

SENATOR PROUD: Mr. President, I don't want to shock all the employers in the State of Nebraska. I have a district that is probably mostly composed of businessmen and business people. I also have a number of laboring people in my district. I know how both sides want me to vote on this issue. I know very well. I read most of my mail and I have told the business people, I am using that generically now, that I will probably vote against the agency shop. I have also perhaps told a few of them, I can't always remember how many letters I write and what's in all of them. Perhaps I have written a few that say I will vote against the agency shop bill but like another gentleman in the country, I want to make myself perfectly clear. As you know, I have a resolution in the Legislature which I am very, very much want to get to the floor of this Legislature and I have listened to this debate carefully and I have heard Senator Chambers say, if I read him correctly, that anytime there is a bill of sufficient interest or something to the effect if a legislator really believes in it, should have the consideration of this entire body. I listened closely to that and I listened closely to Senator Cavanaugh who, I feel, rightly or wrongly, is a very sincere young man. I, of course, think he's wrong about the ERA and I think he believes that I am causing him heat, white heat in his district on this issue and to a certain extent, he's right but Senator Cavanaugh, that's politics and I have been down here 9 years and I have seen a lot of that heat. This is what we have to live with here. I think Senator Cavanaugh personally blames me for doing this though I hope he overcomes that because I think he's a sincere, sincere man and I was impressed when he got up on this floor and said that any issue that is of great importance to the people in this State and about which there is controversy, that issue should come to this floor and I believe he means what he says and I say to Senator Simpson who is also against my ERA amendment, it is not real easy to say what I'm going to say now, but I'm going to do it. In all probability, I will vote against the agency shop bill. Those are the probabilities and labor just as well get accustomed to that whether they go against me or not the next time I run for election, if I do, because I have done some favors for labor on this floor but I can't go with them anytime, every time by any stretch of the imagination and, of course, they know that. Well, if this bill is so important to Senator Cavanaugh and to Senator Syas and to Senator Mahoney and to Senator Simpson and a few other Senators I can see around here, then I'm going to vote to put this to the floor of the Legislature and let the 49 of us decide the issue.

SPEAKER: Senator Fred Carstens. No commotion please.

SENATOR CARSTENS: Mr. President, I was going to answer Senator Syas' complaints about other professions and comparing them to the agency shops is totally irrelevant, but I'm not going to do that because I'm getting hungry from all the emotion and I move the previous question.

SPEAKER: Previous question has been called for and seconded. Those in favor vote aye. Those opposed vote nay. Have you all voted. Clerk will record the vote.

CLERK: 28 ayes, 2 nays, Mr. President on closing --

SPEAKER: Motion carries. Senator Simpson, you're closing and so long as the previous question has been passed, that means nobody gets to ask Senator Simpson any questions after he closes.

SENATOR SIMPSON: Thank you, Mr. President. Mr. President and Members of the Legislature, we've had quite a discussion this morning. It seems like every once in a while I have an issue that brings such discussion to the floor and I don't believe it's all bad. It has brought out some of the things that are good and some of them that are bad and some that I think that