

January 9, 1985

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Hannibal has received 25 votes, Senator Higgins 23 votes. There was one abstention.

PRESIDENT: The Chair declares Senator Hannibal the new Chairman of the Administrative Rules and Regulations Committee. Senator Hannibal, do you wish to make a statement?

SENATOR HANNIBAL: Mr. President, members, just to say thank you. I think the closeness of the race was a compliment to both Senator Higgins and myself and I know that Senator Higgins and I both decide to serve on the committee or want to serve on the committee and we will work very closely together and I appreciate your votes. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: At this time the Chair would like to introduce on behalf of Senator Higgins the distinguished Mayor of Omaha, Mr. Mike Boyle and his wife, Ann Boyle. Welcome to the Chamber, Mayor Boyle. And also the Chair is privileged on behalf of Senator Higgins to introduce her husband, Dave Higgins. Thank you, Dave, for coming. Now we will proceed to accept nominations for the Chairman of the Committee on Agriculture and Environment. Nominations are in order. The Chair recognizes Senator Sieck. Members will please be in order. Senator Sieck.

SENATOR SIECK: Mr. Speaker and ladies and gentlemen of the Legislature, I rise today to nominate myself for the chairmanship of this body's Agriculture and Environment Committee. As I mentioned in my letter to you announcing my candidacy for this position back in August, I feel I am well qualified for this position. This is due, not only to my six years of experience in this body, but more primarily because of my direct involvement in agriculture for well over 40 years. The problems facing agriculture in this state are as acute as they have been since the 1930s when I, myself, first entered this profession. This was made evident as recent as yesterday in the meeting across the hall in which farmers from all the farm organizations were in attendance. This recent unification report by these many organizations is the key to achieving some solutions to the problems facing our rural sector. I personally have been involved in a variety of these farm organizations for many, many years and I clearly understand the policies and the personalities of each and every one. As chairman of this