

February 25, 1981

LR 24
LB 205, 409, 446

SPEAKER MARVEL: The bill is advanced. The next order of business is LB 409.

CLERK: Mr. President, if I may right before we get to that, your Committee on Government, Military and Veterans Affairs whose Chairman is Senator Kahle reports LB 446 to General File with amendments. Senator Kahle would like to print amendments to LB 446. (See pages 663 through 668 of the Legislative Journal.)

Mr. President, new resolution offered by Senator Goodrich. (Read LR 24 as found on pages 662 and 663 of the Legislative Journal.) That will be laid over, Mr. President.

Mr. President, LB 409 was introduced by Senator Haberman. (Read title to LB 409.) The bill was read on January 20 of this year. It was referred to the Banking Committee for public hearing. The bill was advanced to General File. There are committee amendments pending by the Banking, Commerce and Insurance Committee, Mr. President.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator DeCamp.

SENATOR DeCAMP: Mr. President, normally as committee Chairman I would present these amendments but my good friend, Senator Haberman, has been passing out literature indicating that he is not getting enough attention and publicity, so I graciously yield to the Vice Chairman of the Banking, Commerce and Insurance Committee to handle the amendments on this bill.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, thank you, John, for your endorsement of being an excellent, outstanding Vice President of the Banking, Insurance and Commerce Committee. The amendments....I thanked him for it. Oh, isn't that what he said? The amendments reduce the Continuing Education hours from 24 hours to 6 hours every two years. It deletes the language that you have to be of good moral character to be a licensee and adds to read, "not have been convicted of a felony or a crime involving moral turpitude", and I move for the adoption of the amendments, Mr. President.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The motion is the adoption of the committee amendments to LB 409. Senator Chambers, your light is on.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, I would like to ask Senator DeCamp, the Chairman,

passing this resolution and with a large vote. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Marsh.

SENATOR MARSH: Mr. President and members of the legislative body, I rise to support LR 23. Reverend Edgar has been a long-time family friend of the Marsh family. We have worked together on a number of community volunteer groups and I would ask unanimous consent to add my name to the resolution.

PRESIDENT: Senator Marsh, we did do that and thank you. Any other discussion on LR 23? Senator Maresh, do you have anything further on the resolution? Senator Wesely. Senator Barrett.

SENATOR BARRETT: Yes, Mr. President, I would like to ask unanimous consent that my name be added to the resolution. Reverend Edgar was a constituent from the 39th Legislative District at one time.

PRESIDENT: All right, so Senator Barrett has requested unanimous consent to add his name to LR 23. Are there any objections? Hearing none, it is so ordered. Senator Maresh.

SENATOR MARESH: (Mike not turned on)...to say that this was one person of a kind. He was a remarkable person. I think we should honor him with this resolution.

PRESIDENT: The question before the House is the adoption of LR 23. All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Record the vote.

CLERK: 41 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the adoption of the resolution.

PRESIDENT: The motion carries and LR 23 is adopted. Before we move on to LR 24, the Chair would like to take this opportunity to introduce a guest of Senator Nichol. He is under the South balcony, Mike Dulaney from Gering and Senator Nichol advises me that Mike has been here about four times now. So, welcome back again, Mike, to your Legislature. The next resolution is LR 24, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Mr. President, Legislative Resolution 24 is offered by Senator Goodrich. It is found on page 662 of the Journal. (Read.)

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Goodrich.

SENATOR GOODRICH: Mr. President, members of the body, Legislative Resolution 24 is the same thing we did when Senator Kennedy, Senator Kelly, Senator Murphy and Senator Simon left the Legislature. They chose not to run for reelection. We passed this same identical resolution for them on April 18, 1980, last session in other words, and since subsequent to that Senator George has now chosen to leave the Legislature and to go to Germany to take a job in promoting exports, the sale of American products in German, in all of Europe, as far as that goes, I wanted to pass this same resolution honoring Senator George for his past services as we did for the Senator Kennedy, Kelly, Murphy and Simon a year ago. If there is any questions I would be glad to answer them but, otherwise, I move the adoption of the resolution.

PRESIDENT: We have a motion on the desk. Mr. Clerk, read the motion.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Fowler moves to refer LR 24 to the Executive Board.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Fowler.

SENATOR FOWLER: Mr. President, Senator Goodrich is right that last year on the last day of the session as a tribute to four retiring Senators a resolution was passed conferring degrees on Senators. At that time I simply did not vote on the resolution. I did not think it is appropriate or proper for us to confer something that we term a degree but it was awkward that day to raise the question, the last day of the Legislature, and there was no point trying to argue it then. I didn't know that we were setting a precedent that would be conferred on all future Senators. The reason I suggest referring this to the Executive Board is that I think we need some clarification of policy. Senator Goodrich is suggesting that Walter George receive this degree because he has left the Legislature. There are numerous other Senators who between last session and this date have left the Legislature. The only difference is it wasn't their choice. They, in fact, were defeated. Now I am not sure if the policy of the Legislature is that if you have the good sense to get out before the voters kick you out we will give you a Doctorate of Letters, but if you stay so long that the voters decide not to send you

back, you don't get one but there are at least several legislators that have served longer than I have, served longer than Senator George has, that certainly have more experience and probably should get a Doctorate as well. So that perhaps we should have a resolution for Senator Keyes who was a Chairman of a committee and had a lot of experience and maybe get him a Doctorate in Revenue or Economics; Senator Lewis, Doctorate in Speech, perhaps, and Debate, and so on. I guess it is for this reason that I think we need a certain clarification from the Executive Board as to which of us get to be Doctors and which don't. That might influence my decision to run again. So I think that there is some policy questions that need to be looked at. I think the Executive Board can refer that. I think perhaps even the question of granting ourselves degrees is a little inappropriate and I'd urge the Executive Board perhaps find another equally suitable honor short of being put in the Hall of Fame perhaps, but some other suitable honor for retiring Senators. It is not a major thing but I think we do not do our image well when we start conferring special honors onto ourselves and I think we are kind of devaluating what a Doctorate means to suggest that it go to Senators who have retired. If we are going to be serious about this though, then I think those who have served and been defeated have every right, an equal right, to a Doctorate as somebody who has served and chosen to get out at the appropriate time. So I would move that this issue be referred to the Executive Board and they can then bring it back before us and explain a clear policy for the future as far as when Senators may or may not receive a Doctorate.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Kahle.

SENATOR KAHLE: Mr. President, members, I really don't want to get into this discussion. I think it is great that you want to honor some of our colleagues that are no longer in the body. I don't know about sending the bill, though, to the Exec Board. I think it probably should go to the Business and Labor because you have to determine whether it is voluntary or involuntary quits.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Marsh.

SENATOR MARSH: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I rise to support Senator Fowler's motion. I think that we were rushed into something last spring and many of us feel that that was not as appropriate procedure as we could have. Therefore, I urge your support of Senator Fowler's amendment.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Goodrich.

SENATOR GOODRICH: Mr. President, members of the body, we are not exactly asking for a check for \$100,000 for past services rendered or anything like that. We are not conferring a Doctorate on anyone. We are conferring an honorary Doctorate. It is nothing but a piece of paper. We all know it. It is just an expression of recognition for outstanding achievements, and an expression of gratitude for unselfish service to the state as quoted right in the resolution. That is all in the world it is. If you want to express or establish, rather, a policy on this, there is nothing stopping the Executive Board from taking up the subject matter and establishing a policy on it. You don't have to pigeonhole this particular resolution to do it. You can just take that up in the Exec Board any time they want to and establish a policy, and I say, for example, if you want to do the same thing for those such as Senator Lewis and some of the other ones that left not of their own free will but they left because of the voters, sobeit. Do it. Propose a resolution. Let's do it for them, too, but don't pigeonhole this one. Walt George is sitting over in Germany, for pete's sake. He is not exactly where he can speak for himself and I feel a little impelled to speak for Walt in his absence and I am asking you to go ahead and pass this particular resolution and take up the subject matter in the Exec Board but don't pigeonhole this resolution to do it. I still say let's adopt this resolution and give Walt his recognition that he is due. We are not giving him anything that is of too much value.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Dworak.

SENATOR DWORAK: A question of Senator Goodrich.

PRESIDENT: Senator Goodrich, will you respond?

SENATOR DWORAK: Senator Goodrich, I was sitting here working on some papers. did I hear \$100,000 mentioned? Is there an A bill with this resolution?

SENATOR GOODRICH: I said if you would care to listen this time that we are not giving him...it is not as if we were giving him a check for \$100,000 or something. This is not a big deal in other words. All we are doing is recognizing him for his past services with a little nickel piece of paper.

SENATOR DWORAK: Five cents, is that the fiscal impact on the bill?

SENATOR GOODRICH: And I will contribute the nickel if that will help.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Vard Johnson.

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: Mr. President and members of the body, I would support the George resolution. I think that my support really draws from my early childhood reading of the Wizard of Oz. I always thought that the Wizard showed remarkable intelligence when the Wizard in dealing with the Cowardly Lion recognized that what the Cowardly Lion really lacked was a medal, a medal for courage; and in dealing with the Scarecrow and the Scarecrow's concern for his loss of brains recognized that what the Scarecrow really lacked was a higher degree, and if he had a higher degree, a degree in Thinkology, then he truly would be an intelligent person in society; and, of course, in dealing with the Tin Woodsman who didn't have a heart, what the Tin Woodsman needed was a certificate, a gold watch, recognizing his philanthropy, that that would show his great charities. It has always seemed to me that one of the best things that we in society can do is to provide some types of paper awards, paper commendations, to individuals who have served because those pieces of paper are of great import and great meaning to the individual, and as an extremely inexpensive and yet very thoughtful way of telling one of our colleagues, irrespective of how they have left our body, volitionally or not so volitionally, thanks for a job well done.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, I don't want to belabor the point and sometimes we do things here that are kind of jovial to us but we should consider how the public views it, and although everybody realizes that an honorary doctorate is not one and it is not an earned degree, nevertheless, if we are going to attach that title to it, we should not only debase the currency of honorary doctorates which are given by legitimate educational and other institutions which are more in the business of granting such degrees, we should not make a joke of this particular idea. So if Senator Goodrich is serious, I think he should support Senator Fowler's motion, because if we are insistent on giving one of these things, it shouldn't be, Senator Goodrich, just a piece of paper. It should be a shiny piece of paper, embossed. It should have ribbons. It should have little gold stickers and things on it. You should take a little folder case that is padded in which you put it so it at least looks like something. But were I Senator George, I would think of that line from Shakespeare, "Thou dost damnest...Thou damnest with faint praise." It is just a piece of paper. It doesn't mean anything. Everybody knows it is nothing. Why this is

just to placate George who is over there in Germany doing whatever he is doing. Senator Goodrich, after what you said, I think the best thing for us to do would be not to give a thing like this at all. But if you are insistent on handling this, I do think, and I am being serious now, that we should refer it to the Executive Board and some kind of policy determination can be made.

PRESIDENT: Senator Marsh, do you wish to speak again? Senator Dworak, you do not wish to speak again. All right. Okay, I guess, Senator Fowler, you may close on your motion.

SENATOR FOWLER: Mr. President, I am not saying that we should or shouldn't give Walter George some sort of honor for going to Germany. I am sure many people would like to do that. I think the issue is beyond Senator George which other legislators will we confer doctorates on, and I don't think we should argue that on the floor of the Legislature. I think the Executive Board has been established to try and develop some policies. I think it is a little odd that we do consider ourselves able to give an honorary doctorate. I would disagree with Senator Goodrich that an honorary doctorate is just a piece of paper. In any sort of graduation ceremony of a state college or university, those to receive honorary degrees are the most prestigious citizens who have done great work in their field or for the community and they are allowed these honorary doctorates and it is received with a great deal of honor and recognition. So I don't think it is just a piece of paper, and I think if we are going around saying that, we in fact are debasing the concept. I appreciate that Senator Vard Johnson has taken us down the yellow brick road. I think that his suggestion, though, if we are to use the Wizard of Oz analogy is that the people who should get the honorary doctorates are those that are here now so it can raise the intelligence level of those of us when we are in the Legislature rather than raising the intelligence afterwards. I think we could all use a Doctorate of Thinkology. Perhaps Walter George could simply click his heels three times over in Germany and say, "There is no place like home". He could be back among us in no time at all. I think that there are other motions up on this. There are suggestions that we accord him our respect and our thanks for service and I don't think we really want to get into a long debate this morning on how to deal with this subject. I think it is far more appropriate for our leadership, Senator Lamb and others, to sit down and come up with a clear policy as to which Senators get doctorates and which ones don't. I think otherwise we are going to have continuing resolutions. I think it would be very poor of us not to provide those same doctorates to those who left us because the voters chose to replace them,

and so we will continue to have a series of resolutions for Senator Keyes and Senator Reutzel and Senator Merz and so on and I think they have every bit of right to a doctorate as Walter George. So why don't we take the whole issue and just send it over to the Executive Board and they can meet in their chamber and come up with a rational decision for all of us and bring it back. So I would move that LR 24 be referred to the Exec. Board.

PRESIDENT: The question before the House is the motion, the amendment by Senator Fowler, to refer LR 24 to the Executive Board for appropriate action. All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Senator Fowler, I don't know how many are excused? Mr. Clerk, how many are excused? Five are excused.

SENATOR FOWLER: I think we will just let it go and take up the other motions.

PRESIDENT: All right. Record the vote.

CLERK: 15 ayes, 18 nays on the motion to refer to committee, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Motion fails. Motion on the desk.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Shirley Marsh moves to amend the contents or to move LR 24...I am sorry, Senator...okay, by striking the contents of LR 24 and inserting the following: (Read Marsh amendment as found on pages 674 and 675, Legislative Journal.) That is an amendment to the resolution, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Marsh.

SENATOR MARSH: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, copies of the substitute resolution are being passed out. This does accomplish what Senator Goodrich is trying to accomplish, to give honor to a former member of this body. It has a double purpose because it does not degrade the educational institutions of higher learning in our state which give very limited honorary doctor degrees as a very special honor to citizens and academicians. I would like to remind you that former Senator Walter George has an earned masters degree, that an honorary doctorate from this body would, in fact, be a slap in the face to the academician who knows what it takes to receive an earned degree and who is also very aware of the honor bestowed by educational institutions when they very selectively give honorary doctorate degrees. We want to honor this former Senator who has brought honor to our legislative body and

we do recognize his untiring and diligent efforts and accomplishments over the years in lawmaking and we want to thank him for helping to continue the excellence of public service which exists in Nebraska. Please help me in adopting this substitute motion so that we can in fact honor Senator, former Senator Walter George and not do dishonor to ourselves in the process. We do wish former Senator Walter George health and happiness in his future endeavors and this would be an appropriate way in which to do so. The bill drafting office has supplied this wording which seems to me to be well chosen and most appropriate. I urge your adoption of this substitute motion.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Goodrich, then Senator Koch after Senator Goodrich.

SENATOR GOODRICH: Mr. President, members of the body, needless to say I am going to oppose the amendment to the resolution. This is not a slap in anybody's face. It is not exactly as though we were plowing new ground here. We have done this before. It would be a slap in Walter George's face if we didn't do it for him at least. Shirley Marsh says it is all right for the university people to decide who ought to be getting honorary degrees and who shouldn't. It is all right for them to do it but, good god, don't let us do it. I would suggest, for example, that Senator George is in Europe right now promoting the sale of agricultural products. If a tool, for example, like this would help him in any way, shape or form, then let's give it to him. Think of the customs of Europe. An honorary degree in Europe is far, far more meaningful than it is here in the United States. If we can give Walt something like this to hang on his wall in Europe where in according to the customs of Europe it has a little significance, it gives him a little bit of a shroud of assistance in any way, shape or form, then, for pete's sake, let's give him any kind of a tool we can, any kind of help we can to help him be received in Europe and be received and his office be received in Europe. For pete's sake, let's give him the tools with which to do the job we sent him over there for which is the promotion of the sale of agricultural products and there is nothing more important to the State of Nebraska. And I remind you, he will be back here in Omaha or in Nebraska, rather, March the 12th and I was hoping we could hand it to him at that time. I would strongly resist the amendment.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Koch.

SENATOR KOCH: Mr. President, acting on behalf of the absence of Senator George, I move the previous question.

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PRESIDENT: The question has been called for. Do I see five hands? I do. All those in favor of ceasing debate vote aye, opposed nay. Record the vote.

CLERK: 28 ayes, 0 nays to cease debate, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Debate ceases. Senator Marsh, you may close.

SENATOR MARSH: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, whereas the Unicameral Legislature wishes to recognize the dedication and service to Nebraska of former Senator Walter George and whereas former State Senator Walter George has represented Legislative District #16 since 1974 and whereas the Legislature recognizes his untiring, diligent efforts and accomplishments over the years in lawmaking and whereas the Legislature wants to thank him for helping to continue the excellence of public service which exists in Nebraska; now therefore be it resolved by the members of the Eighty-Seventh Legislature of Nebraska, First Session, that the Legislature acknowledges the dedicated service and achievements of former Senator Walter George; that the Legislature wishes health and happiness in his future endeavors; that the Legislature present a copy of this resolution to former Senator Walter George. I urge your adoption of this resolution.

PRESIDENT: The motion before the House is the adoption of the Marsh amendment or substitute resolution to LR 24. All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Have you all voted? Senator Marsh, there are five excused. What do you wish to do?

SENATOR MARSH: I will pass.

PRESIDENT: All right. Record the vote.

CLERK: 13 ayes, 21 nays on the motion to adopt Senator Marsh's amendment.

PRESIDENT: Motion fails. Motion on the desk. Read the motion.

CLERK: Yes, sir. Mr. President, Senator Marsh requests to lay over LR 24 until tomorrow.

PRESIDENT: Is it a unanimous consent request?

SENATOR MARSH: A motion.

PRESIDENT: This is a motion, a motion to lay over. The Chair

recognizes Senator Marsh.

SENATOR MARSH: Mr. President, there are thirteen courageous citizens in this legislative body who feel that we are rushing through on something we may regret at leisure. If we lay this proposal over until tomorrow, there may be additional persons who realize that this is not the wisest form for resolution 24. I urge you to consider thoughtfully the action which the legislative body seems to be taking. We are trying to honor a former Senator. We do acknowledge his contribution. We are not an academic institution. We should not be offering something that is only a piece of paper. The resolution which I have offered to you did not pass. Therefore, I urge you to lay over this motion until tomorrow so that sincere consideration for the proposal will lead us to do that which is right.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Goodrich, followed by Senators Cope, Chambers and Nichol.

SENATOR GOODRICH: I wouldn't even...I wouldn't even honor Senator Marsh's arguments with a response. I wouldn't even dignify it with a response. It isn't worthy.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Cope.

SENATOR COPE: Mr. President, members, I just can't understand what is going on in the Legislature. This is not precedent setting. We did it before. We did it for Senators that had been reelected. They resigned. We are not setting any precedent. I just ask Senator Marsh how she would feel if the person who preceded her and resigned would get this bit of paper that says honorary and she didn't. I wouldn't like it. I don't think anybody would here. Let's get on with the day's business.

PRESIDENT: Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman, I will be very brief. This discussion indicates why the matter should be referred to the Executive Board. We will discuss this same thing any time an attempt is made to do this so we need a policy and I think now we have a mixed issue. Were Senator George in heaven looking down upon this, I am certain he would say I would rather not have been placed in the position of being a tennis ball, knocked from court to court, and the game is the thing rather than the tennis ball. So, Senator Goodrich, I think if you are really trying to do something for Senator George and you see the contention that has been generated by

this discussion, it would probably be wisest for you to have the thing now sent to the Executive Board by a unanimous consent motion in order that the vote might have a chance of being unanimous on whatever is done for Senator George, but if you succeed in forcing a vote, you are going to get some no votes because people are voting against the procedure being adopted rather than the issue of giving something to Senator George. So my recommendation would be that if we don't adopt Senator Marsh's motion to lay it over, Senator Goodrich should make a unanimous consent motion to refer it to the Executive Board so that when we do finally take a vote we are voting only on how we should deal with and dispose of Senator George.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Nichol.

SENATOR NICHOL: Mr. Chairman, members of the Legislature, I didn't even know that Senator Chambers recognized that there were tennis balls in heaven, but, Senator Marsh, do you have time for a question?

PRESIDENT: Senator Marsh, will you respond?

SENATOR NICHOL: The first question is, do you recall that we bestowed doctorate degrees on the four members of the Legislature at the close of last session?

SENATOR MARSH: Yes, I felt at the time we made a mistake then, sir, because we were not an educational institution.

SENATOR NICHOL: Did you vote?

SENATOR MARSH: No, sir.

SENATOR NICHOL: Did you vote for or against that resolution?

SENATOR MARSH: I cannot answer you but I am sure I did not vote for. I may not have voted.

SENATOR NICHOL: Okay, my only point...thank you, Senator Marsh....my only point is this isn't a doctors degree to practice medicine. If it were, I would quickly resign and hope to pick up a new profession but I think this is an honorary thing for Senator George. I think he conscientiously worked while he was here and I would hope we would get on with it quickly.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Remmers.

SENATOR REMMERS: Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature,

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I support Senator Marsh's position on this issue. I do not know Senator George as well as the rest of you but I do have a lot of respect for him. I have met the man and I visited with him and I respect him very much but I think it is inappropriate for the Legislature to issue this type of an honor. I think that the suggestion that Senator Marsh has made would be much more appropriate. The fact that we have done it in the past doesn't mean that we should continue doing it because I agree with Senator Marsh that perhaps it was not in order before and I believe it be time and I believe that Senator George would understand. I am quite sure that Senator George would understand and I support Senator Marsh.

PRESIDENT: Senator Marsh, you may close.

SENATOR MARSH: Is there no one else who wishes to speak, Mr. President?

PRESIDENT: None other.

SENATOR MARSH: For the record, I voted against the resolutions last spring. I wasn't sure until the record was checked that I really had the courage of my convictions. In retrospect I thought I had but I needed to be sure. I do not believe that adopting LR 24 in its present form is the right thing to do. I have the utmost respect for and appreciation of former Senator Walter George and former Senator Walter George knows that. I don't need to tell him. Those of you in this body should know that since he has an earned masters degree that he would feel as I say he would feel as an academician an honorary doctorate should come from and may very well come from one of his former alma maters. We are making a mistake simply because deep thinking has not been done. I request that the legislative body cool off by postponing until tomorrow this resolution.

PRESIDENT: The question is Senator Marsh's motion to lay over until tomorrow, as I understand the motion, lay over one day. All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Senator Marsh. All right, record the vote.

CLERK: 14 ayes, 21 nays to lay the resolution over, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Motion fails. Any other motions on the desk?

CLERK: I have nothing at this point, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: We will proceed then. Any other discussion on

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LR 24? Seeing none, Senator Goodrich, will you close?

SENATOR GOODRICH: Can't we just vote on the thing and be done with it.

PRESIDENT: The motion is the adoption of Legislative Resolution 24. All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Clerk, record the vote.

CLERK: 28 ayes, 5 nays on the adoption of the resolution, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Motion carries. Legislative Resolution 24 is adopted. We will proceed then with Legislative Resolution 25.

CLERK: Mr. President, LR 25, found on page 670 of the Journal is offered by Senator Kilgarin. (Read.)

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Kilgarin.

SENATOR KILGARIN: Thank you. Mr. President and members of the Legislature, LR 25 is a simple noncontroversial resolution that will honor our social workers. There are over four hundred professional social workers in the State of Nebraska. They live and they work here. We have recognized their contributions through establishing graduate and undergraduate programs in our educational institutions who confer degrees upon these people and with LR 25 we would be acknowledging their contribution to our society. Many times this is a contribution that I feel is overlooked but certainly should not be overlooked. If just one person somewhere is helped by these social workers or a social worker, I think it is a contribution that should be recognized and I urge your support of LR 25. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Nichol.

SENATOR NICHOL: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, Senator Kilgarin, are we going to give them doctors' degrees, too? I have a little hesitation seriously about this, not because I don't like social workers but what about everybody else that works for the State of Nebraska? What about every other person who is governmentally employed? What about the teachers? What about the retired teachers? I wonder why and perhaps you would like to cover this in your closing as to why you singled out one section of workers to honor. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Marsh.

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SPEAKER MARVEL PRESIDING

SPEAKER MARVEL: The morning prayer will be given by Reverend Emmett Haas of the East Lincoln Christian Church, Lincoln, Nebraska.

REVEREND EMMETT HAAS: (Prayer offered.)

SPEAKER MARVEL: Roll call. Please record your presence. Record the vote.

CLERK: There is a quorum present, Mr. President.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Do you have anything under item #3?

CLERK: Mr. President, I have a series of things. I have a communication from the Governor. (Read. Re: LB 27.)

Mr. President, I have an appointment letter, a revised appointment letter from the Governor.

Mr. President, LR 23, 24 and 25 are ready for your signature.

SPEAKER MARVEL: While the Legislature is in session, I am about to sign and do sign LR 23; LR 24; LR 25.

CLERK: Senator Rumery would like to print amendments to LB 51 in the Journal.

Mr. President, I have a second communication from the Governor. (Read. Re: LB 30. See page 685, Legislative Journal.)

Mr. President, I have a report from the Policy Research Office pursuant to Statutory Section 84-156.

Mr. President, I have a letter from the Secretary of State's Office addressed to the Speaker. "I would appreciate you very much reading this announcement invitation to the Legislature on Friday morning, February 27. Members of the Legislature and staff are cordially invited to attend Statehood Day ceremonies and observance on Sunday, March 1, 2:00 p.m., Capitol rotunda. Among other items on the program, the bust of Roscoe Pound will be unveiled and accepted in the Great Hall of Fame. Members of the Legislature, spouses and guests are invited to be in attendance. Respectfully submitted, Allen Beermann, Secretary of State."

SPEAKER MARVEL: It is my pleasure to introduce at this time Senator Sieck who is celebrating his birthday today and shortly Mrs. Sieck will bring in some kolaches in honor of