

April 9, 1980

SENATOR SIMON: . . . support Senator Cope. He has ten minutes on the motion, Mr. President, on the motion and I don't think that he has used ten. I think that you timed it five, didn't you? Okay, so I have got six minutes. Thank you. I don't care about that organization, but in regards to comments that were made there are concerns that I have. Now Mr. Jones said in this mornings paper that there were witnesses, that after conversations with Erickson who represents this organization, the witnesses show that Erickson did make that statement so it isn't just merely a campaign tactic that Mr. Jones is using against Mr. Daub as republicans use against republicans and democrats use against democrats in party politics all of the time. So he is saying that he has several people to back that up as witnesses. Now the other thing is that Mike Albert and it does get a bit confusing with all of the names, but if you live in Omaha you understand that. Mike Albert who is also a republican candidate for Congress has said that indeed Daub who is closely lined with numerous members of the committee attended a 1978 committee school for candidates in Milwaukee and has had financial support from the organization. Now again, I don't care if they give me a hundred thousand dollars or whatever. That is not the issue. But it seems to me in looking over what I have read this morning in the paper that I now have some questions and I'm not quite as sure as I was before whether perhaps Mr. Daub answered, I won't say in all honesty, but it appears to me that perhaps he was somewhat evasive. At the time I didn't think so. At the time quite honestly I felt that perhaps Senator Newell's questioning was a bit argumentative, was a bit partisan, I'm a democrat myself, was a bit partisan and a bit out of line. However, looking back at it now I happen to think that perhaps I was wrong and perhaps Senator Newell was right on the ball. There is a federal investigation going on to this, it does seem to again after looking again as I said this morning, the statements that have been made by two other candidates, and I understand, I discount totally at least as far as politics the comments that Mr. Jones makes and also the ones that Mr. Albert makes because that is the name of the game to discredit your opponents. However, when you have witnesses to those things as is in this mornings paper that heard those statements that were made and where a candidate has disavowed contact and really has had no reason to do so, and has disavowed contact with an organization when it now appears that that was not really totally the case then I suggest that perhaps Mr. Daub has not acted in as complete candor with the committee as he should have. I don't say at this time that Mr. Daub is lying. I do say that as an individual who supported the candidacy of Mr. Daub I now have reservations and I can not support him at this time.