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back to George Norris personally and his fight with the Republican party in the late 20's and the early 30's. And but for the utter disregard that Norris had for political parties and his fight that began in the 1910 era and carried through his years in the House and Senate, I don't think that idea would have been inserted into the measure to make this a Unicameral House. We all know this would not have been a Unicameral Legislature if it hadn't been sandwiched between the repeal of prohibition and the legalization of paramutuel betting. And if it hadn't come at the depth of the Depression when the proposal was one to save money. The idea of the non-partisan quality of this Legislature was buried. It seems to me that the people deserve a chance once and for all to vote on that issue. I therefore support the bill itself. As to Senator Syas' amendment, notwithstanding his arguments, if they are meant to kill the amendment, he has done it very well. If they are meant to really be passed into law, it plays havoc with the system, accomplishes nothing and hurts the chances of the honest Independent that wants to get on the ballot.

PRESIDENT: Next to speak is Senator Cavanaugh. We're talking about the Syas amendment only. To LB649 on General File. Trying to, at least.

SENATOR CAVANAUGH: Mr. President and members of the Legislature. I am shocked and amazed at Senator Syas this morning. The great lover of the Constitution....who would even propose a provision like this, that would thrust into this Legislature a continuing political battle and struggle that would be waged year in and year out as to whether we would be running partisan or non-partisan and it would change with the political winds of the time. And for a man who is so many times stood on the floor of this Legislature and declared the great virtue of the Constitution and that the Constitutions exists for the people to express their will and to set down in granite as he often says, those propositions that relate to government that are major. And that we should operate within that system. And, of course, one of the major propositions determining government is how elected representatives shall be elected. And whether or not they would be elected in this Body, particularly given the history of this issue in the State of Nebraska, on a partisan or non-partisan basis, is something that should only be reserved to the people. And I am greatly amazed at Senator Syas' apparent callow disregard for the people in this particular regard and it's just unbelieving that Senator Syas would offer such an amendment. Shocking.

PRESIDENT: Senator Stahmer. Speaking on the Syas amendment only.

SENATOR STAHMER: Mr. President and members of the Body. Senator Syas, get ready for another shock because I'm going to defend him and I think Senator Syas epitomizes the independent thinking Republican of this Body and I like to think I epitomize independent Democratic thinking. And I think that not to give recognizance to the independent voters of this state is to bury our heads in the sand. The independent voters of the nation exist in numbers equal to the members of political parties and to not give them due consideration in primaries and in final elections is to deny many if not in some instances a majority of voters their due rights. I think that Senator Syas is to be complimented and it is not