

March 20, 1974

(Begin Belt #10)

from the Youngs that state from Missouri, his living (three) daughters are in Missouri.

SENATOR CARSTENS: Well, thank you, I think this is virtually a declaration of war. I think John Neihardt belongs to Nebraska and I think he should be supported by Nebraska. I think we ought back this up. I'm sorry to have to go and override the Governor or vote to override the Governor which I don't like to do. I think he has his reasons and I even believe his reasons for vetoing are sound. I think we're getting a little bit like the U. S. Congress. We appropriate and appropriate but we don't have any corresponding revenue measure so I...in that respect I'm sorry about it but I will vote to override this veto. I think it amounts to what.... \$200,000, is that correct? Because I believe we ought to keep this Neihardt Center in Nebraska. It belongs here.

PRESIDENT: Senator F. Lewis and then Senator Stahmer.

SENATOR F. LEWIS: Well, Mr. President, I have been subject to the most unfair pressures that one can be subject to on a matter of this kind. My wife is no longer speaking to me as a teacher of English and a lover of Neihardt and I can take that but my 13-year-old daughter also has read Black Elk Speaks and has a great deal of respect for him. I'm asking the committee on conflict of interest to look into this and possibly bring charges against my wife and my daughter on this issue. It is with a great deal of reluctance that I say that a month ago I said I would not vote for any bills but I'll show you how big of a man I am. I'm going to wilt under pressure. In good judgment and good common sense if we could postpone this a year, I would certainly do so but ...because I think this Body has made a very serious mistake in regard to funding. But my good conscience and my home life are very important. So, Senator Richendifer, damn you, and then Senator Barnett, the same to you. I'm going to vote to override.

PRESIDENT: Senator Stahmer and then Senator Waldron.
Senator Stahmer.

SENATOR STAHMER: Mr. President and members of the Body. I would like to endorse the Neihardt Center for Nebraska.

PRESIDENT: Senator Waldron.

SENATOR WALDRON: Mr. President and members of the Legislature. I stand up to endorse the override attempt. It's been said we do very little for the Arts here. If you really take a look at the things we have done in the past, very, very little. And I think it is time that we did this and I'm sorry it did not pass the other day. So I support.

PRESIDENT: All right, now, are you all through debating the motion? The motion actually is to reconsider the action. Senator Carpenter. The motion is to reconsider the action.

SENATOR CARPENTER: Well, I want to try to put this thing in perspective if I'm right. Are we saying, for example, to Missouri and to the poet's family if we don't vote to override the Governor, we want you to take the memory of this gentleman and the culture he provided to Missouri.