

it appeared to be. The handout showed the average salary for attorneys here in Nebraska, but it did not take into consideration attorneys like those that work in the Legislature for only \$4800 a year, nor did it show that the average judge's age was 52 to 59 and that those attorneys in that age bracket were making about the same of fifty some thousand dollars. So in that case, the information provided to me by a lobbyist helped change my point of view, but it was the information, not the lobbyist. I am going to tell you all something about lobbyists, what makes them so bad. They are bad when they are against your bill and they are great when they are for your bill. And those senators that have gotten up today and belittled and belabored the lobbyists have oftentimes been seen by me with the exception of Senator Chambers conversing with lobbyists, and you have only to look at senators' accountability reports and how much money they have been given by different lobbying organizations to know **once** again the hypocrisy that has taken place on this legislative floor today. I think you will all agree with me, if you have a lobbyist that says you have got a great bill and I will help you, you appreciate it. And like me, if you have got a lobbyist that is working against your bill, you don't like it. But I will tell you some of the lobbyists that I have been called out in that rotunda to talk to, I have talked to lobbyists for the Greater Omaha Association for Retarded Citizens. I have talked to lobbyists for the Silverhaired Unicameral. I have talked to lobbyists for the aged. There is more lobbyists out there for the people than there are for businesses, very often. I just think in fairness we ought to admit that everyone of us at one time or another has had something to do with lobbyists, including those of us who have been critical of them. They provide a great deal of information, information that sometimes is very helpful to me, information that I would not otherwise have had. The only time I ever dislike a lobbyist is when he breaks his word to me or when he gives me misinformation, and so far in the three years I have been here, that has only happened twice. So for myself I would like to apologize for some of the things that have been said here today because I think they are hypocritical. Everybody knows the influence of lobbyists, but nobody thinks about how many lobbyists are for the people. I think we all know Ed Jaksha. He is a lobbyist. Churches have been here lobbying for Howard Peterson's bill. So let's not just say the lobbyists that are here today on the lottery bill...

PRESIDENT: One minute.

SENATOR HIGGINS: ...are a different breed of cat. Everybody