

March 20, 1974

conspiracy and they don't want restraints of trade. If you believe any of these, holier-than-thou statements that were made, then I suggest that you leave the bill in tact and vote to pass the bill which means defeating Senator Skarda's motion to kill and defeating Senator Skarda's motion to return this for an amendment to kill it. No legislation is perfect. But it isn't even correct to say that this legislation isn't perfect. This legislation will at least start the procedural operation in the area of anti-trust regulation for Nebraska. Now, I implore those of you have said that you believe in this to put your money where your mouth is and to vote to keep this in tact and get it started. I would suggest arguing on the other side, that if you vote to kill this motion or this bill now you are really doing what Senator Carpenter is accusing you of doing. That is running gutless for cover and saying that the people of this state aren't entitled to any protection as soon as anyone with any power says I am worried about what might happen. Now I'm not against all of those with power, I believe that they have a perfect right and I do my share of supporting them, but I am bothered when people come in and can't point to anything specific. The thing that is bothersome about this sort of bill is that people see ahead

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the potential for problems. Now the other side of that is the average citizen can see ahead the potential for good. Now if you believe the speeches that were said, it seems to me that you ought to leave the bill as it sits and kill the motion to ill pass it and then what is going to happen the new attorney general whoever he might be have someone designated to work in the area of anti-trust. That person will be back dealing with the next legislature and subsequent legislatures where there will be time in a more orderly way to work out the substance of the law. If you kill this thing now, you are taking a step back to something before 1903.

PRESIDENT: Senator DeCamp, Cavanaugh.

SENATOR DE CAMP: Mr. President, members of the legislature, there is no substantial difference between the bill this morning before we gutted it and the bill that we are now going to pass. I realize that that sounds contradictory but it really isn't. You see the bill this morning did the basic thing that needs to be done which is give someone the authority and power to get involved into anti-trust legislation or anti-trust work directs a specific person. It gets down to one thing. Now what the law defines and spells out but who is in the Attorney General office and how effective that individual is going to be. Under the bill as we have it now, even though we passed the amendment this morning an effective attorney general can do exactly as much can accomplish exactly as much as he could under the original bill. So I repeat there is no substantial difference, in the ultimate effect that can be brought out in this bill. It gets down to who can enforce it and how effective it is going to be. I can give you examples of what I am talking about. You can go to different counties in the state and you can take the same laws that are on the books for the state of Nebraska and see how they are applied in different counties. An aggressive county attorney can do a lot with law enforcement with the power and the laws on the book, and at the same time a very negligent