March 13, 1981

LB 133

Elroy Hefner. They are under the North balcony, Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Gunderson from Wausa. Would they stand and be recognized. The Gundersons. Welcome, Mr. and Mrs. Gunderson. The Chair recognizes Senator Fitzgerald.

SENATOR FITZGERALD: Mr. President and members, I oppose bringing this bill out of committee. It was six to one in committee which I serve on and this Task Force is mostly consist of outstate bankers and we have eleven banks in Omaha on the outskirts and nine of these banks do not want 133 and if the bill does come out on the floor I have an amendment here. I am going to go from city to counties because I think these little banks around our counties should have the same competition our other banks have. Would John DeCamp yield for some questions?

PRESIDENT: Senator DeCamp, will you respond?

SENATOR FITZGERALD: John, when I was in the committee hearing, how many banks consist of this and how many are outstate?

SENATOR DeCAMP: Senator Fitzgerald, I don't have the exact numbers but it seemed to me like we were talking about four hundred outstate in rough numbers and what, forty or fifty that really are in Omaha and Lincoln and the suburban area.

SENATOR FITZGERALD: What was the percentage of the Omaha and Lincoln banks that opposed 133?

SENATOR DeCAMP: Okay, Senator Fitzgerald, as you may recall about two-thirds of the way through the hearing when one witness after another had indicated including the supporters of the hill that this was really an Omaha-Lincoln issue, that is who it affected. As I recall the exact words of Bill Smith, the head of First National, I said, "This is really an Omaha-Lincoln issue and that is who it affects, isn't it?" And he said, "I agree," and explained why. So that is why about two-thirds of the way through the hearing we polled, we sent out a formal poll, announced that we were going to do it at the committee as you recall and I have passed that out to you and as you will see in Lincoln it has the banks identified, four support, nine oppose; Omaha, six support, fourteen oppose; Omaha area, four opposed, so overwhelmingly the people affected oppose the legislation.

SENATOR FITZGERALD: Another question, Senator, what effect would this have on the value of a suburban bank?

SENATOR DeCAMP: A little later on I am going to give a brief talk, I hope it will be fairly brief and try to outline the whole issue because I don't think we have really, in all the