

February 1, 1974

I ask you a question? May I ask him if he will yield to a question?

PRESIDENT: Senator Proud, will you yield to a question?

SENATOR PROUD: Why certainly.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Proud, I would like to make you an observation first and ask you a serious question. You said that if reducing the fare to 10 cents is good, then eliminating it altogether has to be better. Now....

SENATOR PROUD: From your standpoint yes.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Alright, when you come to a situation where a person is taking medication and the proper amount is one teaspoon full, but through an error two teaspoons have been prescribed, too much medicine can kill. So reducing the overdosage to a proper dosage is good but taking away the dosage altogether is as bad as the overdosage so if you could look at it in that light, can you see where reducing the fare to 10 cents and having the chance of doing that would be better than saying taking away the fare altogether and wind up doing nothing?

SENATOR PROUD: Well Socrates let me answer your question with a question.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Socrates sells me short, but I will accept it.

SENATOR PROUD: Thank you. Are you against giving free bus transportation to the elderly people?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: I already stated that if that could be accomplished, I would be in favor of it.

SENATOR PROUD: Well that answers my question and that answers your questions. Thank you.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: No it doesn't.

SENATOR PROUD: It does as far as I am concerned.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Well may I rephrase the question? If we have the choice Senator Proud of no assistance to elderly people at all under your amendment, or a reduction of fare, what would you prefer the fare as it is now or a reduction to 10 cents?

SENATOR PROUD: Well, apparently although I was listening very carefully to you, you were not listening very carefully to me. My thought is for better or for worse....

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Yes.

SENATOR PROUD: That the elected representatives such as the City Council in Omaha, should take all of these cost transportations figures into consideration and set the fare and lower it for the elderly people. Now if they refuse, we don't know whether they refuse or not because we haven't passed this bill yet, if they refuse to do that then it may be that the Legislature will have to step in. This is very similar to your bill to elect school board members by district, which I take great pleasure in in reminding you that I voted for. Even the people, the majority of the people in the city of Omaha apparently would not favor this, but because I thought in my own judgment and in my own conscience that 30 or 40,000 people, whatever figure it is, on the near north side were entitled to