

March 3, 1976

PRESIDENT: Senator Mahoney.

SENATOR MAHONEY: Mr. President, I am sure that Senator Chambers and I would agree that the legislators are in their last half hour here and they are not really paying attention to the debate and they will probably do the same as they do...on my speech as they did on his. They are visiting in little groups. What Senator Chambers was doing here was clouding the issue and almost completely because he is in favor of taking his LB 901 which is in Committee which will completely change and do away with the lottery system in which there would be no real need or the wanting of a lottery. Senator Chambers doesn't mention, and he used the figure \$60,000 time and time again, that it takes at least 15% to operate horse racing in Nebraska or anywhere across the nation. It takes 15% to operate all of the things that take place in horse racing. This is natural when you have horse racing that is set up in a sophisticated society. You just can't get by without 15% operations. It costs between 15% and 17% to run lotteries on a nationwide basis, and if this particular lottery had been allowed to go for some time, you would have found that it would have been on the decline and probably would have reached 14, 13, 12 and even possibly reached 10% to operate the lottery that we had in Omaha. I might also mention that Senator Chambers not once mentions that over 50% of the net proceeds went for prizes which means that over \$400,000, and remember that figure \$400,000 were returned to the people who participated in the lotteries and that is most important. It is easy to stand up here and keep using the figure \$60,000 but \$60,000 was only the amount that was divided after the prizes had been given away. 50% of the money had been returned in prizes. \$400,000 were in prizes and I can't see how that we are going to be able to help this lottery bill at all by taking 901 and placing it in here. I wish and I hope that the Legislature will turn down and defeat Senator Chambers' amendment which is nothing more than placing LB 901 into the bill which will completely destroy, hamper and do away with the lottery system that we have.

PRESIDENT: Senator DeCamp.

SENATOR DeCAMP: Mr. President, I am not even going to speak on length on the amendment. I would say this. Senator Barnett has another amendment he is going to propose that puts even tighter regulations. I support that amendment. I think when we bring that amendment up it will answer all the questions you might have and indicate that the bill is a very sound bill, that it needs to be passed, and further, that Senator Chambers' proposal is nothing.

PRESIDENT: Senator Barnett.

SENATOR BARNETT: Mr. President...

PRESIDENT: Do you want to speak on this one?