

May 28, 1981

LR 189

a black person. He knows there are other Senators, but in Omaha when people have an unpopular case, or they feel they are woefully outnumbered, I am the one that they bring the things to because I listen to them and try to help them. I am not motivated by the building industry. I am not looking for a job after I get out of the Legislature if I lose next time or choose not to run. I don't intermeddle in other people's districts. Mr. Stahmer who used to be a Senator here said Senator Newell was going door to door in his district in the City Council race for his opponent. So he is not hot on the Freeway because of that. That's Stahmer who is now on the City Council. There are other people who feel that what happens in their district has been intermeddled with. Senator Newell, while wanting to push this thing through the black community where I live, wants to stop the Harrison Street Interchange which is not in his district.

SENATOR CLARK: Pardon me, Senator Chambers. Would you be just a little quiet, please, and give him some consideration?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, but I am trying to get some things into the record because in the event of litigation I want it to be clear what matters were discussed before the Legislature. I do want to make it clear that this letter from the Nebraska State Department of Planning and the U.S. Department of Transportation both were, in fact, placed on your desks. They were called to your attention. The contents were called to your attention. The specific case of Mr. Pike was brought to you where he is being told by the Department of Roads in so many words that they don't have to really negotiate with him in good faith because they can use the power of eminent domain to take his property from him, and that if he wants to go to court, he can, but there is really not too much necessity because the outcome is a foregone conclusion. That is what caused the man to come down to talk to me at the shop. If these are white people's issues, why don't some of them go to the white Senators? I got a call upstairs on my desk now where another man who is about to lose his parking lot...that's the one I thought this one would involve, but the one I handed to you involved them taking a man's house, his rental property, his garage, and then not giving him enough money for functional relocation. Functional relocation means they put you in the same condition you were in when they took your property from you. His garage relates to the seasonal work that he does. With the amount of money that the state is giving