

farm income, would assist in keeping the family farmers on the farm where they belong, and where they can do the most good for our country.

The federal government should continue and expand its programs to assist the farmer in obtaining capital in amounts sufficient to maintain the tremendous efficiency that has been demonstrated by the family farm.

The large corporations, with their vast sources of wealth, mean business in their efforts to expand into the farming enterprise. Reports of premiums offered of large amounts up to \$100.00 per acre for large tracts of farm real estate point to the determination of the corporations. However, it is not too late. The time for action is now.

STATEMENT OF EDWARD ALEXANDER, PRESIDENT, WISCONSIN HATCHERIES
ASSOCIATION

Be it known that the Wisconsin Hatcheries Association has a vital interest in the continued existence of the independent producer in agriculture.

Realizing that competition is the American way of life, Wisconsin Hatcheries Association feels that this competition must be fair and just. To allow large and diverse corporations to take over most of agricultural production is not fair or just unless they are required to operate on the same basis as the independent and individual producer.

Wisconsin Hatcheries Association wishes to go on record in opposition to those practices which are available and allowable to the large diverse corporations but not available to the individual producer.

Examples:

1. Loss—carryback to other corporate divisions.
2. Delayed pricing on intra-company transfers.
3. Credit advantages by net-worth consolidations.
4. Non-uniform price policies (between company divisions and outright sales).

Wisconsin Hatcheries Association believes that the independent incentive is the best basis for agricultural production and feels it must be continued through the employment of those rules and guidelines which will equalize the opportunities available and permitted to all producers regardless of size or corporate structure.

STATEMENT OF CLARK ROBINSON, PRESIDENT, THE NORTH DAKOTA FARM BUREAU

We appreciate the opportunity to present to the Subcommittee the views of Farm Bureau in regard to large, non-farm corporations in agriculture.

Rural America today is faced with a dilemma never before confronted by those involved in our nation's largest industry, agriculture. Falling farm prices for our commodities coupled with rapidly accelerating prices for land, labor, machinery and other resource inputs has placed an awesome burden on the shoulders of our nation's farmers.

The North Dakota Farm Bureau strongly supports the family farm system in America. We believe the family farm system now provides, and will continue to provide, the consuming public with its most economical source of food supplies. Thus it is in the best interest of our nation that the family farm unit be protected and maintained.

Our farm people must have at their disposal, every possible means by which they may increase the net income of their farming operations and thus maintain their farm units. However, the threat of large, non-farm corporations coming into agriculture for the purpose of tax write offs needs to be examined in critical context. The potential threat of these large conglomerates to rural America and the consuming public most certainly warrants your present efforts. The North Dakota Farm Bureau believes that the corporate vehicle is a very effective means of maintaining the continuity of the family farm operation. We believe this management tool should be available to all farmers in America. This is the most expedient and economical means by which the family farm can be passed from one generation to another. Thus, we are opposed to large, non-farm stock or cooperative corporations in agriculture, but we believe that our farm people should have the right to incorporate just as other businessmen in America do today.

The 1967 North Dakota legislative assembly passed a Farm Incorporation