

then.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Mr. Clerk, then we will take up Senator Withem's motion next. Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Just a point of order. Now that that motion has been withdrawn, any amendments that are up there would be in front of that motion. I just want that clear. I don't even know what is up there.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Okay, Mr. Clerk, you have a motion.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Scofield would move to amend the bill. (Senator Scofield's amendment appears on page 1780 of the Legislative Journal.)

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Scofield, please.

SENATOR SCOFIELD: Mr. Speaker and members, I am offering an amendment here because I don't know that we have adequately, at least of late, focused sufficiently enough on the public interest involved here. And I have a lot of trains running through my district, probably as many or more than any of you with the possible exception of maybe Senator Lamb. That results in a lot of phone calls to the local senators sometimes when there are difficulties that are obviously going to be created any time you have heavy rail traffic. And so I am offering this amendment, not as a union amendment, not as a management amendment, but as an amendment that attempts to serve the public and give them a larger part in this discussion than I think they have had to date. I want to emphasize that this not a compromise amendment. It did not come out of any of the attempts and I think both sides have sat down and tried hard to get somewhere and I do not sense that we have arrived at any brilliant solutions yet. And if anybody wants to disagree with that, that is fine, but that is my sense at this point. So I am not offering this as a compromise amendment. I do think, however, that it is an issue that should be raised and that is the spirit I am offering it in. What this amendment allows is an avenue for the public to become involved and to give them a place to go and an avenue when there are occurrences due to railroad operations that, in the opinion of a member of the public, either affects public safety or convenience or in some way negatively impacts in an unreasonable way on some other part of the economy. In my area, which is a farming and ranching area, it is not uncommon at all to have some hard feelings