

April 7, 1981

LB 111

raised, and I guess I kind of think it might be. I have talked to a few of you and I know some others have and you are going to probably give it a second thought. But if it is raised, I am going to probably offer an amendment on the Workmen's Comp to see if we can't get that one settled too, see if there isn't something reasonable. So I urge you to support the motion to raise and maybe handle our judicial salaries in a little more efficient way.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Haberman. Senator Haberman.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, Senator Hoagland, I hate to correct you on this, but we didn't make a mistake the other day. I think we did the right thing. You say it does not take away our right to set the judicial salaries. Well, it does, Senator Hoagland, because we only set one salary, because they are all tied together. And there is a difference between salaries and salaries. You say the University does this. The University isn't underneath the Legislature, so that doesn't enter into the picture. They do a lot of things we don't approve of, like buying a'r conditioners for a million dollars and things like this. So I don't think that should enter into the picture at all. And why change? Now you know yourself once we change something, it is harder to change back. The system is working fine. But I guess the reason I really oppose bringing this back is because the citizens of the State of Nebraska do not understand the problem. Now I have here a full-page advertisement that 114 citizens in McCook, Nebraska, paid their money for. Now here is what it says, "We, the undersigned patrons of the McCook Equity Exchange, have learned that a deal has apparently been made between the Red Willow County Attorney's office and LeRoy Fortner, which would allow LeRoy Fortner to plead guilty to one misdemeanor charge as opposed to the three felony charges currently pending against him. That's pretty healthy right there. We patrons would like to go on record as opposed to such an arrangement as being against the interest of all taxpayers of Red Willow County. We, the patrons, believe that the guilt or innocence of LeRoy Fortner of the felony charges pending against him should be determined by a jury of his peers after a full trial of all charges. All of those interested are reminded that the hearing for Mr. Fortner is 9:00 a.m. Monday", yak, yak, yak. Now these citizens had to buy a full-page ad to draw to attention of the lawyers and the court as to what is going on. Due to this ad, the County Attorney has withdrawn from the case and asked them to get somebody else. Now