

a chance to vote to amend LB 1 and put this funding back to the Library Commission, and I submit that you should think about what you are doing in the whole picture.

SENATOR CARSTEN: One minute. Okay, thank you. Senator Hefner, please.

SENATOR HEFNER: Question.

SENATOR CARSTEN: The question has been called for. It really isn't necessary because there are no more speakers. Senator Chambers, would you like to close on your motion, please.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, maybe I have got two curses on me; the first is that I read newspapers and do pay attention to what I read in them, the second is because of the difficulty I had as a very small young child learning to read, I place maybe a greater value on books and reading than most people for whom those things came very, very easy. When I would get in trouble in school, I don't often talk about my personal history, but this is something I don't think now as I look back on it I have to be ashamed of, we would be doing spelling or math and I would have a book beside me in my chair reading a book, and that is what I would get in trouble for in school. I was reading when I wasn't supposed to be. I could not sit at the table and eat without reading whatever was in front of me, whether it was a cereal box, a piece of newspaper, a gum wrapper, and even to this day, it is difficult for me to eat at a moderate rate without having something to read, and maybe because of that defect in myself, I place an inordinate value on books and information. And maybe I believed what I was told about knowledge being power, that people resort in the oral arena to profanity and swearing when they run out of ordinary words with which to express themselves when they become very angry. When the swearing does not carry the day, then they resort to fisticuffs or something worse. The people who can deal with a problem with words and ideas are the people who make a society strong and preserve it. You might describe a period as the Napoleonic period because he was a warrior, or let wars be the bookmarks of American history, the Revolutionary War, the War of 1812, Civil War, Spanish-American War, First World War, Second World War, Korean Conflict, Lebanon, Vietnam, and, perhaps, Nicaragua, a history of a country whose bookmarks are war. But there were other people who lived during those times that preserved the culture and made it possible for the country to survive. Generals fight battles. They don't start wars.