

PRESIDENT: Next to speak then is Senator Syas, then Senator Barnett, then Senator Luedtke. Just a minute before we continue with the debate the Chair would like the pleasure of introducing former Governor Evered and former Presiding Officer of the Unicameral Legislature and I would like to have John stand up and would you help me to recognize John and welcome him back? We are pleased to have you here today John as a visitor to the Legislature and we know that you haven't been back to the Capitol too many times since you left and so we have tried to follow you career since then we are delighted to have you back. Now Senator Syas for comment and then Senator Barnett will go on from there. We are still debating LB699 on general file.

SENATOR SYAS: Unless I am asked further questions this will be my last time on the floor on this particular issue today. But, Senator Rasmussen I wish to inform you that anyone who knows whether you confused I do a lot of hunting and I think that some of the people in this Legislature know that and I think that some of the Senators even know that, because I have been on several occasions knocking on their doors and I think that I was after Senator Wiltse quite a bit to open up the place to hunt which he did. Don't misunderstand me. A nice fellow. But that isn't what I was going to get at, but I just wanted to put that in there. Now I also have a dog to hunt with like Senator Carstens and I think that I have also hunted coyotes which may be amazing to some of you. I have never shot very many as a matter of fact I can only say that I shot one in my life, because I don't run around and really take in very many coyote hunts but I have been on several where coyotes where coyotes have been shot but I didn't do the shooting, I didn't get the shot, but I did get this one shot that once and got him. But, Senator Kimes says that concerning the manner when we lifted the bounty, I can't recall when the State had a bounty since I have been here, but I might be wrong about that. But bounties now counties did. Bounties are ineffective the thing today that is happening is that you don't have to worry about it. The thing today that is excelling some of this movement is that coyote pelts I understand is selling for \$25 to \$35 a pelt. Now, Senator Rasmussen said, or maybe it was Senator Dickinson, the farmer owns to the center of the road. I think that he does actually own it in some cases but when you have an easment like a railroad actually a farmer on some of these railroad lines actually owns the land that he grants for railroad rights and if the railroad ever discontinues using it for railroad rights it reverts back to the heirs of the land owner that gave it in the first place. So he is partly right the only thing that he left out was, that even though it may technically belong to the farmer the farmer has no control over it. Now, I know that if this was so I know farmers that do not want rifles and coyotes hunted from the road. So they would have the same right as the objection of hunting game birds from the road, of saying mine is closed because I own the center of the road. Which isn't true. It's an easment is the way I understand it. Now just one thing I want to say to about hunting with a shot gun on game animals and game birds. And we will just take two animals to illustrate it and leave out the game birds for a minute. The cottontail rabbit is a game animal. You can't shoot him from the road. But a jackrabbit a nongame animal you can shoot him from the road. Now if you think there is any consistence there on two different rabbits just because they are different species I don't see the consistence on the law there at all. One is a nongame animal and the other is a game animal. What would be the difference really if I was allowed to shoot a jackrabbit and a cottontail from the road? I would like to have someone answer me that one because that is the best illustration of inconsistency in State law that I can come up with.

PRESIDENT: Next to speak is Senator Barnett

SENATOR BARNETT: Mr. President and members of the Legislature. First of all I would like to apologize to this honorable body for having created this problem as one of these pushers of Lb45, if I can be declared a pusher of a bill. The problem was not done on purpose to harm the coyote hunter and to let the coyote run at will throughout the State of Nebraska. I think what we have to do to the urban Senators at this time and the people who like to hunt have to listen to some of the cries that we get from the people in the rural areas is the ones that the coyote population kept down. I know some of the people that do hunting from the urban areas that go out in the rural areas sometimes disregard property. It is too bad because I don't