difference of one cow on one side of the fence and the cow on the other side of the fence? So if they get an opportunity to do this, why I'd certainly like to hear this. And, folks, I realize that we need to work out a compromise here because it would be devastating to our economy to not do anything, but