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as I listen it appears to me that perhaps the Thone administration managed to stack the present Committee on Committees and has been insured thereby of smooth sledding for people, and issues that may go before that Committee. One of the things that troubled me was when the Chairman of the Committee indicated for publication, and unless a reporter misquoted her, her remarks were to the effect that since the Attorney General indicated that a certain individual was qualified for a job, that should end the issue. But the Attorney General's job is not to make appointments. It is not for the executive branch to intrude to that extent on the functions of the Legislature. However, that intrusion cannot occur without the complicity or acquiescence of legislators. So, perhaps, the Chairman...Chairperson of the Committee on Committees is... has a certain relationship or understanding with the Thone administration that would allow her to say that a ruling by a member of the executive branch ends the issue as far as the questions raised are concerned. I don't think it ends the issue at all. All of these matters are to be considered independently by the Legislature, and if the Committee on Committees has predetermined what the outcome of an issue should be, that to me argues in favor of the type of proposition that Senator Newell, and whoever has worked with him, is offering. It is far more difficult to corral and control all of the various committees of the Legislature that appointees may have to appear before than it is to control one group on a Committee on Committees, especially when that group may have been foreordained.

SPEAKER MARVEL: One minute, Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: I'm not in a position to say they were foreordained, but it seems to me that is a possibility. Relative to adopting a rule today that might apply in the future, every rule that we adopt and place in the rule book is binding on future legislatures if they adopt those rules when they come into a new session. That is the way all rules operate in the Legislature, so I don't see anything wrong with adopting a provision now which will take effect at a future date. If that future Legislature chooses to disavow that rule, fine, but in the meantime its presence in place in the rule book will give everybody notice of the probable organization and function of various legislative committees.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Before we proceed, I wish to recognize a reality and that is that Senator Lewis today is 29 years of age. So let's give him a hand.

Senator Carsten. The Chair recognizes Senator Cal Carsten.