

May 4, 1973

PRESIDENT: Senator Frank Lewis, before I recognize you, I, I, before they leave, I'd like to have the body be aware that we have 16 Fourth Grade Students from Table Rock, Nebraska up there in the North Balcony. There are two adults with them and their instructor is Mrs. Tanner and I see that Senator Wiltse is up there with them explaining what's going on on the floor and we also have 12 grade school children from the Otoe County School at Union, Nebraska. There are 4 adults with them, that's, Mrs. Eunice Snyder is their instructor and they're up in the North Balcony also and I think Senator Cal Carsten was up there for a while. We're delighted to have both of these groups here today to visit the Unicameral Legislative Chamber. Additionally we had also some--22 Ralston middle grade school students from Ralston, Nebraska and there were three adults with them. They're from Senator Proud's district and we also had 14 grade school students with 4 adults from Rural No. 6 at Tecumseh and they were from Senator Fred Carstens' district so we've had a goodly number of visitors here this morning and we appreciate your coming in to observe the debate and the activities here in the Nebraska Unicameral Legislature, the only unicameral legislature in the United States and now the only non partisan legislature also in the United States. Now, Senator Frank Lewis, back to you. We're still debating Legislative Resolution No. 21.

SENATOR F. LEWIS: Mr. President, and Members of the Legislature. I'm having a very difficult time formulating the opposition to LR 21. The State office building passed 47-0, I believe that was the vote. It was recommended of the Budget Committee and I don't believe there was a dissenting vote there and Senator Clark and Senator Duis both serve on that. It was sold on the basis that certainly consolidation would save money and I saw all the figures and I guess the Budget Committee agreed with those. It was sold on the basis of personal service to taxpayers coming to Lincoln so they didn't have to go to 20-25 different locations. Now, I believe the parallel is the same in Omaha. I believe we have a lot of state agencies scattered over the city. I understand and I'm not real good at finance, but I would suspect the consolidation probably would save money. Then secondly, I suppose it would be the same convenience for the metropolitan area taxpayer to have one common place to go the same as it would be in Lincoln, so I must be a little slow because the arguments against the resolution haven't crystallized in my mind. Now, there are those that says the power is already there. The power for most resolutions that we pass are already there and I haven't done the research to go back through all of them but I'm sure that they can be done with or without the Legislature from time to time because a resolution carries no statutory impact

(End of Belt #9)