

January 21, 1985

SENATOR HIGGINS: Yes, thank you, Mr. Chairman...Mr. President. Could I have a little order, please?

SPEAKER NICHOL: Yes, ma'am. (Gavel.) Thank you. Please listen to Senator Higgins.

SENATOR HIGGINS: The only reason I asked for order is because I am speaking on a point of personal privilege. And one of the things about a point of personal privilege is when a senator has been insulted or demeaned or slandered, and I want to bring to every senator in this Legislature, especially you dummies like me that never went to college, just a very short paragraph in a World Herald editorial that appeared last week. I assume, Senators, World Herald editorialists have a college degree perhaps in Journalism, but I would assume that their editors went to college and they are brilliant. In the second paragraph they say, "Among the state senators sponsoring LB 144 in the Nebraska Legislature are two college professors and an attorney who has degrees from Yale and Harvard. These are people presumably who are smarter than the average."

SPEAKER NICHOL: State your point, Senator Higgins.

SENATOR HIGGINS: Now that sounds like a pretty stupid statement for somebody with a college degree, but then I don't have a college degree, I am no judge of that. Their sense...and then they go on, "Their sense of morality, as well, should be keener." So if you go to college and you get a degree, you are absolutely more moral than someone who did not go to college, like your mothers and fathers who maybe worked all through the Depression, or maybe some of you who could not go to college during the Depression and you had to get out because you felt morally obligated to support your family. And finally they say, "In short, society looks to people like them for its values." Senators, I will close by saying this. All of the people convicted at Watergate were attorneys. They were what the World Herald calls "political leaders", and we are to look to them for our sense of morality. Now I ask you, Senators, do you really think the World Herald editorial writer has a college degree, or is he just..or she, just another dummy like the majority of us? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.