

## CORPORATION FARMING

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TUESDAY, MAY 21, 1968

U.S. SENATE,  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON MONOPOLY OF THE  
SELECT COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS,  
*Omaha, Nebr.*

The subcommittee met, pursuant to adjournment, at 9 a.m., in courtroom No. 2, Federal Building, Omaha, Nebr., Senator Gaylor Nelson (chairman of the subcommittee) presiding.

Present: Senator Nelson.

Also present: Tom Bennett, legislative assistant to Senator Nelson.

Senator NELSON. The Senate subcommittee will now open its hearings this morning.

Our first witness is Oren Lee Staley, president of the National Farmers Organization.

Mr. Staley, the committee is very pleased to have you as a witness here this morning. Your testimony will be printed in full in the record. You may present it in any way you see fit.

### STATEMENT OF OREN LEE STALEY, PRESIDENT, NATIONAL FARMERS ORGANIZATION, REA, MO.

Mr. STALEY. I certainly appreciate the opportunity to present our ideas and viewpoints concerning what we feel is a very important subject of discussion now.

I am Oren Lee Staley, president, National Farmers Organization, headquarters, Corning, Iowa.

The subject of corporation farming on which you are holding hearings, is of vital importance to the future welfare and structure of rural America. Corporate agriculture, as it is now developing, is like a cancer eating away at the heart of rural America which is made up of family-type farmers and small businessmen.

The growth of corporate agriculture is primarily because of low-farm prices. The low-farm prices that farmers have been receiving have resulted in farmers leaving the land and the farm youth deciding on other occupations. The only way a corporate agriculture can grow is for the land to become available in large tracts because corporations are not interested in anything other than giant land holdings.

Therefore, the real reason that corporate farms are developing is because of the low-farm prices that farmers are receiving. This is the reason the NFO is pushing its collective bargaining program because in our organized economy of today, farmers cannot compete as individuals. Corporation farming on a large scale will destroy the family-