

January 25, 1980

LB 436

read the bills in the same fashion as we read them today since you have been here?

PRESIDENT: Senator Marvel would probably be the best to answer how we have read them over the years.

SPEAKER MARVEL: You mean on Final Reading or just generally...?

SENATOR KAHLE: On Final Reading, yes.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Yes, they are read basically today the way they have been for years. My point before was simply that what we used to do was to tackle a bill on General File and go section by section by section. If there was no question on the section then we go to the next section but at least the Legislature had the opportunity to say well let's stop a minute and take a look at Section 10 and that is entirely different than it was or than it is now but as far as Final Reading is concerned it is the same as it was. This is supposed to be a deliberative body. A deliberative body is not supposed to rush through legislation.

SENATOR KAHLE: This is my exact point and I have heard you, I'm sure I have heard presiding Lt. Governor Luedtke and others say when we have Final Reading, make an excuse to the people in the balcony, especially school children that are up there listening that we are doing this because we have to because it is in law and that, at least in the tone of voice that I thought you did this, that we are sort of making excuses for it and this is what bothers me. What does it take to ask the Clerk to read the bill so that it can be understood. Can that be done by a request of a member or does it have to be a vote?

SPEAKER MARVEL: The original request was that the Clerk mumble quietly. You can look it up in the records if you like.

SENATOR KAHLE: What was that statement again, Speaker Marvel?

SPEAKER MARVEL: That he read rapidly and quietly which meant in effect that he reads at a speed that you really can't understand and that people sitting up there are trying to figure out what is going on. I am told in other states they have maybe six clerks reading different bills or different sections of the bill simultaneously which is also a farce as far as I am concerned but as far as General File is concerned we start through the bill section by section. If no member had a question we would go to the next section.

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