

April 12, 1973

SENATOR DUIS: That's correct. And the Department causes these people to have to register every measuring device and this registration in the old bill, Senator Carpenter, was a tremendous amount of money. Now, it goes back to, I think, \$1.00 registration and then an inspection fee which is about one-half of what it was last year and that is the reason they had to get money from the General Fund to reimburse them for the cost.

SENATOR CARPENTER: Now, the people they were inspecting, are they paying just \$1.00 now?

SENATOR DUIS: No, they are paying half of what the inspection fee was last year.

SENATOR CARPENTER: Used to be.

SENATOR DUIS: That's right.

SENATOR CARPENTER: So in effect what we are doing, we are letting the state pay the one-half amount of which the Department was charging the people they checked too much.

SENATOR DUIS: That's my understanding.

SENATOR CARPENTER: I understand it now. Thank you.

SPEAKER: Senator Nore.

SENATOR NORE: Mr. President, I rise to point a personal privilege. I'd like to ask a question of Senator Stromer. What recourse do we have if we think that our meter, our gas meter, is not operating properly.

SENATOR STROMER: At the present time, Senator Nore, it would be through the company which is exactly what we have. I think the intention, as was outlined by Senator Duis, was not only with the fees but the areas we were talking about to leave it with the actual intentions that were included in the bill last year.

SENATOR NORE: The reason I asked this question I have one house that's about five rooms. It is completely insulated. Another one, that is twelve rooms and the gas bill is higher on the five room house than it is on the twelve room house, and I've always felt for many years that there must be some error in the gas meter but I haven't gotten around...I just don't...I've had the gas company check it and they say it is correct. Well, it still doesn't seem right. Isn't there any recourse that we can have the state check these meters?

SPEAKER: Senator Stromer. Senator Nore has asked you another question.

SENATOR NORE: No recourse (inaudible) state at all, to have them check the gas meter. There is no recourse at all to have the state check a gas meter.

SENATOR STROMER: Well, have you thought of checking the gas meter in the other house.

SENATOR NORE: Yes, they checked both of them. They say it is right but the way they go at it, I am really dubious about whether it is much of a check. Now, I would like to have the opportunity to have the state come in and check these two meters. Now, is that possible?

SPEAKER: Senator Stromer.

SENATOR STROMER: No, it is not.

SENATOR NORE: Do you think we should have that recourse?

SENATOR STROMER: Depending on how much you want to pay for