

most heartily with the statements that have been made by my colleagues here at the witness table. We agree very definitely that this is a threat, and to indicate that this is the feeling of our organization, I'm going to repeat very briefly the statements of policy adopted at our most recent annual meeting held in Norfolk, Nebr., last fall.

Whereas the growing interest of giant non-farm corporations in farming threatens disaster to family farmers and the rural economy, we therefore call upon the Nebraska Legislature to enact legislation prohibiting such non-farm corporate interests from engaging in farming, and we further seek the aid of rural bankers, businessmen and co-op leaders in gaining passage of such legislation.

We strongly recommend adequate protection for family farms through federal farm programs with upper limits on government payments, so that city-oriented larger-than-family farms will no longer compete unfairly with farmers trying to make a living on the land. Therefore, we call upon federal farm agencies to establish the criteria for defining a commercial family farm in every agricultural county in Nebraska.

And we also endorse S. 2613 which would prevent persons who are not bona fide farmers from using losses incurred in farming as an offset to income earned from other sources.

I'm not going to repeat the statement adopted at the National Farmers Union convention. President DeChant has very aptly portrayed that philosophy.

It can readily be determined from the language of this statement that our organization views the advancement of large, conglomerate corporations into the area of agriculture and farm operation as a destructive force, posing threats not only to the family farm but also to the strength and stability of the entire rural structure of our State, the banker, the implement dealer, and all of those of the small town business community who earn their livelihood through serving the needs of the family farmer. You will note from the statement of policy previously quoted that the Farmers Union of Nebraska proposes to seek legislative and regulatory remedies which will prevent further encroachment of the large, conglomerate corporation into farming.

I might add here for the record that our board of directors has empowered our attorney to draw up suitable legislation to be introduced in the coming session of the Nebraska Legislature, meeting in 1969.

In support of our organization's position that new regulatory or legislative enactments are imperative if we are to remove the unfair tax advantage accruing to purchasers of farm and ranch properties by those who have no intention of making a living on the land, we include for the record at this point some excerpts from a very excellent publication titled "Fame and Fortune Selling" published by the Executive Reports Corp. in Englewood Cliffs, N.J.

I have prepared for the exhibit photocopies of page 1 and page 2 of this particular publication, and I'm just going to quote very briefly from a couple of paragraphs. The heading of the one paragraph is "How the Tax Law Helps Gentlemen Farmers Build Wealth." In other words this is a magazine written to encourage investors to investigate the advantages in buying farm properties.

Uncle Sam watches you.