

May 16, 1973

desk in just a few moments. Unless there is objections to that time.

PRESIDENT: Anybody have any objections? Hearing none, so ordered. Senator DeCamp you didn't want to be heard now? Ok, your passing. Senator Johnson, still debating LR 84.

SENATOR JOHNSON: Mr. President, members of the legislature I just want to say that I'm very much interested in this and that in 1959, Governor Brooks asked me to serve on the agricultural products research committee, which was created by the legislature to try to accomplish something that is being tried at the present moment, and this committee met many times and in the next few years and had projects with research institutes principally with Kansas city, also some in Chicago and some in California. LeRoy Welch was real active in this movement and we visited the alcohol plant that had been used in Omaha and had been discontinued after the second World War, of course. But I noticed it again yesterday, at the time we inspected it as a committee, it was deteriorating and falling down, the windows were out and I noticed yesterday as we were going down the river on the cruise, that it was, the walls were even more deteriorated but I make this statement, just to point out the fact that at one time there was a tremendous amount of alcohol produced here in the State of Nebraska from our grain and at that time it wasn't as opportune as now and the petroleum industry fought it to the extent that the committee actually gave it up and Governor Tiemann and the legislature discontinued the committee, but at the present time, I think it is ideal. The situation has changed completely. We do have a shortage of energy, motor fuel, oil and I back this 100%.

PRESIDENT: Senator Keyes, did you want to be heard again? Still speaking on the Burbach resolution here.

SENATOR KEYES: Well Mr. President, I'd like to ask Senator Schmit some questions.

PRESIDENT: Senator Schmit, will you yield to some questions?

SENATOR SCHMIT: Yes I will.

SENATOR KEYES: Senator Schmit, we know that it doesn't take much alteration in the carburator to run a 10% or 15% blend of alcohol in gasoline, but has your committee and it was my feeling that the revenue sharing should have been used to develop an alcohol plant, but has your committee looked into the Storz brewery which has closed down and I don't know what its capacity is, but I do know that the alcohol plant, I helped take some of that out and there is nothing left there but the walls and so there is nothing left of that plant except walls that have deteriorated. But why don't we check in and find out what Storz brewery would be able to produce as an alternate. As a source right of the reel and also what would your feeling be that all gasoline and diesel fuel that are used in farm tractors in Nebraska be asked to use alcohol blend. All companies that supply fuel to them, have to have an alcohol blend in them. You see you don't have to change your tractor carburetor but just once and it is ready to go. So what would your feelings be on this?

SENATOR SCHMIT: Well, Senator Keyes, in regard to use of the Storz brewery, I wouldn't be able to make a comment on it at this time. I would suggest perhaps, the committee would take your suggestion in good standing and look in to it. If there is a feasibility there at all, I'm sure they would be interested in using it. The other point that you make is a good one, but I believe that if we had alcohol in production in the State of Nebraska today, there would be no qualms about the 10% blend.