

talking about. That was the whole issue. That was the unfairness of it. 7% of the people in the State of Nebraska paid the personal tax. Well that is why it was a popular tax with a lot of people. It wasn't quite so popular with those who had owned property to make a living. A friend of mine, well I'm not going to go into that I guess. We did resolve one issue. We agreed that the personal property tax was inequitable, that those individuals who earn their living with their hands or with their brains should not necessarily enjoy an advantage over those of us who have to own a scoop shovel. But the facts are that Senator Johnson said I want to perpetuate an old idea. I offered it and I come back again and again and again. I offer them a solution which they could not accept which had the support of rural people and it was so heavily weighted toward the urban areas that if you are ever called upon to explain why you rejected it you are going to be hard pressed. You can not accuse me of being unfair. 524 was eminently fair to the urban areas. I would have had to go back to my area and explain in detail why I proposed it. I do not fault those of you who support the DeCamp amendments because they favor your district. It is the oldest ax in the politics that you can not be criticized for taking something when the old ring goes by and you can grab something for your territory, that is the prime prerogative of success in politics. And the long range system may not be the most successful position. But if you have got the cat by the tail with a down hill pull, I can't blame you for taking advantage of it. I'm not asking you to be fair or equitable or anything of that nature because I think, as Senator Peterson has indicated, opinions have been formed, but I want the record clear, I want the record clear and when the time comes again that someone asked why it happened, I don't want to have to go back and explain that I did it because of pressure or because of some other reason. As I said earlier there have been times on this floor when I have made mistakes. I have had to explain those. There have been times on this floor when I have been in the minority and have voted against an issue and I was later proven to be correct. There have been times on this floor when I was probably right and in the minority. There have been times when I have been wrong and probably in the majority. But eventually the entire thing resolves itself. Some of you who are opposing me on this issue. . . .

SENATOR CLARK: You have one minute left.

SENATOR SCHMIT: . . . will support me on the next issue or the next. Some of you who are with me on this issue will oppose me on the next issue and that is the way it ought to be. But decide the issue on its merit and its merits alone and forget the personalities whether it is Schmit or DeCamp or anyone else. That is all that I ask of you ladies and gentlemen. Thank you very much.

SENATOR CLARK: Question before the House is the adoption of the Schmit amendment. LB 284. All those in favor vote aye, opposed vote nay.