

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, I would like to ask Senator Carsten a couple of questions. Senator Carsten, when was the need for this meeting determined? When was it determined by you that such a meeting is needed?

SENATOR CARSTEN: This morning, Senator Chambers. I had a couple of Senators come to me explaining to me that an agreement had been violated and that they were in disagreement now and that we were going to fight on the floor. It appeared to me that I should, at that point, try to get things resolved if it was at all possible. It was this morning, sir.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Now, Senator Carsten, how much active role did you have in the formulation of this so-called agreement which allegedly was violated by somebody?

SENATOR CARSTEN: I had no part of any agreement, if there was an agreement, whatsoever.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Then why, Senator Carsten, did they make it incumbent upon you to unscramble eggs that you didn't even break?

SENATOR CARSTEN: They did not, Senator Chambers. I did that on my own feeling it was my responsibility to try to get thisat least sit down and talk about it to see if there wasn't some area in there that we could agree on and move it without spending a lot of time more on the floor. I took that upon myself alone.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Were there Senators on both sides of the alleged agreement who came to you, or Senators representing one side? Who were the Senators?

SENATOR CARSTEN: They were on both sides. Senator Newell did come to me. Senator Lowell Johnson came to me. It was both their feeling that there was disagreements over what they thought they had agreed upon. It was both sides, Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Senator Carsten. Members of the Legislature, what is happening now is precisely why business of the Legislature should be conducted on the floor of the Legislature and not in the offices of Senators and meetings in little clandestine places because it is easy for somebody to come on the floor and say we agreed to this and others at the meeting say, well, no, we didn't. Then we are told certain other people are led to believe they are a part of a meeting which they have not even been informed of, and the rest of us sit here like knots on logs having games played with us. That is why I asked Senator