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March 12, 1973

SENATOR SNYDER: Thank you, Mr. President. Members of the body, I would like to make only one point in regard to this discussion, but I think it's a point that if I was to do nothing else in four years, maybe, I should do it every day. That's how strongly I feel about it and I believe that there are a good many people who would share this view. That is, our constant desire to break from the regular procedure... procedures and the regular orders of business. Rules are in effect in this body, I assume, for the same reason that they are in effect in every other facet of our life, to act as our guidelines. They are designed to slow us down and to make sure that what we are doing is done with judicious procedure. I was in California last week and I, jokingly, asked one of the assemblyman if they, too, were ready to have the Unicameral, and he said, you've got to be kidding. If anything, I would ask for a third house, merely, to insure that every issue is debated with deliberation. And I can think of no other issue than the one that we are discussing right now that would bear this point out. How did this issue come about to begin with? Because the Nebraska Legislature decided, again, that we will go ahead and run something through, and how many times have we seen it happen. More times than I care to recall. In fact, more times than I could possibly recall. We allow someone to push something through and that's exactly why Senator Proud and others have brought this issue back, because it was done with a great deal of haste. There was a great amount of second thoughts by not only members of the Legislature but certainly a large number of the populace of this state. So, I would say if for no other reason, cast aside your views, if you have predetermined views on this issue and for no other reason than strictly a procedural matter, say again, let's be sure of what we are doing and let's not constantly be changing the Rules to fit our design for that day. Let's let this thing stay in its proper place, if for no other reason and let's take a look at your 20 Political Science students from Chadron. What do you think they are thinking as they sit here, probably in many cases their first visit to this body. I think it's very dangerous. I think it gives people a lot of room to be suspect of the Legislature, to say, why does the body think it is of that urgency to be taken up in manner under suspension of the Rules all the time and to do this and to do that. Let's leave things in their proper order and let these things come about as they should. I don't know why we are afraid of additional mail or additional comments. Granted, there is a point where you have to pull the switch, but, in this case, let's reestablish our procedure and let's retain some order. Thank you.

SPEAKER: Senator Lewis.

SENATOR LEWIS: Mr. Chairman, members of the Legislature, let's get it over with. I think this has been analyzed from every possible point of view. I sympathize with members of the press. I don't know what you are going to write about this anymore. I sympathize with the introducer of the motion. He's used it from every possible conceivable way. I don't know what else anybody can say about it. I voted to put this on the floor so, once and for all, we could end the thing. I plan to vote against it and I'd just as soon do it today. Let's go.

SPEAKER: Senator Proud.

SENATOR PROUD: Mr. President, I'd like to amend Senator Barnett's motion, in the spirit of compromise. Now, I realize that we apparently have 32 members here and from my standpoint in one sense today would probably be as good as any other day, so I'm not going to lose any sleep if we take it up today. I said I wasn't prepared today but somebody said if I'm not prepared now, I never will be and that's probably correct. From the standpoint of study and time, I certainly am prepared but so we won't give the people the impression we