

January 10, 1985

PRESIDENT: Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, what I would like everybody to do, and the new people can't do it right now because you don't know anybody well enough really, but when you've got enough knowledge of what various of us are in terms of ability review those on these committees and see if those people were placed there because they have the most expertise on those committees. If that were the case, how can you make somebody a committee chairman of a committee they've never served on? So that gives the lie to what Senator Beutler is saying. What it all boils down to is what we've discussed up to this point. There are power brokers, of which I am not, there are those who have and those who have not. That is what is being discussed here today. That is what the versus is, the haves versus the have-nots. Senator Beutler and his crew are the haves this time, so they want everything to stay just like it is. When Governor Thone was here a group came in, they were called the clones and they had things their way, and Senator Beutler and his crew were upset about that because they were the have-nots. They understood, at that time, what I'm talking about now. Senator Beutler says that if you have a seniority system people from districts, where a person may be elected for four or eight years, would have constituents who are punished because the senator from that district would never rise to a position of leadership. How much has my district been punished for 14 years, and what difference does it make to anybody? It makes no difference because I'm so much different from the rest of you that I am viewed as not a part of this body. I am in this body but not of this body and I accept it. I know what the reality is and I know what it will continue to be. But as long as I'm here I'm going to point out the way it is. That is the only real function I can serve here is call attention to things that others are too cowardly to talk about on this floor, but they will weasel up and talk to me about in private, in the halls, or in my office or some place else. People need to know what kind of body this Legislature is and not let self-serving individuals stand up and talk about what they've done when they haven't done it. There are candidates here who are the World Herald's candidates and they will be quoted on every issue, whether it is the video slots, whether it is how great a guy Vard Johnson is, or whether it is any other issue. And you can tell it if you've got eyes to discern, and we know these things, but