CLERK: (Read LB 152 by title.) (See page 148 of the Journal.)

SPEAKER MARVEL: Will the Legislature come to order please. The Chair will recognize Senator Kremer for the purposes of making a motion.

SENATOR KREMER: Mr. Chairman, members of the Legislature, I move that a committee of six be appointed to escort the Governor of the State of Nebraska to the Chamber at this time.

SPEAKER MARVEL: You have heard the motion. The six member committee will escort both the Governor and his wife to the Chamber. All those in favor of Senator Kremer's motion say aye, opposed no. The motion is carried. The committee, Senator Kremer, chairman, Senator Carsten, Senator Clark, Senator Warner, Senator Maresh, Senator Marsh. The committee will retire for the purpose of escorting the Governor and his wife to the legislative Chamber, Senator Kremer, chairman, Senator Carsten, Senator Clark, Senator Warner, Senator Maresh and Senator Marsh.

Mr. Sergeant at Arms.

SERGEANT AT ARMS: Mr. Speaker, your committee now escorting his excellency, the Governor of the great State of Nebraska and Mrs. Thone.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Will the committee please escort the Governor and Mrs. Thone to the front of the Chamber.

GOVERNOR THONE: State of the State and Budget address. (See pages 148-162 of the Legislative Journal.)

SPEAKER MARVEL: Would the committee please escort the Governor and his wife from the Chamber. The Legislature will come to order. There is some business on the Clerk's desk that we need to listen to before we recess this morning. Okay, Pat.

CLERK: Mr. President, your committee on Banking, Commerce and Insurance gives notice of public hearing in Room 2230 for Monday, January 19. That is signed by Senator DeCamp as chairman.

Mr. President, Senator DeCamp would like to announce that Senator Haberman has been selected as vice chairperson of the Banking, Commerce and Insurance Committee.

Read LB 153-166 by title. (See pages 162-165 of the Legislative Journal.)

LB 23, 32, 87, 90, 99, 111, 128, 166, 175, 180, 215, 283, 347, 413, 437, 465, 483

Senator Hefner reports 483 to General File.

Your committee on Ag whose Chairman is Senator Schmit reports 283 be advanced to General File with amendments.

Your committee on Judiciary whose Chairman is Senator Nichol reports 413 to General File with amendments; 32 General File with amendments; 180 General File; 347 General File with amendments; 111 General File with amendment; 465 General File; 99 General File with aendments; 87 General File with amendments; 23 Indefinitely postponed; 90 Indefinitely postponed; 166 Indefinitely postponed; 175 Indefinitely postponed. (Signed) Senator Nichol, Chair.

Your committee on Urban Affairs whose Chairman is Senator Landis reports 437 to General File with amendments. (Signed) Senator Landis.

Mr. President, LB 128 was introduced by Senator Myron Rumery. (Read title.) The bill was read on January 13 and referred to Retirement for public hearing. It was advanced to General File. I have no amendments on the bill, Mr. President.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Rumery, do you wish to explain the bill?

SENATOR RUMERY: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, if I could have your attention for a few minutes, I would appreciate it. We introduced this bill for these reasons. that should a member of the school employee's retirement system die before retirement, LB 128 would provide an option for the payment of benefits to the spouse of the member, if the spouse is the sole surviving beneficiary. Presently the law provides that if a teacher has twenty years service and is at least 55 years of age or thirty years of service regardless of age and dies before retirement, a monthly annuity for life would be paid the spouse if the spouse is the sole surviving beneficiary in an amount equal to the joint and survivor benefit that would have been paid if the deceased member had retired on the date of death. The joint and survivor benefit is a greatly reduced benefit. The amount of the reduction is determined by the age of the deceased member and the age of the spouse. There are times when the surviving spouse would prefer to have a lump sum benefit rather than a meager monthly payment for life. Often a surviving spouse of a deceased member needs funds for retraining or to enter another job market or to invest in a business that may have some opportunity. LB 128 would give a spouse who is the sole surviving beneficiary