

March 17, 1980

PRESIDENT: Thank you, Monsignor Flynn, and Senator Murphy, thank you. We will have at this time...Senator Fitzgerald, would you, before we officially open the session, would you care to make a few remarks at this time?

SENATOR FITZGERALD: I'd like to wish you all a happy St. Patrick's Day. We did a little decoration up here. I know the tension here halfway through the session is building up so I thought maybe this would take a little of the tension off and get you senators like me, lovable, sweet, desirable and that's about all but I want to tell you about a little trip that I had coming back from Chicago the other day. I was sitting there and a young priest came up to me and he said, started talking to me and I said, "Father, where are you from?" He said, "I am from South Sioux City." I said, "Oh, I've got a very, very good friend up there, Senator Murphy and Bess." He said, "Well, I know Senator Murphy but I don't know anything about Bess." And so during the conversation coming across Iowa I said, "Well, how well do you know Senator Murphy?" He said, "Senator, I'll be truthful with you, seeing I am a priest. I don't know Senator Murphy but he sure has been mentioned in the confessional quite a bit."

PRESIDENT: Thank you for that Irish story. You know it's nice to see all the wearin' of the green by all these great Irish people this morning like Senator Hefner and Senator Sieck and Senator Labeledz. I mean it just does your heart good to see this kind of wearin' of the green. So let's have roll call at this time and while we are doing that the Chair recognizes...I think, Senator Lewis, you wanted to make an introduction, did you not? I saw your light on a little while ago. No, no. You're sure? You don't want to steal away from the...

SENATOR LEWIS: Well, I will.

PRESIDENT: Oh, all right. I twisted your arm. Senator Lewis has an introduction.

SENATOR LEWIS: Well, as promised last week I would like for you to meet the first lady in my life and that is my mother, Mrs. Jess Lewis.

PRESIDENT: Mrs. Lewis, welcome to the Legislature. He mentions his mother so much that she should know that she is very well known by all of us by her being mentioned by Senator Lewis.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Simon and Powers would like