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the case but wishing is not going to bring to reality that for which we wish. And the reality is that agriculture has been coddled and babied and lied to from the early days of the 1900s. This talk of parity, price supports and all the rest was simply taking an unhealthy person, devising various life support systems which would never strengthen that person enough to make it on his or her own but just to...

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...maintain life long enough for others who want to harvest the organs of that person, to see the need to have the technology and to say now we cut off the life support and we harvest the organs, and they were good while they were there. These family farmers and some of these who don't call themselves family farms but they're middle-size, whatever that means, are not going to be around here. Probably my lifetime will not come to an end before we see devastation throughout the agricultural community, not just in Nebraska but all over this country. I'm going to put my light on again, and I hope Senator Raikes has a thing or two to say on this subject.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Chambers. On the Dierks amendment, Senator Dierks.

SENATOR DIERKS: Thank you, Mr. President. Members of the Legislature, I just wanted to run by you a few things that I recall from...from other...from information I've received over the last several months. I have a...a statement that was made by Jeff Stolle with the vice president of the Nebraska Cattlemen Association, vice president for marketing. It was in the January '99 Nebraska Cattlemen. It goes like this: A group of Nebraska cattle feeders studied the traditional bid and offer system and its negative effect on the increase in the number of cattle being shipped on a nonnegotiated basis. These feeders recognize that nonnegotiated shipments, which are contractual relationships, have undermined the ability of producers to bargain for higher prices in the cash market. Stolle recognized that, for a buyer to be competitive and/or aggressive, there must be a risk that he or she will not acquire the desired commodity. Anything less is nothing more than captive supply. But whatever name one wishes to refer it, selling fed cattle has