

As you know, Senator, I am a farmer by profession, and a politician by accident. One of the things, and I say this with all sincerity, because very few places in the world, I suppose, can a farmer close to 50 years of age have the good fortune as we can in this country to be elected to be a member of the assembly. My county has been very good to me, Senator, as it has to you. I am very surprised as far as that goes, the things that I heard that happened around Clear Lake, we always thought you would wind up in a Government institution, but we never knew that it was going to be in the U.S. Senate.

However, in a serious vein, my father was a Danish immigrant and came to this country in 1890 and his folks were very, very poor. They worked on a farm in Denmark and he remembered going to bed hungry. He remembered his mother dividing the bread up between the family, and he came to this country and as you know, Senator, he was a friend of your dad, they used to try their darndest to keep this country as good as they could see it back 40 years ago when they were traveling together. He never went to bed hungry in this country, and at that time in Denmark, the time he came over here they had the landlords and they had the people that were very poor. They, however, went ahead in the next years and had not a revolution, a social revolution, they done a good job of changing that.

But he came to this country and he worked hard, very hard, had a small income as far as that goes but he never, and none of his family ever were hungry. This was all done with a very small family-size farm. One of the things that just as a farmer hurts me so much in traveling around in Burnett and Polk Counties is going around and going down the roads and seeing these farms and knowing exactly how much muscle and how much sweat and how much brain went into developing these farms that are empty today. That is one of the things that bothers me. I think I have a fair farm as farms go in northern Polk County, but the fact remains I have four sons. I could send them all through a 4-year college education and do it cheaper by far than I could set one of them up in farming and it so happens that I guess none of them perhaps will farm.

I appreciated listening to this banker from Chippewa Falls. He explained it very well just what the corporation farm does to a community, it really leaves nothing in the community, it takes out a main street, it takes out the bank, they have nothing to do with the bank, they have nothing to do with schools, churches and when we get—you will have to excuse me, like I said once before, Senator, the reason I stammer quite a little when I talk, I have to think of what I am saying and I guess in Congress they can talk without thinking. If you will give me a little time and a little patience.

For a man that has worked with the soil and knows what the soil means, I know what it is, a few years ago I sold my dairy herd and there was two generations of raising Guernsey cattle from 1906 till 1965, I believe it was, and something, I know, I see other older people in here, and I know what it did to them when they had to disperse with the herd. We would have liked to have seen perhaps some of our family take over, however, I think everyone thinks their family should do whatever they feel is best for them and I think it is a shame that like the banker just explained so well, that it is just about im-