

February 19, 1974

PRESIDENT: Senator Stahmer. Senator Syas.

SENATOR SYAS: Really, I don't care which way it goes than other the fact I want to call to our attention. There's something I probably tactfully shouldn't even say but I'm not very tactful. Therefore, when I figured that 60 and 90 days was an impractical arrangement on the constitution, this bears it out. We're bogged down, we can't operate this way but we're in shackles and I think the sooner the better we return to Senator Keyes' idea of having one session without limit. Take the limit off and have it every other year. The people in this legislature would be better off.

PRESIDENT: Senator Luedtke.

SENATOR LUEDTKE: Mr. President, members of the Legislature. I disagree completely with Senator Syas. This shows that the system does work. We have analyzed where we are. We know our problems and we can deal with them. We can deal with it by merely taking off a week or whatever it is so the committees can catch up. I've made an analysis of where we are today compared with two years ago. The only difference is that we have 260 bills in committee compared to 173 two years ago. Now, as far as the total picture is concerned, Senator Syas, and I know you're still going to want to have more to say about this, the only difference is that we're about 500 bills less in the two years period which shows that the annual session is actually cutting down about one-third the number of bills introduced. It is also cutting down the number of bills passed. So, I say it is working and as far as the work load on the board is concerned, we have considerably less work on the board than we had two years ago. We will have even less if the committees will do their work next week. So, it is a flexible system. It is a system we can work and we can do what we have to do according to the needs of the State of Nebraska.

PRESIDENT: I presume you want to respond, Senator Syas.

SENATOR SYAS: Yes, I do. Any time that you have to use subterfuge, to get the work done,

(End of Belt #1)

(Begin Belt #2)

it isn't working. What I mean by that is, I'm going to vote to take the time off. I'm going to let the committees catch up. But, I just want to say, you see we're not holding the legislature so it doesn't count as a day. We're using this for committee hearings in order to get around the constitutional provision that it isn't a legislative day. So this subterfuge on the 60 or 90 days. The people never intended this. I'm going to vote for this time off but I say to Senator Luedtke, this isn't working.

PRESIDENT: Okay. Senator Kremer, Snyder, Keyes, Barnett, in that order. Actually what we are discussing if the Chair might point out to the Body once again, is that we are considering the amendment that was offered by Senator Carpenter which is to adjourn us to a week from Monday. Senator Kremer.

SENATOR KREMER: Mr. Chairman, only to say this, I will support the suggestion made by Senator Proud. I will have to oppose the Carpenter amendment to his suggestion. I suppose largely for personal reasons but I believe that we can catch up by next Monday and not need to take off that extra week. I think we should be