

in the last four years, you'll know what Senator Rumery's been doing. But I just...that's an aside. I threw that in, Senator Rumery. But I would like to say this, that as far as the taxation system for the railroads is concerned, I do believe that I have read recent pronouncements in the media, that indicates that there's going to be some further research on the taxation of the railroads. The press...the pressure is on. I think that if we pass this bill at this time, there will be a move that will say, but we've already redone that. We've already reviewed that. Those massive reorganizations have taken place. The facts are that we are arguing over the crumbs. What we are arguing about, the chicken wouldn't even pick up off the street. Now I would recognize, and I've said it many times, I don't like the taxation of property, but so long as we tax property, there ought to be some kind of equity. I know and you know, and we've done some research on it, and Senator Carsten can give you some actual figures and so can Senator Keyes, so can many other members of the Revenue Committee, that will curl your hair when you talk about inequities in property tax valuations. The whole system is in a mess. I think you know, and I know that the real property situation is in chaos in the state of Nebraska. There is nothing that is equitable about it, and I'm going to give you one more statement and I think you can check it out anywhere you want to go. You find a home that's worth \$40,000, and you find a home that's worth a \$140,000, and the \$40,000 home is going to be appraised for tax purposes a lot closer to actual value than will the \$140,000. You find a farm that's worth a \$100,000, and one that's worth a few hundred thousand, and you will find also that the lower the value of the property the greater is its assessed actual valuation. If you check business property, you will find the same thing. You will find that the ability of those individuals to negotiate their tax situation increases progressively as does the value of the property. I have said it many times and I'm embarrassed with the fact that this Legislature has perhaps not in the past provided the Board of Equalization and the Tax Commissioner's office with adequate help to do a good job in instances like this. There is no way that it can be done with the present staff. It must be reviewed. The procedures must be changed. The valuations must be brought up to snuff, and there is absolutely no basis for taxation of railroads different than we tax everybody else in the State of Nebraska. And if the rest of the population, if the million and a half people in the State of Nebraska knew that railroad property is taxed on those three factors as outlined by Senator