

January 26, 1979

maybe you can do it that way. He says, well this committee has forty-seven or fifty-seven bills and this one has twenty-seven or twenty-eight. Obviously the work load is not the same. Public Works, as every man and woman in this body knows, is handling some heavy stuff, doggoned heavy stuff, utilities, coal slurry pipe lines, water, probably half a dozen of literally the most important and controversial issues that this Legislature is going to be dealing with. Indeed, Sam, Banking does have a bunch of bills and most of them are rinky dink and I hate to use the term but minor bills that can be dealt with in five or ten minutes, correcting a comma in some cases. The point I am making is, that was one factor in the movement of those bills but there were others. There were other factors. Some of those factors included the personalities involved. One person is insisting that this committee heard this bill or this subject at some time. Another one is insisting that my God, this committee heard it. Now, Sam, if you want to open up the cage on referral, we played the game a couple of years ago and we tore this body into pieces. I suppose we could do it again this year but it doesn't make that much sense. Let's take just one example, abortion. Yes, I suggested it go to Public Health and it was referred there and in the committee Ernie Chambers raised holy hell with me and he says, I'll wage a floor fight on that if you don't get that to Judiciary because it was in Judiciary last year and the year before and I says, okay, Ernie, I yield. Coal slurry pipeline, yes, I could have maneuvered that into Banking because I worded the front of that to talk about commercial ventures. I changed the whole bill from what it was in the past but I knew that Maurie Kremer and you would come out of your seats and so even though I had it going to Banking, I let her go to Public Works like it probably should have. Water, now water is the domain of Public Works and we all know it. Right, Sam? But, Sam, in the B.C. days, before Sam, water actually was in Agriculture. Yes, fellows, because Senator Kremer was Chairman of Agriculture. Now there haven't been any big fights over this issue of water. Senator Kremer, Senator Schmit have reached understandings of what their areas of concern are and on this particular issue of these particular bills which are three, I'm going to call them minor bills, Senator Kremer has said, he said to me, he said, sure I can see an argument for them going to Public Works but you know it's not that big of deal. If Miscellaneous Subjects wants to handle it and if that satisfies things, it is not worth squabbling over. But as I say, you pull the lid off the can on this and where does it go from there? Sam, I think the reasonable thing is to let