

March 4, 1981

LB 390

SENATOR SCHMIT: And I would hope that you would follow that procedure rather than to take this unusual procedure which...(mike turned off).

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator DeCamp.

SENATOR DeCAMP: Mr. President, one of the most oft used terms in the newspapers ever since I have been here on a major issue is, where is the rural-urban split? Headlines, they love that rural-urban split. I guarantee you for all the eleven years I have been here and I will document it in thirty seconds, there has never been a rural-urban split. There has been urban-urban split. Lincoln always voted against every cotton pickin' Omaha sales tax proposal, remember? Every Lincoln newspaper editorialized against it day in and day out. Yes, you urban, you squabble among yourselves and cut each other's throats. We are accustomed to that. But whatever you needed on either side of the question, you came to the Cals and the Johnnies and the Schmits and the Kahles. That is how you got it for all your urban stuff. I guarantee you there is now a rural-urban split and the Crown Prince of it all is Senator Newell, and Crown Prince Davie can lead your Omaha delegation to success and have his urban-rural split that he has been working for for so cotton pickin' long. He may have won her now this morning, depending upon what happens. Davie told you that Omaha pays all the sales tax, didn't he? Well, almost all, sure we cowboys out there, we pay a dime or two. Davie forgot, I think, that we go to Omaha, we send our kiddies to Lincoln. We probably pay as much sales tax if not more per man out there than Davie thinks. Omaha is our supply center. Lincoln is our everything. We are paying that sales tax and financing the City of Lincoln and financing the City of Omaha and we go along with it. Last year, as Senator Haberman correctly stated, we repeatedly stood up on the floor and pointed out that once...once we had equalization, Omaha and Lincoln suddenly changed all the rules of the game, redid the whole state aid formula and literally walked away with their hands full of cash and we said, okay, we are going along with it because we know that there is a balance on the 882 issue. We know you can argue and say, well, there is rurals getting a little more because they had more cows and pigs and horses than Omaha did, we let you do it. Now you are getting a little greedy, don't you think? We are giving you most of the money and you are saying, we want to stick it in deeper and hurt you a little more. Davie laid it out pretty clear what he is really after. Davie wants even one percent of population in there so that