

November 12, 1992 LB 1

is not the evil thing that's going to put Senator Dierks' farmers out of business. It's just the one, I hope, final kick in the teeth for agriculture. That's the way it goes. But don't take it all...all your frustration out on LB 1. LB 1, from a budgetary reason, I'm going to vote for the bill. It sends one more signal. I think the compromise and the way that was reached, I'm not critical of anyone here for the role they played in that, but I think that was just one more very strong example of where agriculture stands in this body, where it stands in the Nelson administration, and that disturbs me greatly.

PRESIDENT MOUL: One minute.

SENATOR MOORE: But I'm not going to take out my frustrations on LB 1. Unfortunately, I'm going to vote for it, and I encourage you to do the same.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Moore. Senator Chambers, followed by Senators Schellpeper, Coordsen, Withem, Schrock, Hall, and Robak. Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Madam President and members of the Legislature, Senator Moore made some very statespersonlike comments but his last one is what really caught me. He said this compromise, which was effectuated, is something he is not going to use to criticize anybody on, but it shows where agriculture stands. No, Senator Moore, it shows where agriculture crawls. Agriculture is a rug, and it is being walked upon. I, and my people, have been victims of the policy of divide and conquer for generations. I see it happening to the rural interest in this Legislature now. I will tell you what my interest is and I will be frank with you. I need allies on the floor of this Legislature. I need to find groups with whom there is a commonality between their interests and the interests of those I represent, and when you find these so-called compromises, it is on the principle that I tried to reveal in the past through an analogy. We start out, you have a dozen eggs, I have a dozen eggs. We negotiate until I have two dozen eggs and you have no eggs. Then I say, that's the way I like to negotiate, and when you get some eggs come back and we will negotiate some more. Agriculture has steadily lost because agricultural interests have never combined in a deliberate, planned program to look out for agriculture's interest. There have been individual senators here on individual issues who will