

1 Constitution. Now we are here drafting a new Constitution,
2 and we are caught between these two poles, the one is the
3 farmer who wants to stay on his farm who is beset by all of
4 these problems. On the other hand we have the land
5 speculator. You find him in the counties near Washington
6 where they are buying up this property and holding it for
7 what they call farms. Sometimes they don't even go through
8 the attempt to make it look like a farm or act like a farm,
9 but they are getting, under the benefit of that decision,
10 the agricultural assessment.

11 Now, what we are trying to do is this. We don't
12 believe one definition is enough. The State Bureau of
13 Assessments has set up criteria which at this moment number
14 about 31. It is not as the Hanson amendment would give you
15 "property owned and operated." Sometimes the property is
16 owned by a bona fide farmer and there is a death, and it
17 may be three years while the estate is being settled; nobody
18 is operating the farm and under his amendment it falls into
19 the other classification and the farming assessment is gone.

20 What is a bona fide farmer? This requires
21 definition. In order to give it a definition, the Bureau of