

April 2, 1979

LB 345

SENATOR CHAMBERS: I thought my name was following Senator Labeledz, but I was going to just be cool and see what happened. I think this is an attempt by Senator Labeledz and others to evade a responsibility that we have. I'm going to repeat again, I see things constantly that remind of America even the dictionary says the American Heritage Dictionary. Now what is the heritage of America? Representation of all people who are to be governed by a body. Now if you're going to tell me that is not the heritage, I want you to tell me. Then when you have 4th of July celebrations, and all the veterans get together and say why young men go across the water and fight, then say it's not to vote, that America's heritage is one rather of denying people representation, one of making sure that certain small highly financed, Senator Labeledz, groups can control...control the organs of government that make the true decisions about what will happen to a society. The present City Council rushed through a proposal to try to get some federal money, and in that proposal they said they would provide a certain amount of housing for poor people. There was no intention to provide the housing, but they had to get that in to get five million plus dollars into Omaha, so that instead of meeting the housing needs of the people, they could revitalize downtown Omaha...you know, like Union Pacific, World Herald for Peter Keiwitt, Northern Natural Gas, Northwestern Bell, Senator Lamb...the kind of people you would probably sit down to have dinner with, not the kind of people that I would. So you could be sympathetic to the interests of Union Pacific, Northwestern Bell, and these large interests who control people who sit in Legislatures, who control people who sit on County Boards, who control City Councils like those in Omaha, Senator Labeledz, who strangle downtown Omaha by voting to build a Hilton Hotel across 16th Street, and when people like me without a representative on the Council went before that City Council to object to it, laughed to scorn...constantly making appeals to the City Council, even spoke, Senator Venditte, about the stink plants that they were going to put in South Omaha, Senator Labeledz, which is a part of the town that you live in, and more has been said in behalf of South Omaha and other unrepresentative parts of Omaha by me than anybody in the Legislature, because I know what it means not to have representation. Then on other occasions we'll sit around here and go through sillinesses like on St. Patrick's Day, and I sit up in my office and swallow spit and think about it. The Legislature can be demeaned in that fashion, and everybody goes along with it and understands, but then when time comes to deal with

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