

April 8, 1981

LB 257

that severance tax as a number one tax source for the State of Nebraska. One percent tax is not going to upset any oil exploration. We are giving away our product and the tax revenues we can take from them. Thank you.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Landis.

SENATOR LANDIS: Mr. Speaker, I call the question.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The question has been called for. Do I see five hands? I do. All those in favor of ceasing debate vote aye, opposed vote no. Shall debate cease? Record the vote.

CLERK: 26 ayes, 0 nays to cease debate, Mr. President.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Debate is ceased. Senator DeCamp, do you want to close on the motion?

SENATOR DeCAMP: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I think I am getting that feeling that Ernie must have and it is not real good. Marvel, Senator Marvel promised me if I wouldn't scream, talk real clear, you would listen so I am going to do that.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Also cut down on the oratory.

SENATOR DeCAMP: Cut down on the oratory, that is why I didn't talk until closing. I didn't open my mouth. So, Mr. President, I want to tell you all a bit of a story and then deal with the very fundamental issue in the bill. And I am going to attempt to convince my good friend, Senator Howard Peterson, to vote for this amendment because from what I can learn sitting here talking to him, he is the most opposed. I figure if I can even get a wiggle of support out of him, when he gets the facts, he will vote for it and the rest of you would too, then. About a month ago when I got wondering how this energy thing should be handled, I decided I would go talk to somebody who I personally felt knew about as much about energy and what should be done as anybody there was and somebody who'd give me straight answers. And so I took off one day here from the Legislature, one afternoon, and I went to Omaha, had a private meeting with a guy named Willis Strauss. For those of you who don't know Willis Strauss, he is the head of Internorth and Internorth is not just a baby company. I think they are among the hundred largest corporations in the United States and they do about four billion dollars a year in sales. And we spent the afternoon together and I poured my questions out to him and I think he gave me honest answers and