

November 20, 1986

be able to present the plaque to our good friend, Senator John DeCamp. I just asked him to tell me something good that I could say up here about him, and he immediately plunked down in his chair, got out his yellow pad. And I said, wait a minute, John, we want to adjourn by Thanksgiving. (Laughter.) So, I stopped him from doing that. But, John, this is probably the last order I'm going to give you, and you'll probably never, never, never give me another yes or no answer. So, would you please step forward. If you will recall, when we ended the last session there were some senators that came up here and received a plaque, Senator Carsten, Senator Goll, Senator Hoagland, Senator Lundy, Senator Sieck, Senator Chronister, Senator Nichol. And, at that time, I also stepped forward, because I trusted John. He said, I'm not going to be back. So, if you will recall, I handed him a blank frame and told him that we, as a Legislature, did not know we were going to come in special session, and I felt it only right that he stand up here with the rest of them because I trusted him, as so many of you have done in the many years that John has been here. But I know and you know that we will miss John. John has done a tremendous job in, I think, 16 years, John?

SENATOR DECAMP: Ah, yes.

SENATOR LABEDZ: ...sixteen years that he's been in the Legislature. I know prior to my coming here, in 10 years, I used to come here quite often, and, believe it or not, I came here because I wanted to hear Senator DeCamp and Senator Chambers. And since I've been here 10 years, in my district, and I know it is happening to you very, very often, the question is first asked of me, how do you get along with John DeCamp and Senator Chambers? So, then I proceed to tell them of my friendship with the both of them, and, seriously, it has been a close and everlasting friendship, and I'm trusting John again, he is saying, I'll be back. So, we better all trust him, he will be back. We are not saying good-bye to John. We know that he is going to be involved in some way, although he did say in the newspaper it might be another country, but I don't believe that. That is the one time I'm not trusting him. I think he will be back. We will be hearing from him. But, John, it is an extreme pleasure for me, because you have done such a terrific, tremendous, excellent job in the 16 years that you've been here, and, believe it or not, I am going to miss you. I will continue, in my two years coming up, to defend you every time someone says, how do you get along with John DeCamp?