

and I am not about to cut a deal on this one. But I will also remind you that when my wife and I live down here in this apartment five days of the week for six months out of the year, we are paying sales tax to Lincoln, Nebraska, and I think that was a mistake the Legislature made back when they instigated the state sales tax when they allowed the cities to have a sales tax. Now we have got a bill in this Legislature also to allow Omaha to continue to have their 1 1/2 percent sales tax, and I know there is a lot of people that say, well, that's just us that pay it anyhow. I don't think that is true. People from rural Nebraska buy things from the cities and the towns in the State of Nebraska, and when I buy things here in Lincoln, Nebraska, I feel like I am helping them on their property tax readjustment already through the sales tax that the City of Lincoln has. I would suggest to you that that 1 1/2 percent sales tax that Omaha is probably going to wind up getting is going to be the same thing up there. We talk about equity and it was pretty evident to me what equity means. It is pretty evident to me what equality in taxation means. The equal tax is a tax that somebody else pays. Well, it can't be that way. I think it is time that we do become statesmen and that we do look at the real problem, and that we don't continue this auction market that we are in out here this morning. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Pirsch.

SENATOR PIRSCH: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and members of the body. We have heard a lot of angry words, some preposterous statements this morning, and yet through this all we have heard some kinds of reasonable, logical people who are trying to reach a solution on this difficult problem. It is amazing how, as Senator Peterson said, the love of money is the root of all evil, or money is the root of all evil, and it arouses so many angry feelings and it probably properly should so because we are the representatives of those people in that district and it is because of those people in my district and in the so-called urban Senators districts, that we believe that any proposal that does not consider population is unfair. Let's remember it is people that pay those taxes, people that pay personal property taxes, real estate property taxes, even though they are inequitable. Gas taxes, let's talk about gas taxes; sales tax as well as income taxes, and I feel Douglas County pays more than their share to that pot. I have voted in the past with rural interest, you all know that. When Senator