

April 9, 1973

lawyers, now suppose you were to say, that the practice of medicine or the practice of law or the practice of being a business man or a farmer, is a dirty double crossing business, then, then, who makes it a dirty double crossing business, but the people who are in it. Now here we are in this legislature asking the people to raise our salaries, to practice a dirty double crossing business. Now all I am saying is that I didn't think you meant in any manner, shape or form when you made that statement, that we individually are dirty double crossing people, practicing a racket, maybe you did mean that and if that is what you meant, then that is your business, but I feel as Speaker, or as an individual member, that somebody must come to the defense of this legislature and if every Senator in here believes that he is involved and is part of a dirty double crossing racket, then let him get up and say so. I don't think so, I think that statement standing by itself, gives the people further excuse to criticize us and to believe that we are dirty double crossing people, and I don't happen to believe we are, and I could expand on that plenty, but I feel reasonably sure, that there will be some other Senators that have something to say to this, that's all I'm saying, I don't, again I don't think you meant that we are individually, most people in rackets are crooks, that's the general definition of a racket, it's a crooked business, and I don't believe that as far as I know, of my own knowledge that there are any crooks sitting in this legislature, oh there may be one or two, there may be a pay off once in a while, but the only people that know where there is a pay off is the two people involved in it, but generally speaking, I think by and large this is a body of high minded men and women, and that's my point and I don't mind saying it.

PRESIDENT: Senator Carpenter did you care to respond?

SENATOR CARPENTER: (Mike off) said as much in the statement that I made, and this is a reflection of what I thought in so far as the field of politics is concerned. Now this shouldn't be news to you people, some of you probably listened to me when I was running for the United States Senate, I said, if I said it once I said it a hundred times, I said it on eight or nine television stations, I said it at every meeting I attended, this is nothing new, I don't know why anybody should be offended now when I've been saying this for years, I've said it to probably twice a week to at least a million people to where they could hear me, I had no letter of protest from them, or anyone else, but to make your question clear. I was only talking about that statement insofar as my experience has been in the broad field of politics seeking public office. Those who are for me and those were not for me and the methods they use. I had no desire, neither do I now, in dragging anybody in this business as having a part of what I said, or indicating to you or the people (inaudible) body that I thought that you were in that category. I only talk about the broad application in the field of politics as a general statement, and I make no apologies for that statement on that place and in that position.

PRESIDENT: Do you have any resolutions on the desk? Any resolutions on the desk?

CLERK: Legislative Resolution #30 (read).

PRESIDENT: The resolution will be on the Clerk's desk.

CLERK: Mr. President Senator Stahmer asked to be excused until he arrives.

PRESIDENT: Are there objections? Hearing none, so ordered. Other resolutions on the desk?

CLERK: None.