other types do we feel that corporate farming poses some sort of a threat?

Certainly not because corporate farming is more efficient. Because it is not.

The well-developed, well-managed, family farm can out produce the corporation farm per dollar invested any day of the week, can outlast the corporate farm in times of strain and duress.

Part of our fear of the corporate farm stems from our knowledge that, generally speaking, Americans place the seal of approval on anything that is big without questioning whether or not that institution is really superior to one of smaller scale.

For decades, we pointed to New York City with its skyscrapers, its bridges, its subways, and its tunnels as one of our greatest creations. It is so big, it holds millions of people.

But in recent years as the place has become more and more unmanageable, we often have bitterly wished that we could cut it up into little pieces and place those pieces out in the countryside.

We Americans are always reaching out for a bigger automobile, a bigger boat, a bigger house, a bigger tractor.

There is something that appeals to our imagination and our pride when we contemplate a computerized farming system that would rely upon highly skilled crews with air-conditioned machines that would travel from south to north with the season, planting, cultivating, and harvesting, working on fields that were numbered, living in air-conditioned motels.

There is a very real danger that the American people will accept corporation farming as the ideal system, simply because it is big.

Part of our fear of corporate farming comes from the fact that large-scale farming operations have a superior advantage when it comes to buying fertilizer, tractors, and fuel oil. They can and do deal with the source of supply at a discount.

Corporation farms also have a superior advantage when it comes to tapping the supply of capital. They have close connections with the larger credit institutions. They are often formed by groups that have large amounts of investment capital.

Corporation farms also have a superior advantage when it comes to marketing their produce. They can promise to deliver large quantities, of a set quality, at a set date. In addition, because of their very nature, they can have close financial and managerial connections with food processors, wholesalers, and retailers.

How, then, can the family farmer, even though he is superior within his own gates, survive in competition with the corporation farming?

The answer, I believe, has two parts——

Senator NELSON. May I interrupt just a moment. In your last sentence on page 14 you referred to the fact that "they have close financial and managerial connections with food processors, wholesalers, and retailers." Do you visualize the possibility, or perhaps, the probability, that if the landholdings become large enough and integrated enough, you will, in fact, have a situation where the producer producing the commodity on land is also the same fellow who retails it?

Mr. BERTSCH. I think, Mr. Chairman, this already exists in many instances, and I think the trend—the dangerous trend—is in that di-