

Senator NELSON. A contract with someone?

Mr. DOYLE. Yes, they can lease with operators there but they cannot operate it themselves, which is what they'd like to do, but they can own land—own operations and then lease them out to private operators. The present Kansas law must be strengthened or strong Federal regulations must come soon or the family farmer, as we know him today, will pass quickly and quietly from the scene.

In Kansas vast landed areas are being taken over by nonfamily corporations. They have already been purchased. It has been estimated that two-thirds of the best grassland is now under corporation control, and within 5 years, if the present trend continues, 75 percent of the State's farmlands will be operated by corporations.

Kansas is one of the few States with legal restrictions on the use of the corporate form of business in farming. The law, passed in 1965 and presently in force, provides:

At present, an agricultural or horticultural business (corporation) can produce wheat, corn, grain sorghums, barley, oats, rye or potatoes, or milk cows for dairy purposes if:

- (a) The corporation has no more than 10 stockholders.
- (b) The stockholders are individuals or representatives of individuals such as guardians or trustees.
- (c) All incorporators are residents of Kansas.
- (d) The corporation does not directly or indirectly own control, manage, or supervise more than 5,000 acres of land.
- (e) No stockholder owns stock in another corporation producing products on the restricted list.

The 1965 law does not restrict the use of the corporate form of business in the production of farm products not on the restricted list. Any farm may be incorporated or any corporation can produce the restricted products so long as it conforms to the five conditions of the law.

Most farmers in Kansas feel the present law is weak in a very important area. It permits nonfarm corporations to own as much land as they can buy. Even the president of a foreign cartel to own one of the best ranches in the State. I believe the time has come for drastic action. I would like to introduce here for the record House bill 2008 of the 1968 session of the Kansas Legislature. This act would prohibit corporation farming and require the disposal of rural real estate now owned by corporations. It gives them a 10-year period to dispose of this profit.

The threat to American agriculture posed by huge diversified corporations which are misusing their great economic power to drive thousands of farmers and ranchers from the land is not fully understood by the Nation's leadership. I strongly disagree with those who look at farming and farm people "through a maze of statistical tables and computer tapes" and suggest that all agricultural production could be better handled by a half million giant operators.

Corporations taking over agriculture have nothing to offer rural America except loss of population, low economic activity, poverty, and a monopoly in the Nation's food supply. I believe there will be no monopoly control of price in agriculture until the family farmer is eliminated. This is why. Indirectly at least, there has been such a vast propaganda campaign over the years designed to convince the American people that the family farm is inefficient and that domination of