

It's been explained to me many times, it will be explained to all of you more in the future. As you return personal property to the tax rolls you shift that basis a little more, and you will find that you will have the privilege of paying a greater portion of those school taxes than you have in the past. Now, I do not know why you should stop with the percentage we have today. Seventy percent of your property tax goes for schools, maybe more in some instances. When rural property is included in all of the K-12 districts, as it soon will be, there will be little reason to be conservative in our spending habits. There will be every reason to be generous with someone else's money. This is the last opportunity to take livestock out of the contributory phase of school taxes. It's not going to be very often that you have the chance to do that. I used to look with some apprehension at the shift of legislators from rural to urban. After having watched Senator Hall the past session, two sessions, maybe it's not all bad. There are some times, in the past, and as I said before when we took the tax off personal property, back in 1977, we had the support of a great many urban legislators who felt it was good tax policy. Now, for a variety of reasons, none of which I accept, we are being told that we must reimpose a part of that tax. I've used this explanation many times, three identical animals, 700 pound female beef animal, one goes to the feedlot, doesn't pay tax, one goes...is sold to a breeding herd and it pays tax, I keep the other one in my breeding herd, doesn't pay tax. The court found time after time that we weren't being equitable, and they said you've got to go back, you've got to be uniform. Senator Warner can correct me. We are abandoning all pretense of uniformity. We are saying get the money where you can get it. Gouge here, dig there, run over someone else and keep it up, because what the devil can they do about it, not one thing, not a thing. And as a result, and as a result today we continue to march in that direction. I think it's kind of interesting that my friends drew up a compromise on the fertilizer amendment, bought into it without knowing what it was doing. They've got a little problem now, have to iron it out. Well, ladies and gentlemen, you'll be ironing those problems out time, after time, after time, and you will continue to iron them out, and the urban legislators will say, you know, if you were so smart, why do you do another trap. They ought to just leave us in there. I'm waiting, someone came down and told me, Loran, don't mention the fact that phosphorous fertilizers aren't being taxed, they'll put that on. Well, ladies and gentlemen, if it's fair to tax nitrogen fertilizers, we ought to tax phosphorous and potash, and maybe we ought to