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came down here with a film crew for a day and said, how many of you want to be interviewed on TV? And I think that this is his way of trying to placate the Legislature. I will not be placated. I think his past record stands for itself. I rise to oppose Mr. Johnson's appointment to the ETV network.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Kahle and then Senator Cope.

SENATOR KAHLE: Well Mr. Speaker and members of the body, I've known Jim Johnson ever since he came to the area, and he is a controversial character, and he does provide editorials and comments that sometimes I do not agree with, but I believe he's being appointed to the Television Commission, or whatever it's called, and in that respect I don't think you can find a better man in the state of Nebraska, because he does know television. He knows it from one end to the other, and he knows how to work it successfully. The station at Kearney and the Nebraska Television Network was not a very strong organization until Jim Johnson came along. I've had my rounds with him too over the issues of the Legislature and I still disagree with him on many of them, but I think if we're going to chastise and keep someone from becoming appointed to an office because we disagree with him and because he took a shot at us, we're going to get into all kinds of trouble. I think that's freedom of the press. I think he has that right. We have our right to chastise him back. I think it should have nothing to do with his appointment. I believe that he is an excellent choice, so that's the end of the speech. I think we should support him and if you have some differences of opinion with him, why you can settle that personally with him. But I think he's an excellent choice. Thank you.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Cope.

SENATOR COPE: Mr. President and members, I strongly oppose Senator Simon's views. I have disagreed very strongly with Jim Johnson at times. I've gone up to the station, invited to come up to oppose him on the air. I disagreed with this last editorial. I was the one that asked the station to send copies to every senator. That's how Senator Simon knew about it. I will probably continue to disagree with him, but that isn't what we're talking about today. One thing before I forget it, I don't think that he was placating the Legislature by sending a crew down to do interviews with us. He invited anyone to come out to the station, and I said, look, we're busy we can't come out to the station.