

expend more than that, but we are a part-time Legislature. We are not a full time Legislature. We are a part-time Legislature and for that reason it seems that we take a part-time figure and one-third I felt was the most appropriate figure. Secondly, I selected the Governor's salary because just as the Governor is the Chief Executive Officer of the state, you and I, ladies and gentlemen, are the chief legislative officers of the state. We are coequal. We are coequal. Now there have been those who have said to me, well, Johnson, what you are doing is a ruse because this Legislature can increase the Governor's salary in subsequent years to some astronomical figure, like \$200,000 solely for the purpose of being able to raise its ceiling by enormous amounts of money so that it can then pay itself huge sums of money. I have passed out, one of the many enclosures on your desk is a little table showing the salaries of constitutional officers in this state since 1955. As yourself as you look those figures over, has our Legislature been a profligate in any way with the salaries of constitutional officers in this state. We have not. We have not. It may well be that I might be a big spender. Maybe I would want to increase the Governor's salary threefold or fourfold, but sitting right behind me is Senator Lamb who is not a big spender, who is very frugal, tightfisted, downright stingy, and you gotta get 49...there are 49 different minds in here and 49 different votes, and for every effort made by somebody who wants to push salaries up, there will be a countervailing effort made by somebody who wants to keep salaries down, and finally middlegrounds are reached. That is the nature of the Legislative process. I have absolutely no fear whatsoever, no fear whatsoever, about pegging our ceiling to the Governor's salary. Then you have a chart, Table Seventeen from the Book of States, Annual Salaries of State Administrative Officers. Take a look again at how much we pay our state administrative officers in relationship to what other states pay their administrative officers and you will see that this Legislature that appropriates a budget of a million two, that sets the salary of its officers and its judges, is not a profligate Legislature. It is a frugal Legislature. And you finally have on your desk a chart showing all constitutional amendments since 1950 with respect to pay and expenses and you will find that since 1968 when we last got our pay increase there have been seven attempts to increase salaries or expenses. There have been attempts made by just setting a specific dollar amount for the salary and that has not been successful. There have been attempts made by establishing a commission and that has not been successful. There have