

March 18, 1974

important to those people who have suddenly come forward in opposition to the bill. They say they are not in opposition, but we all know they are. They are afraid... they originally opposed of the bill because they are afraid of it. They don't know what it will do. But I think this. I think that we need to recognize that things are not as they should be. Or the bill would not have been introduced. If you think that price fixing and monopoly does not exist, I ask you to take a look at the situation that is in existence across the State of Nebraska today. You watch the price of gasoline go up, and up, and up. And if anyone thinks that it reaches this point by accident, it may be somewhat with the connivance of the federal government. But if anyone thinks there isn't someone getting together on these things, then they are more naive than I think we are here today. I've been accused of making inflammatory statements and I think it's about time that we are not afraid of being ridiculed. You know the surest way to kill a person in this body is to ridicule him. Or to brand his statements or his legislation as ridiculous. We are all afraid of being made to look ridiculous. Well I will say this. That that is the only way that you are going to have the ability to get these bills passed, because those persons who brand legislation ridiculous don't have any substantive arguments against them. If these...if the people who are opposed to this bill will take a look at what happened to the price of livestock in the last few months. They watched the price go up and down. They've watched the price at the retail level drop drastically for a few days come back up and drop again. They've watched the price of the producer go up and down like a yo-yo. I'm not going to stand here and tell you that someone gets together. It's just like in this body. We don't have to walk across the aisle and visit with someone to know what he is going to do. I know how Senator Lewis is going to vote on a bill. And Senator Savage. Most of the time the rest of you fellows. And you know how I'm going to vote. Those things are understood. What we need is a piece of legislation that is going to be a red mark, a red flag to those persons who are engaged in illegal activity. And I stand here today, and I make a promise that if I'm back here a year from now, and there is something in this bill that seriously hampers business or industry or agriculture, coops, I don't care who it is. The Labor Unions, or anyone else. I'll come back with you and try to work the thing out. But I'm not going to go home, I hope and say that we didn't have the courage to do something because someone says we were rushing into it too fast. Now if we haven't changed these laws since 1906. Then I don't think 67 years is rushing head long into anything. I think it's time we take a look at it. I think it's time we do something. I think it's time we vote against the move to bracket. And I would suggest, and I respectfully suggest to my friends the attorneys, that if their livelihood were at stake, as is the livelihood of some of the rest of us, as is the very livelihood of the consumer, and I was asked recently, just a few minutes ago. What I thought was going to happen to the sales and income tax. Income this year. If we do not get