

some point we are going to reach the end of the tether. All of the charade will be over. All of the play-acting will come to an end and everybody will have run through their paces and we will hit a stone wall where you cut as much as you intend to cut and I am not going to help you cut anything but you will cut as much as you intend to cut. There will still be a necessity to raise some money since you are not going to cut enough. But there is nothing else that can be done because no bills can be dealt with by the Legislature that would accomplish that so why should we stretch it out day after day after day? It doesn't make sense. I haven't heard anybody make any sense out of what is happening here. Senator Warner has to plod through because that is the procedure that was agreed to. But really there is no excitement here. I was...Senator Hannibal, you look...I was overstating the situation when I said that. I am not even excited and it is hard to feel anything but something bordering on contempt for what we are doing. If you have a patient who needs treatment and you have nothing you can offer the patient, there is no need in coming around standing, looking and breathing on the person. Just tell them there is nothing I have to offer you. Maybe we ought to say like Abraham Lincoln when he was being hounded by all these office seekers, I wish I could get smallpox then I would have something I can give everybody. The Legislature is playing a political game, pretending that it is whatever it is supposed to appear by saying it is going to cut these programs. A man who said he is not going to try to stay in office any longer has given us this stuff to play with and we are playing with it. I am sure it is amusing. It is like if you have a little puppy dog and you throw a stick and tell him, fetch, and he goes and fetches it, he brings it back, then you throw it out there again. Even a dog gets tired pretty soon, a puppy, and he will quit chasing the stick. It is pointless. But the Legislature composed of thoughtful, deliberative individuals is going to go through this day after weary day. I am going to be upstairs working and should something come up that I think is especially damaging, I am going to come down here and talk about it, but I am not going to waste my time going through this. It is an embarrassment for me. Usually I say "the Legislature" to separate myself from what is being done. I don't call this our Legislature. I don't call this our state, our country, our government, because most things that are done by this Legislature, the state and the government are counter to the interests of me and the people