

know. I had an interesting talk with the Chairman of the Public Health Committee about why some of these groups that are affected by this bill are not here objecting, openly and vociferously, as they should in looking out for their own interests. Well, they have bills that are being held hostage in committee. And I asked why such a thing is done. I was told that is to make it possible to "work something out." Well, when you can kill the bills of interested groups that are weak, it's not a case of working something out, it is a case of bludgeoning somebody down and compelling them to accept what you tell them they must accept. If this is the tactic that is to be used in the Legislature, we ought to state it openly so that everybody knows the rules by which we are playing. If Senator Nichol, Senator Sieck, Senator Lowell Johnson, Senator DeCamp and I sat down in a card game, and you can put cards in your sleeves, I'd have a problem with that because you can see the way I'm attired, but you can hide cards wherever you want to, and have as many aces as you can conceal, and anything goes.

PRESIDENT: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: The only rule is that there are no rules. Anybody who would try to enter a game like this and play according to rules, under a game controlled by rules, is not wise but a fool. The rule is not that we are gambling, it is that we are cheating. But since there are no rules at all there is no such thing as cheating. Cheating can only exist if you violate a rule. But since there are no rules there can be no cheating. If we are going to play what you might call power politics where the strong bludgeon down the weak, let it be stated openly so the public understands what is happening here today. These various groups are not here to object because their bills are being held hostage. They know what will happen to their bills if they say anything. Now Senator Wesely knows that we talked about this, and we were both pretty agitated at the time. He can tell you if I'm misrepresenting him when he said those bills are being held so that we can work something out.

PRESIDENT: Your time is nearly expired, Senator. Thank you. Senator Higgins, do you wish to close?

SENATOR HIGGINS: Are there any other lights on?