

March 31, 1980

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SENATOR KOCH: I would like to call the question.

SENATOR CLARK: Well it hasn't been argued yet. I can't do that.

SENATOR KOCH: In that case, I will speak.

SENATOR CLARK: All right, go ahead.

SENATOR KOCH: I've got as much gas as the rest of them in here and I might as well use it up. Mr. Chairman, we just passed ETV and we should have charged it back to people who misuse it here in terms of minutes. I am going to stand against Senator DeCamp's five cent amendment. I am having a difficult time with Senator Schmit's two cent amendment but even though the price of gas is going up while we are talking here why it is our own fault because we waste an awful lot of time on what I think are extraneous kinds of conditions. I cannot support Senator DeCamp's five cent amendment. It must have been another bad dream.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Haberman, we are on the DeCamp amendment.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Mr. President, fellow colleagues, we are playing John's game, round and round the merry-go-round. He has done this before. He is making it a nickel, then when it gets down to the two and a half cents that will look so cheap we will all vote for it. So I don't think we ought to play the game this way. Those bridges that they are talking about that are bad didn't go bad in one year and everybody is saying, all the bridges are going to go out. They are not going to go out in one year. The President is going to raise the gas tax to ten cents. We want to raise the gas tax two and a half cents and we all read in the paper the farmer is going broke, wheat is down, corn is down, to quit spending money and we are standing here and we are raising the gas tax. We are raising taxes to the left. We are raising taxes to the right. I think that the highways can wait a year. The county roads can wait a year and the pot holes in Omaha, they got their sales tax is what they wanted it for and they can start fixing those. I don't think this is any time for us to be raising the gas tax. All you have to do is read the paper and find out from the people who have to pay the tax, they haven't got the money. So I ask you not to pay any attention to John's jumping it up to five cents so two and a half will look cheap and I ask you to vote against the two and a half cents and as far as I am concerned, I am going to vote against any increase. We got rid of the studded snow tires so that is not going to ruin