

need this. As Senator Conway pointed out, and it is true and we all know it, a \$7 million amount exempted will not mean so much to Ak-Sar-Ben in the overall scheme of things but Ak-Sar-Ben has an overall scheme of which this is only one small part. They have to periodically come in here and gain increasing concessions from the Legislature to show they haven't lost the touch. On a proposition they had no interest in originally, they can come in and take it over and make it benefit them. If the real purpose of this bill is to help the little tracks, the bill should be retained for that purpose. If Ak-Sar-Ben is going to come in and try to gain something from the Legislature, let Ak-Sar-Ben bring a bill in and I don't think a measure ought to be added to LB 154 which might generate a hostility to Senator Conway's bill that didn't exist originally. So based on what Senator Conway has told me about his intention, I am going to take back my offered amendment to the committee amendment.

PRESIDENT MCGINLEY PRESIDING

PRESIDENT: You are withdrawing the amendment to the committee amendment? Now then we still have before us the committee amendments and, Senator Rupp, did you wish to speak on the committee amendments? And Senator Vard Johnson, do you have anything more on the committee...anyone...you wish to close. Very well.

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: Well, the question, of course, is whether or not to vote for the committee amendments. I think the issue has been pretty carefully well-framed. I think Senator Chambers did a nice job in framing the issue. The bill that was brought to the Revenue Committee by Senator Conway and Senator Hefner was a bill, and I think Senator Rupp, was a bill designed to maintain a special treatment for two small tracks, Atokad and Columbus, and, in fact, enhance that special treatment a bit. This bill is not done in a vacuum. There were other bills brought to the Revenue Committee, I was just digging them out of my bill book, LB 100 brought in by Senator Jim Pappas which was designed to provide about \$8 million in tax breaks to this form of the gambling industry; LB 627, I think that is the number, brought in by Senator Schmit which is designed also to provide other kinds of breaks in the gambling industry. We had a whole stew I guess of tax issues, a real stew, a farrago, as you might say, Senator Chambers, or a potpourri of different tax issues. Now in the meantime Governor