

years I have been here, really outlined it in simplicity and honesty before and I will try to do that because it would have a dramatic effect I am convinced on them and on outstate also.

SENATOR FITZGERALD: Would you be agreeable if I put an amendment on this bill to the effect instead of going city, let's go county then because we would have more area to cover with five facilities?

SENATOR DeCAMP: I guess branching is branching as has been testified to and you might as well face up to that and city, county, state, you know, that is what we are dealing with.

SENATOR FITZGERALD: Thank you.

PRESIDENT: The Chair now recognizes Senator DeCamp.

SENATOR DeCAMP: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I really only ask you to carefully listen about three or four five times a year and this is one of those times. I am chairman of the Banking Committee and I would like to explain what I perceive the issue to be and I would like the Speaker to gavel the group there quiet.

PRESIDENT: (gavel) Let's have a little bit of decorum here so that someone can hear.

SENATOR DeCAMP: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, this will be one of the votes that directs the rest of the session I can guarantee you. Senator Landis not too long ago on this floor stood and said, "I am tired of having banking issues dominate all the session for the last two years." And he was right. Banking issues have dominated it completely. You know how banking was involved in every election campaign of every member here, of the Governor in the previous election. Banking issues have dominated this state and this particular issue, branching, multibank, so on, for at least five years, totally dominated. It is my absolute conviction and I will try to document why that if the bill is brought out and it is five branches citywide and that is branched banking by anybody's description, it will destroy the balance of this session. This session has the potential with the legislation already passed, the legislation in process, the legislation being dealt with to be the most significant in certainly the modern history of this state. Water, everything is being dealt with and getting processed and finding an agreement on. You bring this bill out and I guarantee it, the banking industry, both sides, three sides, will wipe out the rest of the