

SENATOR PIRSCH: And the quality of that year.

SENATOR VICKERS: Yes, I think that is the intention, yes.

SENATOR PIRSCH: Okay, thank you.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Higgins, then Senator Scofield.

SENATOR HIGGINS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and welcome back. I'd like to ask Senator Vickers, as soon as he gets through sipping his coffee, if he'd answer a couple of questions for me. Senator Vickers, in the last paragraph of your handout I want to make sure this is not a typing error. It says, for too long we have measured quality simply by reference to input criteria, number of courses offered, number of staffs, number of books available. I don't question your integrity, but is that the way we have been measuring the quality of education in the past? Do I understand that right?

SENATOR VICKERS: That's what accreditation standards measure.

SENATOR HIGGINS: How many books the school has?

SENATOR VICKERS: That's correct.

SENATOR HIGGINS: How many courses they offer?

SENATOR VICKERS: Right.

SENATOR HIGGINS: Thank you, Senator Vickers. Senator Labedz carried around in her purse for many years a newspaper article from one of the Lincoln papers and it listed the credits that the Lincoln high schools were giving to students in the summertime. Now, I'll grant you it was summertime, but they gave them high school credits to apply toward a diploma for such wonderful intellectual things as barbecuing, water polo I, water polo II and personality development which I found out personality development meant teaching young girls how to put on makeup. Senator Vickers, I have no objection to your \$30,000. Heavens, you and I both know there are senators that raise three times that in their senatorial races so we really are talking about peanuts. But you have just got me to the point now where I want to know what the Department of Education has been doing all these years, even permitting any school in the state to