

17th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution was added whereby U.S. Senators were elected not by legislatures but directly by the people. So the railroads, while they are being portrayed as those bringers of great bounty and abundance, the upholders of the economy of states, were really stick up and hold up persons. I don't think their record, in the history of this country, has been so great. I don't think there is a person walking, and certainly not one sitting behind a desk, worth \$2 million. An athlete is because he or she will bring in those amounts of money and make the money by which their salary is paid. But how are you going to tell me that some man is worth \$2 million, one-third of the amount that they say it would cost to keep these cabooses running? There seems to be a split of opinion as to whether they serve a worthwhile purpose with regard to safety in the running of the train itself, and with reference to other ancillary activities that they may observe, the people riding in the cabooses. So if there is a split, if there can be an argument among reasonable people as to whether they serve a worthwhile purpose, and the Legislature is going to act on the issue, if a mistake is to be made, it should be made on the side of the public and not on the side of a corporation that can pay an individual \$2 million, for doing what? He doesn't get on the train, turn his hat backward and grab the throttle and die with the throttle in his hand, if necessary, as Casey Jones did. He doesn't stand out there and switch the track so that one train bearing down on another will just turn in the nick of time and miss it. When the villain has tied the damsel to the track, and is going to have her run over, he doesn't jump up and put on his coveralls and his cap and run out there and rescue her. He does nothing but sit. Anything can sit. A chicken can sit. A duck can sit. A chump can sit. So if all this person is going to do, basically, is sit...

SPEAKER NICHOL: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...and be paid \$2 million, it is strange to me that so many in the Legislature can be concerned about these corporations that can pay that much money to a person who does virtually nothing that relates directly to the operation of the corporation. You can move him and everything would continue to go as it is. I'm opposed to the bill. I wanted to get some things into the record. The skids have probably been greased, the train may not be