

March 22, 1982

LB 754

letter and expressed grave concern over the diatribe and acrimony on the issue of banking legislation and specifically to the apparent newspaper controversy between Mr. Giltner and myself. I don't want to get into any of the merits or demerits and what I am going to say is not what anybody expects, I think, but it is going to clear some things up because Senator Cullan I think deserves and is properly entitled to an answer to his letter. So I want to very briefly recite a series of events. The first issue developed when a letter was brought to me from any number of senators here and that letter, as I and a number of senators agreed, had statements that at best were inaccurate and did not represent what was before the Legislature in the form of the bill. I expressed my concern. Some of the other senators did, so on and so forth. In response to that letter, I sent a certified letter to a man named Mr. Giltner, an officer of the First National Bank in Omaha, and in that letter I was very strong, very critical. I asked for retractions and I did a number of other things. And you say, so what. Well, this is the point and the point is very important because Mr. Giltner suggested I was abusing or not properly using my legislative immunity. I have never sought legislative immunity from anything, but that letter that I sent to Mr. Giltner which he is so concerned about was provided to the press, not by Johnny DeCamp...Johnny DeCamp has never provided that letter to one human being and only two people have seen it from him, himself and the secretary who typed it. The man that released it to the press almost upon receiving it was Mr. Giltner himself and any complaints that he might have as a result of it he has only himself to thank because he was the one that provided this information to the press. And I would just submit that I think maybe his entire demeanor in questioning everything and his allegations trace back directly only to him. As I say, I have never provided that letter to one person, but you can get the letter from anybody in the press because he provided it to them and then criticized what was said in there to him.

SENATOR CLARK: I would like to introduce to the Legislature, Mr. and Mrs. Herb Schuessler and their daughter, Lisa, from Potter, Nebraska, the great 47th District. Will you stand and be recognized, please. Welcome to the Legislature, Herb. We will now take up the appropriation bills. 754 will be number one.

CLERK: Mr. President, LB 754 offered by Senator Marvel at the request of the Governor. (Read title.) The bill was first read on January 11th of this year, Mr. President. It was referred to the Appropriations Committee. I have pending, Mr. President, two sets of Appropriation Committee