

would submit to you ate a very different kind of meat than we eat today; that much of the eat in his early days, particularly, was not raised with the use of agricultural chemicals, with hormone stimulants, with many of the things that the animals are injected with today. My problem is not with the meat. I don't have a problem with eating meat, even though I choose not to. The reason I choose not to is because what we have created within that. Your comments about the inspections of the meat producing industry, I understand, and I think that it is much better than it has been. However, I would also submit to you that the outbreak of E Coli bacteria that we have seen recently was in beef, and that we have had problems right in Omaha in a packing house with that very problem. So it is not only in the chemicals that I am concerned about, but it is also in the handling, and having worked in a packing house myself, I don't think we can ever get too safe with how we handle our food products, and in how we grow and produce them. And I would much rather see us do that more in harmony with the way our creator intended us to do than in the artificial ways that we have begun to do it just because of economic expedience, and not really at and with the best interest of people, and our health and well-being, at heart. Thank you.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Vrtiska.

SENATOR VRTISKA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Speaker, members of the body, I rise only for just a moment to address a couple of remarks that Senator Preister made regarding application of chemical and other types of things to our crops. In a study that was done some time ago, it appeared that the biggest nonpoints...the biggest amount of chemicals that were...appeared in the streams of our country seem to have been coming off of the lawns of many of our city folks. Nothing wrong with that because they want green grass, but in a study that was made, if you applied the same amount of chemicals to farmland as is applied to many of the lawns, we would certainly have a much worse situation than we have. I think we have to keep that in mind as to where the pollution...where the pollutants are coming from. I don't entirely disagree with Senator Preister's remarks about some of the steroids that are being used for the purpose of animal growth, but I do know that some studies have shown that they are not as harmful as has been depicted by some of those who are so much opposed to that. So I think it is another area where more discussion needs to be made, if we are going to get into that area of discussion about whether...what is good