

April 11, 1973

impeach an individual is to take his conduct or statements at one time and compare them with conduct and statements at another time and show the inconsistency, and I felt that was what was done. With LB 12, and I stated on this hand out, if you had read it, that I and Senator Carpenter were in the Governor's office, heard him state that he would not sign a bill when it was necessary that a second bill would have to be passed to bring along amendments because there was no guarantee the legislature would pass the second bill. That he as Governor of the state, would not and could not be put in that untenable position, therefore, he would not under any circumstances sign LB 12, you see that in this, oh and I also pointed out to him, and he said he could check with the Attorney General himself, that it would create no problem legally, constitutionally or otherwise, for him to have signed LB 12, and allowed a second amendatory bill. You know the whole history of that. In today's paper that I put on your desk, if you had read it, you'll see where I underlined the portion that says, "Governor Exon signed this bill, on the condition that the legislature would consider a second bill containing amendments he said are necessary". Now where does the hypocrisy come in, by stating and the lying, he would not under any circumstances sign one bill, when a second amendatory bill was necessary. After taking that position categorically, he turned around and did the very thing he said he would not do. I feel that my statements are justified, I feel if you will not accept my definition of liar and hypocrite, but go to the dictionary, you see that I have not misrepresented that, and as I stated in the last comment on this paper, the strong language is intentional. If I feel the man is a liar and a hypocrite, and I don't call him that, I am a liar and a hypocrite myself. I feel the Governor has a mouth of his own, he has vocal cords of his own, his lungs are in good order, he has no speech defect, and if he chooses to defend himself, he will do so. However, as I've stated on many occasions, he has a long whip and sometimes it reaches around corners into the legislature, and apparently it has reached and nicked the back of young Senator Cavanaugh.

PRESIDENT: Well, trying to move to general file consideration here, but, Senator Cavanaugh for what purpose do you rise?

SENATOR CAVANAUGH: Well Mr. President, I'd at least like to rise and show my back, it's not scarred at all. In fact --

PRESIDENT: You're speaking on a point of personal privilege.

SENATOR CAVANAUGH: Yes, Mr. President, I feel that I would have to respond to that.

PRESIDENT: Very good, go ahead sir.

SENATOR CAVANAUGH: Really the point that I wanted to make, very often since I've come to this body, I have seen Senator Chambers either rise or distribute materials, which were extremely derogatory towards other persons, personal attacks on other individuals. In some cases I might have said that I would have agreed with his attack. I'm not here to defend, and I didn't rise here to defend Governor Exon, because I thought he was defenseless and because I thought he needed my help, but I think more appropriately to address myself to a broader defect that I very often find in my good friend Senator Chambers, in that he does tend to heap recrimination on people, when they serve his own purposes, and certainly that I think that it is most latent in this particular case, in that the situation in LB 12 and the situation in, in the Shield Law are not at all analogous, I think it would be quite reasonable to say that if Governor Exon told Senator Chambers that he would not sign Senator Chambers' LB 12, because of defects he found in the bill, I think that's quite different