

sense. I am aware of all the objections that have been used at this level, but when I view the alternatives, I am more certain than ever that we must move quickly in this area.

Fourth, the whole farm subsidy program needs to be overhauled. It should be structured to assist the small operator and not the big one. I would recommend that a ceiling be placed on the amount of subsidy that could be received and the volume of production that would permit participation in the program.

Fifth, in a world where two-thirds of its people go to bed hungry every night, while we suffer in America from overproduction, it seems absurd to say that we cannot deal with the problem. To always blame the problems of a world market for the fact that we do not feed those in need is a negation of our Judaic-Christian ethic. Whenever I have raised the question of why the world economy would be shaken from its foundations because we provide food to those persons who would not have otherwise bought any, I am stared at as a pure economic neophyte—but I am not given an answer. Surely we can do better than this.

Sixth, as a nation we pride ourselves on our scientific achievements. I feel we should take the agricultural problem seriously and put some of our best minds to work on a solution. This means we should deal with the root problems and not just the surface issues, as so much of our effort has been in the past.

Gentlemen, I appreciate this opportunity to present my views on this urgent problem.

Senator NELSON. Reverend Moore, we appreciate very much your taking time to come over here and present your testimony this morning. Thank you.

Our next witness is Paul L. Farris, professor of agricultural economics, Purdue University.

Professor Farris, we appreciate your coming over here this morning. Your testimony will be printed in full in the record. You may present it in any fashion you see fit.

STATEMENT OF PAUL L. FARRIS, PROFESSOR, DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS, PURDUE UNIVERSITY, WEST LAFAYETTE, IND.

Professor FARRIS. Thank you very much, Senator. It seems timely and appropriate for this Senate subcommittee to examine the issues involved in the changing organization of U.S. agriculture. The topic of this hearing is certainly an important one.

American agriculture is currently undergoing a profound reorganization in which farmers are losing managerial independence. Entrepreneurial functions inherent in family farm agriculture are gravitating to decisionmakers elsewhere. This trend is disintegrating the family farm in ways not fully visible from trends in farm and farm numbers and sizes. Farmers see at stake their freedom and economic status relative to other groups.

Yet, some of the tendencies toward greater centralization of decisionmaking and concentration of power do not appear to be inevitable. The agricultural economy can probably achieve high levels of effi-