

January 9, 1985

I took it on the impeachment issue, but I've taken the heat. I have very conscientiously attempted to give this body, and the folk in this state, what this body and the folk in this state deserve. I think this body has risen to the occasion time and time again, but we have one more important occasion to rise to and that is property tax relief. The freshman senators, none of whom I have talked to about my candidacy because no one knows about my candidacy, campaigned on property tax relief; to a person they know it has to be done and it does have to be done. It has to be done this session. If we miss that opportunity, if we miss it we do a disservice to the people. You know in the last four years the Nebraska Supreme Court, on seven occasions, has held our tax laws, in one form or another, unconstitutional. As a result of that we have had to play catch up, catch up here, catch up there. We have lurched along on taxes. The time is at hand for us to quit the lurching, for us to give it, as Winston Churchill would say, blood, toil, tears, sweat and determination and to go forward and to reform our archaic tax laws, to provide justice to our farmers, to our homeowners, to our commercial property owners, to get the job behind us. We can do it. I ask your support.

PRESIDENT: The name is Senator Vard Johnson is placed in nomination for Committee on Revenue Chairman. Are there other nominations? Are there other nominations? The Chair declares that nominations have ceased. We will proceed to elect, by secret ballot, the Chairman of the Committee on Revenue. The Clerk will collect the ballots and deliver them to a Teller Committee consisting of Senator Warner, Senator Baack and Senator Withem. Will the Teller Committee please come forward. Senator Warner, Chairman, assisted by Senator Baack and Senator Withem. Committee will tabulate the vote and report it to the Clerk. Clerk will report the vote.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Johnson has received 25 votes, Senator Carsten has received 24 votes.

PRESIDENT: The Chair declares Senator Vard Johnson as Chairman of the Committee on Revenue. We will proceed to a nomination for chairmanship of the Committee on Urban Affairs. Nominations are in order. Senator Wesely.

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you, Mr. President, members, excuse myself. I guess I was in a state of shock, as many of you