

months back diesel fuel was in the lower 20¢ category for gallon. At the present time across the state of Nebraska this fuel has risen from probably a low anyplace of 41¢ up to a maximum of about 49¢. Now the oil companies have indicated that there is going to be a continued rise in this price until it reaches a leveling off of 55 to 60¢ a gallon. Now the meanwhile the federal government or the interstate commerce commission a said to the independent truckers you may have a 3% rate hike to take care of the added cost that you are running into and the lower speeds that you are required to go. I find that a large diesel truck, the 3% will equal out to about a 4¢ raise in fuel price, or an additional profit to them of about 1 1/4 cents per mile driven. Now when we compare this with the amount that fuel alone has gone up, there is no way today that they can run these trucks on the road and if they are going to take a loss they might just as well sit at home and take this loss. I think that it is necessary that we look, not only as a national problem but we are having industries in Nebraska and surrounding states shut down because we can not get the food transported and other products going away from this area to the markets that also the facts that we are awful close right here in Nebraska to not being able to meet the problem of the consumers and the towns throughout the state. You can take a map of Nebraska and look at the railroads running through the state and find out how many towns are totally dependent on trucks and today they are close to not getting some deliveries and in the very near future they are not going to have deliveries and they are going to have sever problems not only for industry but for the public themselves and so I think that we should be considering some way to put pressure on and to help these truck drivers, first of all in some where stabilizing the price of the fuel. This has got to be stabilized. Then allowing them to have the rate hike which will cover this cost of fuel so that they can continue to bring the products to the independent towns in Nebraska and also to haul the products away from the industries that are here.

PRESIDENT: Senator Snyder, for what purpose do you want to be recognized?

SENATOR SNYDER: Mr. President to point a personal privilege please.

PRESIDENT: State your point Senator.

SENATOR SNYDER: In line with the statements just made by Senator Simpson, I wish to invite in fact to urge every member of this legislative body to join in a meeting this afternoon at 4:30 in the East Lounge meeting with this very situation. Over the week end I was in long contact with members of the independent truckers and they said that they thought that the political leadership of the state would meet with them and allow them the opportunity to explain the problems that have arisen in this area, that violence and potentiality of violence could be checked in Nebraska and they think that they have a story to say. I listened to them and I believe that they have a story to say. They are in the midst of a squeeze. They have no where to pass on the incurred cost of recent months. They have to pay more but they can not charge more. I am inviting members of the Governor's office to join in this meeting, it is anticipated and all probability that there will be some 50 members or 50 independent truckers who are meeting in Lincoln early this