

What is going to happen if this bill passes in its present form is to show how easy it is to get the rural representatives to sell out, and how cheaply they will do that. The bill starts out by taking everything, this is an analogy, taking everything a farmer owns. Then, to overcome the farmer's opposition, you give the farmer a teacup, which was a part of what was taken from him or her. The farmer is supposed to be so grateful in getting the teacup that he or she overlooks the fact that all the other furnishings, the house, the homestead, the livestock, the equipment, the land, everything else has been taken and will never be regained. What I'm saying is this, the Legislature is being shown how easy it is to take everything from those who represent the rural interests, and have shown how cheap it is...how cheaply this can be done. This bill should be stopped, and those with the votes should stop it. You should look at the long-term implications of rolling over in this fashion. You are not going to have many opportunities to show the unity that can make a significant difference. If this is done today, it will not result in a permanent rural-urban division on every issue, because there are too many of them that overlap. But a point has to be reached, and I think this is a good point to say that it has been reached, where the rural people, their representatives, will coalesce and form a united front. And I'll tell you why I'm saying this today. I'm looking at the process bump and clank and chug along. I don't represent rural interests. There are a lot of people in the rural areas who probably would as quickly hang me from a tree as look at me because of the attitudes that they have toward people of my complexion. But I'm looking beyond all of their individual attitudes that they may have toward me to what this process in the Legislature is going to be from this point onward. If the rural interests can so easily be tricked and suckered, it's going to continue. A precedent is being set by what this special session is doing. And, true to my word, I want to read something from these verses, since I said I would. I don't want to try to quote them because it's been a while since I've gone through them, and I don't want to get anything incorrect. These first two verses come from Chapter 26 of Matthew. Well, there are three of them, they're brief, 14 through 16. I can see old Deacon Hefner smiling. He's probably familiar with them already. Then one of the twelve, called Judas Iscariot, went unto the chief priests and said unto them, what will ye give me and I will deliver him unto you. And they covenanted with him for 30 pieces of silver. And from that time he sought opportunity to betray him. Going to verses 45 through 49, then