# Nebraska City News-Press

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# VIEWPOINT

## A LOOK AT CORPORATE FARMS

Once again there appears to be a mounting campaign to save the family farm." This cry from politicians is sure evidence that the 1980 political pot already is boiling.

The boogieman behind the need to "save the family farm" is the growing "corporate takeover" of American agriculture. But before you take up your pitchfork or placards to attack the boogieman, take a minute to look over some of the facts

Corporations operate less than two percent of all farms in the U.S , although there are many kinds of corporate farming activities — experiment stations, prison farms, boys' towns, family corporations and true conglomerate-farming — 79 percent of all corporate farms are family owned and operated.

Agricultural corporations with more than 10 shareholders produce only 5.3 percent of the total U S farm sales

Only three percent of all corporation farms are operated by "conglomerates" — as part of parent corporations with one or more subsidiaries

Corporate farming of all kinds accounts for 11 percent of the land being farmed and 18 percent of the value of agricultural products sold

Family corporations account for half of the $15 billion in total corporate sales, while individual and parent corporations each account for about one-fourth of corporate sales

These figures, and more like them are from a new report by the Bureau of Census, L S Department of Commerce

Eight states account for 61 percent of all farm sales by corporations Hawaii, California, Florida, Texas, Kansas, Arizona, Colorado and Nebraska Nationally, the largest share of corporate agricultural sales are derived from larger cattle feeding operations Farms grossing over a half million dollars annually tend to concentrate on commodities requiring large capital investments on smaller land holdings

--American Farm Bureau




"Have you noticed the terrific crosswinds?"



Donald F. Graff — **COMMENTARY**

## Old problems, new problems

Pose a problem for Americans and they start looking for a definitive answer

Whatever advantages that national instinct may have in the efficient conduct of private and public affairs at home, it is in itself a national problem when it comes to foreign affairs In the complex problems of nations, there are rarely definitive answers Foreign policy in the long run is not a matter of striving for final solutions but an endless process in which to resolve one problem usually means opening the way to new problems

This bit of wisdom, extensively paraphrased, is from one Henry Kissinger, as recently relayed to us by The New York Times' James Reston It was delivered apropos the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty and is particularly relevant to the likely consequences in the Mideast even should the parties meet with optimum success in implementing the settlement

Suppose the withdrawal of Israeli forces from the Sinai and evacuation of settlements are carried through without hitch Suppose Israel gains access to all the oil it needs through Egypt Suppose Jerusalem and Cairo not only open diplomatic relations but effectively coordinate policies as the basis of a de facto tripartite alliance, including the United States. Suppose Saudi Arabia and Jordan go along, and suppose even that some form of acceptable Palestinian self-rule is worked out for Gaza and the West Bank

Should all this come to pass, would it resolve Mideast problems and remove the region as a world problem?

Hardly For the more than 30 years that the Palestinian issue has kept the Mideast in or on the verge of war, it has also provided the motivation for at least a pretense at Arab unity Remove it and inter-Arab differeces that have been simmering or heating up could come to a sudden boil

Consider Lebanon Virtual Palestinian occupation, civil war and Syrian intervention destroyed the country's delicate Moslem-Christian balance Re-establishment may be impossible But as an alternative, absorption by Syria, with or without an autonomous Christian area under Israeli protection, would be unacceptable to many Arabs Lebanon could be the cause of a new Mideast confrontation, among Arabs themselves

Or take the proposed Syrian-Iraqi merger It may never get beyond proposals If all were quiet on the Israeli front, Damascus and Baghdad might prefer to resume their feuding with renewed vigor But should they overcome old differences, their union might not be so welcome to their Arab neighbors Oil-rich Iraq in the past has coveted even richer Kuwait, sandwiched between it and Saudi Arabia Saudi support has been sufficient defense for Kuwait But a renewed threat from a Syrian-Iraqi union would be a more serious matter

And then there's Iran, the full impact of its revolution still to be felt A chain reaction of Islamic fundamentalist, anti-Western movements could shake and even overthrow conservative and radical governments alike

In world sensitivity to its regional problems, the Mideast today bears some resemblance to the Balkans of a century ago The "Cockpit of Europe" was the focus of intense interest by great power foreign offices throughout the long decades when converging imperial interests of Austria Russia and Ottoman Turkey compounded the squabbling among the Balkan states themselves Eventually, Austrian and Turkish power vanished and Russia shifted much of its attention to a higher-stakes game As strategic and economic significance declined, the Balkans became a foreign affairs backwater

It is not inconceivable that something similar could come to pass in the Mideast That could be one consequence of the industrial world's breaking free of its dependence upon Mideast oil

It is in such developments, the products of time and changing circumstances rather than calculated policy, that the closest thing to a definitive answer to a foreign policy problem is usually found.

*AS TIME GOES BY*

## Stafford dies

FORTY YEARS AGO
—1939—

Amos P Stafford, 93, one of Nebraska City's oldest and best-loved citizens, died at St Mary's Hospital Fugitive Earl Durand, wanted for the murder of four lawmen, was shot and killed while attempting to roba bank in his hometown - Powell, Wyo Footings were poured for the foundation of the new Greggsport school on North 10th Street Boris Karloff starred in a dougle feature "The Black Room" and "Behind the Mask" at the Paramount

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO
—1954—

Joyce Carlisle was voted "Best Thespian" at Senior High The Talmage Cub Scout Pack was divided into two packs Mrs Elmer Lanning was reelected president of the Palmyra Women's Missionary Society of the Baptist Church It was announced the Army McCarthy hearings would be televized Cub Scout Commissioner Henry Flau presented the pack charter and ribbon to Pack 324 of Brock The undefeated Syracuse basketball team was honored at a banquet and congratulated by speaker Gregg McBride

TEN YEARS AGO
1969 -

Jack Hobbie and Ann Morton were crowned as king and queen of Fun Night Evelyn Wirth won $200 in the PayDays contest Nebraska Football coach Bob Devaney was to speak at the Nehawka Athletic banquet Theresa Detloff Lourdes student was a winner of a $100 scholarship in the Greater Nebraska Science Fair Richard Leckenby was promoted to market manager of the Hinky Dinky meat department at North Platte

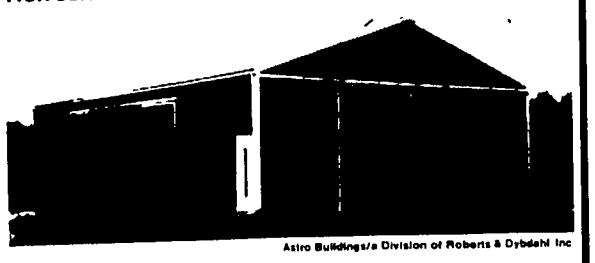

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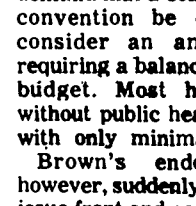
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Martha Angle and Robert Walters — **IN WASHINGTON**

## Amendment slows

WASHINGTON (NEA) - It's hardly what he had in mind, but California Gov Jerry Brown may have administered the kiss of death to the drive for a balanced budget amendment to the Constitution by dragging the issue into the national limelight.

That, at any rate, is the current speculation around Washington among opponents and proponents alike

Until Brown got into the act with his January endorsement of a balance-the-budget amendment by constitutional convention if necessary, hardly anyone at the national level had noticed just how far the drive had progressed in various state legislatures around the country.

At that juncture, nearly two dozen legislatures — of the 34 required — had petitioned Congress to demand that a constitutional convention be called to consider an amendment requiring a balanced federal budget. Most had acted without public hearings and with only minimal debate.

Brown's endorsement, however, suddenly thrust the issue front and center on the national political stage. And once it was out in the open, opposition began to mount rapidly

As of now, 28 states have joined in the convention call and two more — Indiana and Montana — are likely to follow suit soon But the momentum has been slowed, and the remaining four states may be very hard to capture.

A White House task force has swung into action against the drive, and so has a newly formed citizens' coalition of labor and public interest groups organized by Massachusetts Lt. Gov Tom O'Neill, son of House Speaker Tip O'Neill.

States targeted for heavy lobbying by both sides in the weeks ahead include Alaska, Ohio, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont, Maine and West Virginia

**Does Hart lack heroism?**

A lot of senators claim to be appalled by the sneak attack earlier this month which wiped out, for at least another four years, the 15 percent limit on outside earnings the Senate agreed to accept as the ethics reform "price" of its whopping 28 percent pay raise two years ago.

But none of the complaining members is prepared to do anything meaningful to reverse the action, which came on a voice vote March 8 after almost no warning or discussion

And that includes Sen Gary Hart, D-Colo., who reaped a little political hay back home by introducing a resolution to restore the limit to $8,625 per year

Common Cause, leading advocates of the earnings lid, initially cheered Hart's move, assuming he was serious about forcing his colleagues to reconsider — on the record — what they had done This could have been accomplished simply by offering the resolution, which amounts to a rules change, as an amendment to any bill which happens to reach the Senate floor Once approved, the rules change would become effective for the Senate even if the bill to which it was attached wound up getting defeated in the House.

But Hart refused to put his colleagues on the spot, saying he would prefer to see his resolution sent to the Senate Rules Committee — where it is sure to be buried. So much for heroism on the ethics front.



Ivan D.E. Beaumont — **THE BUCK ENDS HERE**

## Thanks, farmers

**The luncheon —**

Thanks to farmers and especially their wives for the fine luncheon for Nebraska City business people

To get down to the nitty-gritty, the farmers uprooted the luncheon given for them by local businesses. The townspeople served beans, the farmers served beef

The growing success of the farmer-sponsored luncheon would indicate that next year will be more work yet I took just a wee bit of just about everything and walked away with a heaping plate It was all good. Thanks much

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**Hello, Mary Bell —**

Arbor Day is celebrated in Albuquerque, N M , and a Nebraska City woman said she attended the ceremony and "it made me feel proud "

Mary Bell writes from Albuquerque that it seemed strange when she got an invitation to attend the Arbor Day ceremony there honoring a friend, Mrs Erwin A Rice

" but when someone I know personally becomes involved in a city the size of Albuquerque with something I grew up with, it made me very proud of my Nebraska City roots "

Mrs Erwin Rice was recognized for 14 years of voluntary work on "plant exchange," a project to omit the waste of unwanted plants and find new homes for them

Mary said the paper keeps her up to date with Nebraska City and she looks forward to visitors from Nebraska City stopping in Albuqurque

Mary works for the Salvation Army The address is Box 381, Albuquerque, N M , 87103

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**The pork banquet —**

There were a whole lot of people at the annual pork producers banquet the other night And we'll tell you one thing, they didn't serve any roast beef it was pork and it was good (I particularly liked the large cup of iced tea which helped whip off that piece of chocolate pie)

It was the second or third time we had seen Sev Sorensen's slides of farming in Korea and we enjoyed his interesting and entertaining presentation

Congratulations to Lois Peterson, Lincoln, on being selected as 1979 Pork Queen, and to the other winners of various contests Don Kasbohm did an excellent job as emcee and his wife (nurse) Nancy was there to watch him all the time

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**The chicks —**

John Sanders said in his column "The Grinder" in the current issue of the Auburn Press - Tribune that the "cheep-cheep" of baby chicks in the mail is seldom heard these days.

Raising chickens is an effort that few families attempt The feasibility of producing grocery money just doesn't exist these days

Growers can produce a broiler of several pounds in a month, but its bones can't keep up and the critters can't stand up.

"That's a far cry from the big old Buff Orpington or Rhode Island Red roosters which ruled the farm yard in our childhood days "

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**Snowbound —**

Mr and Mrs Verne Jones enjoyed a week with their daughter and family in Boulder and looked forward to the drive home It was to be different

Verne (Cale Yarborough) Jones thundered down the highway in his van, later followed various snow-plows (there were "a hundred" cars behind him), stopped at Ogallala, got a motel room and settled down for the night

The next morning, the area was a bedlam of truckers and other motorists who wanted to get back on the highway and head out

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**Tell 'em Margaret —**

There's a special item attached to the refrigerator door in the Slim Steinman home

It's a cartoon of two boys at a grocery store where prices were readily marked "up "

"I used to think when Mom sent me to bed without supper it was my punishment Now I think it's to save on the grocery bill



**HEALTH**

Lawrence E Lamb, M D

## Reason for tranquilizers?

By Lawrence Lamb, M D

DEAR DR LAMB I am 77 and for two years a doctor presribed Valium for me About four months ago, when I tried to stop using it, I found I was hooked on it

I tried hard to get off this and landed in the hospital for two days under the care of another doctor who is trying to help me by putting me on Librium I've been cutting down on that and want to get off of it, but I find it hard to do The doctor doesn't seem to have a plan to achieve that end He says I may have to stay on it the rest of my life which I certainly don't want to do Please, can you offer some plan to get rid of this addiction?

DEAR READER At least you are making an effort and I am proud of you for that I'm not fond of the term "addiction," because it requires definition and means different things to different people What's missing in your letter is why you have to take these medicines at all and what happens to you if you don't

It's absolutely true that you [illegible] hooked on Valium [illegible] Librium and, for that matter, any of the tranquilizers. The danger of all of them is such that you can become [illegible] and psychologically dependent upon such [illegible]

I might add that the same is true of alcohol and all of these medicines have an interaction with each other to produce the same effects or increase the effects of both The usual way to get off any of these medicines is gradual withdrawal Most people will need the support of a physician in doing this, however

If there is a specific cause for nervous tension one approach is to try to remove this cause so it's no longer necessary to take tranquilizers That's easier said than done in many cases

I am sending you The Health Letter number 12-2, Sedatives, Hypnotics, Tranquilizers The Pill Problem Other readers who want this issue can send 50 cents with a long, stamped, self-addressed envelope for it Send your request to me in care of this newspaper, P O Box 1551, Radio City Station, NY 10019

Tranquilizers and such medicines have a very useful purpose in many patients They do help relieve anxiety situations It's unfortunate that some people's nervous temperament and life situations are such that they require help of this nature on a long-term basis Whether one should continue on a long-term basis on such medicines is a matter of individual judgment and circumstances involved

As I said, ideally, correcting the basic problem is the best approach The one point I would like to make to you is that if you happen to be a heavy coffee drinker, or tea drinker, you might stop using these beverages Caffeine stimulates the nervous system and increases anxiety and nervousness It has exactly the opposite effect of tranquilizers In many people the best tranquilizer is to throw the coffeepot out

I have been amazed how many 'nervous people are washing tranquilizers down with coffee That doesn't make sense If you like the taste of coffee use a decaffeinated brand

## *Today In History*

By The Associated Press

Today is Sunday, March 25, the 84th day of 1979 There are 281 days left in the year

Today's highlight in history

On this date in 1634, English colonists under the proprietor, Lord Calvert, arrived in Maryland

On this date

In 1821, Greek patriots began a revolt against domination by the Ottoman Empire The uprising ended 12 years later with the establishment of the independent Kingdom of Greece

In 1865, Confederate forces during the Civil War captured Fort Stedman in Virginia

In 1883, a revolution broke out in Haiti

In 1947, 111 miners were killed in a coal mine explosion at Centralia, Ill

In 1965, the Rev Martin Luther King Jr led 25,000 civil rights marchers to the Alabama state capitol building in Montgomery

In 1973, President Richard Nixon ordered the remaining U S forces in Vietnam to stay on until all American prisoners of war were released.

Today's birthdays Songwriter and entertainer Elton John is 32 years old Entertainer Anita Bryant is 39. Actress Nancy Kelly is 58

Thought for today. My three chilren are at the perfect age — too old to cry at night and too young to borrow my car — actor Walter Slezak.


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## The Prayer For Today From The Upper Room

Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the portion of the king's meat nor with the wine which he drank therefore he requested of the prince of the eunuchs that he might not defile himself (Daniel 1 8)

PRAYER O Lord, there are so many beautiful and profitable temptations in our home on our job and in our community that would lead us away from You Give us the courage to say no to those things that will separate us from Your love Amen


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