

March 26, 1974

(belt #3)

CLERK: Read motion to strike LR136 from the Journal.

SPEAKER: Senator Syas

SENATOR SYAS: I'm not going to take very much time on this but I wish Senator Duis was in his chair or around here.

SPEAKER: Senator what page was this resolution found on?

SENATOR SYAS: I don't know.

SPEAKER: Resolution 126?

CLERK: 1323.

SPEAKER: Senator Syas.

SENATOR SYAS: You may not think that this is important but I do, and I'm especially disturbed over the rules that allow something to pass by the mere signature of a resolution. We are supposed to be a deliberate body and we are supposed to hear opposition if there is any, and by the way the rules are right now, you don't have a chance. I think that this is a bad rule for one thing, but on the situation that I wish to call to your attention that I have consistently opposed making state flowers, state birds, state rocks, state insects, and so forth putting the statutes by resolution or otherwise cluttering up with the silly stuff, I think is silly and this sort of thing. I too receive letters from the children asking for a state insect, the only difference is that when they wrote to me, they asked for the "Lady Bug", I suppose that the rest of you received various letters from the children and I don't say that they are wrong in advocating things, but I especially take exception to the pick that you took, but I would have probably voted against any one that you did pick, and I suppose really the one that is native to Nebraska and I can't compete with Luedtke over there, the one native to Nebraska would have been the lesser grasshoppers if you read in your history of the damage and the destruction that they have caused in the early days when one time the state was called the bug eater state because we had so many of them, but other states have passed the honey bee as a state insect and I will admit that I have nothing against the honey bee because I used to raise them and they are a fascinating animal, and a very helpful animal. The pollinate as well as make food. But, I think that we are off the track when we do this, especially to the honey bee for the simple reason that the honey bee is not native to Nebraska, it is an import and I think that if we are going to have a state insect, we should take a north american insect one native to Nebraska. The Bumble Bee was native to Nebraska, yes you are right, Senator Nore. The honey bee was imported from Asia and Europe and I think that we should pick an American insect and not a foreign insect. The fact is that after the honey bee was introduced in to the North American continent and the Indians used to call it the white mans fly. I think that we could do better, if you are really set on having a state insect, which I think is pretty far fetched, if you are, I would rather see this legislature pick one that is native to the state of Nebraska whether it is harmful or beneficial. I think that we are off the track when we do this thing. I am especially distributed by the rules Senator Duis, and I know that you didn't...I might have missed