

(Begin Belt 1A)

March 11, 1974

PRESIDENT: Will the Legislature please come to order. We'll have Roll Call. Please indicate your presence. Roll call. Thank you. Clerk will record.

CLERK: Quorum present, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Very good. It appears that we have 6 students from the 4th and 6th grades of Wheeler Central School at Bartlett, Nebraska. That's from Senator Rasmussen's district. Instructors are Mr. and Mrs. Kenton Olson. We're delighted to have you here today in the north balcony to observe the activities of the Nebraska Unicameral Legislature. Now then, the Chair recognizes Speaker Proud.

SPEAKER PROUD: Mr. President, an announcement. I have asked by several senators who have become disturbed at the number of bills we have up here. It does appear obvious with 18 days left we're not going to get through, with all of them and they have asked, nobody in particular, but that they be permitted to choose their favorite bill. The one they consider the most important and that we put them to the top of General File. Now, this seems logical to me. The Speaker has the authority to do this on General File subject to being overruled by a majority vote of the members. So I'm just telling you what I propose to do is to get such a list of...if you will....you can vote me down right now if you want to because I don't have any bills and from that standpoint, it's immaterial to me. But I suggest to you that each one that has a bill. Senator Richendifer is asking for three bills. I think we should limit it to one bill to start with and if you want to proceed in that manner, it's okay. That you give the number of the bill and your name to the Clerk of the Legislature, one bill that you want placed at the head of General File. Then I'll have to decide in which order they're going to be on General File and preliminarily I believe I'll put them up in the order they appear on the board. There may be a better way of doing it possibly by lot but that's my present intention and then we'll get all those bills up there and start out, for example, on Wednesday morning on General File with a bill you have that you consider the most important. Is there any questions or if enough of you disagree with this method of proceeding, okay. But otherwise that's what I intend to do. But I want to give you advance notice to give the number of the bill you want placed at the head of General File with the Clerk. And then Wednesday, for example, we'll proceed in that manner. But now is the time to voice your disagreement if you feel differently.

PRESIDENT: All right, Senator Waldron. Then Senator Fred Carstens and then Senator Barnett.

SENATOR WALDRON: Mr. President, I think maybe it's all right what Senator Proud proposes to do with the really important bills but I don't know why a non-controversial bill or a bill that's just a little bill should take precedent over some of those that are more important. I think we ought to take the important ones first and also I'd like to point out they're going to move up non-controversial ones. I've had one that's been down about five on General File for two weeks and it keeps going down further instead of getting to the top. And so I would hate to follow that procedure where someone that just has a little bill they