

LB 259

April 19, 1973

(Begin Belt #5)

I couldn't think, what else are we talking about?

PRESIDENT: I partially, I partially concur with you but generally speaking I don't think that you can range that wide. Stand by just a moment please. Senator Frank Lewis, for what purpose do you rise?

SENATOR F. LEWIS: Well, Mr. Chairman, I just would like to rise to a point of personal privilege in this discussion. Now it seemed to be all right to range as far as you wanted to Monday under whatever motion we were debating but now when the railroad gets going it appears that it's not fair to ask questions that I think are pertinent and relative and I think that Senator Cavanaugh certainly has the right to ask those kind of questions, I think they are germane, they may be somewhat embarrassing but they are germane. And I'd suggest that those that want to stick this close to the rules, I'll be up every time suggesting that to them because the experience I've seen in here, we never stayed very germane unless it was to suit our cause and I rise to object to this kind of a suggestion that this is not germane.

PRESIDENT: All right, but now wait a minute. All right, now let's see if we can come back out of the briar patch here just a moment. The chair is going to observe that we have 259 and the motion has been made by Senator Goodrich that we return that bill to Select File for his specific amendments. Now I know that it probably is difficult to bring the bill back for those specific amendments unless we probably discuss the bill in its entirety. But this is a grey area in which I don't know that anyone, any presiding officer in all of his wisdom would know exactly what questions were germane, which questions were far-ranging, which questions might be specific and so I think that under these circumstances I have to mostly sustain Senator Duis and ask you Senator Cavanaugh to at least hold your questions down to those which might be germane to the specific amendments as they arise to this bill at this time if it comes back on Select File and I don't know how else I could do this. The amendments if we even took the time to stop and read them are money matters or money figures and it would be long and arduous to even read those. Now I don't know how else to handle the situation other than that. Now Senator Duis, do you have input?

SENATOR DUIS: Mr. Speaker, I have no intent here at all to stop any debate whatsoever on this. I merely was making a clarification and I certainly hold no affront towards anyone but generally in the final analysis I'm either cornered in the hall or I'm asked to do this and I merely make this suggestion that I thought that the rule was and I realize that the chair was in a very delicate position and I guess both of our shoulders may be a little broader than just one of us but, Senator Cavanaugh, I meant nothing toward you or anyone else. I merely was trying to say the other day when we were on these we were not on Final Reading going back for specific amendment. We are now, but I certainly will make no more input on this and I'm terribly sorry if I've offended you.

PRESIDENT: Now, Senator Cavanaugh.

SENATOR CAVANAUGH: Thank you, Senator Duis.

PRESIDENT: Let me just go back this way and just say this. Go ahead and ask your questions and if I feel that they are too far ranging then I will interpret them and if you then decide that you care to try to overrule the chair, that's your privilege and I will call a point of order or I will try to limit them if they seem unreasonably broad. Generally speaking, I think you will find that at least this position