

opportunity and an important opportunity to tax those 3,000 pieces of property throughout the state and tax them equitably with other property. So I would simply bring this to the body's attention. I would hope and I know my railroad friends are listening carefully and they will provide additional information, I'm sure. At the same time I would like to ask Senator Johnson whether he knows if these 3,000 parcels, and I use the number 3,000 because that's the number I've been able to gather so far, if these 3,000 parcels are indeed treated separately as they should be because they're not a part of the railroad operation, and whether they are being taxed equitably and if the committee has dealt with this subject or if you're aware of this particular situation.

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: That particular subject, Senator DeCamp, has not been raised with the committee. We have not dealt with it. I think that I have an answer, but I'm not positive enough to make a statement on the floor, so I'll check out further on that issue.

PRESIDENT: Senator Wesely, did you wish recognition?

SENATOR WESELY: Yes, Mr. President, members, I'd like to relay to you a story of involvement on this same issue. Senator DeCamp brought back some memories that I thought might be of interest. When I was a working student at the University of Nebraska I was hired to do some research on some terminal property here in Lincoln, Nebraska. As Senator DeCamp said, presently this property, 3,000 parcels, I didn't know that there were that many, but there are many parcels of property separate and apart from the operation of railroads across the state and in Lincoln, Nebraska, it is no exception and an organization now defunct called the Lincoln Alliance was researching property taxes and found in fact that there was a great deal of what is called terminal property in the city that had not been properly assessed over a period of years. What we did was we looked at that terminal property particularly for one railroad called OL&B Railroad, and we looked at that property and we tried to compare it to other property and the assessed value. And what we found was in fact that that property had been undervalued so tremendously that there was action by the State Department of Revenue to come in and collect about \$100,000 in back taxes that should have been paid. If in fact they had been paying their full load, it would have