AREA RANKED HIGHLY

State Line Ranch manager Don Brown is no stranger to Nebraska cattle operations. Born and raised near Cambridge, where he grew up with beef cattle, Brown has worked in the South Platte area of Lincoln County for quite some time and ranks it highly as one of "Nebraska's good cattle areas."

A 10-foot tub forage grinder will supply a sight never before seen for many feeders and ranchers on their visit to the Gates operations.

From the well constructed lots to the preparation of feed it is easy to see this operation is aiming for utmost efficiency with manpower.

IDEAL SIZE

The calves being wintered on State Line Ranch will be an ideal size to head toward summer pasture or ready for a trip to the feedlots, probably depending on which route the owners choose when spring arrives.

The 1,700 feet of portable steel fence-line bunks simplify feeding from a truck that rolls along the feedlots dispensing chopped feed.

Brown says the Gates operation is in its second year of operation and he has not been advised about further plans the owners might have for cattle production in Nebraska.

Other operations in the area that will be visited on the tour are the Lester Stenger farm, the Loren Woodcock operation and the 7R Ranch owned by the Reynolds Ranch Company.

Mr. DeChant. Mr. Chairman, I have only now just a few minutes. We have heard from South Dakota, Iowa, and just now Nebraska.

Let me quote the editor of the Wellington, Kans., Daily News because last October he commented, and I quote:

The thought of one giant corporation controlling all of the agricultural wealth of Sumner County would provide a lifetime of nightmares for our merchants. Small town insurance firms wouldn't have anyone to insure. Realtors wouldn't have anything to sell to anyone. Implement dealers could forget it. Petroleum dealers would go out of business or out of town, or like most of us, both.

Just last month, Representative James P. Buchele, of Topeka, Kans., said, "Corporation farming has nothing to offer Kansas but loss of population."

A poll early this month in North Dakota showed that 82 percent of the people opposed corporation farming.

But, Mr. Chairman, not everybody is concerned, of course. On January 25 of this year, for example, H. G. E. Fick, president of the Doane Agricultural Service, issued a news release saying there is "no cause for alarm over corporation farming."

A footnote to this comment appeared in the May 5, 1968, issue of the New York Times, describing a new farming venture—mutual fund types of investment firms to acquire diversified farming properties. This is a new one and this is one that I think is going to cause us a great deal of difficulty because this is not only acquiring or accumulating the funds of large corporations but here is a mutual fund type of investment where many people can invest to build up a very large fund to acquire farming properties. I was quite amused to note that after Mr. Fick had said that there was no cause for alarm over the corporation farming that one such firm is the Doane Landco, Inc., with an address of 8900 Manchester Road, St. Louis, a subsidiary of Doane Agricultural Service, Inc.

The Times reported that a similar cattleraising investment firm is Oppenheimer Industries, Inc., 353 East 53d Street, New York City.