

February 23, 1982

LB 230

SENATOR NICHOL: Senator Clark.

SENATOR CLARK: I would like to ask Senator Goodrich a question, Mr. President.

SENATOR NICHOL: Senator Goodrich, will you respond please?

SENATOR GOODRICH: Yes.

SENATOR CLARK: Are you talking about the fact that when that train is stopped and the brakeman is out doing his work then it did not have to be occupied in the caboose?

SENATOR GOODRICH: Well, if you put this bill into effect, you are saying that the caboose shall be on the train and it shall be occupied. There is no exceptions to that. You are now saying that every minute of the time that train is in operation, stopped or otherwise, there shall be somebody in the caboose. Now that is what you are saying if you adopt this bill. I am suggesting if the brakeman or somebody else has to do his work on the train, then you have to hire another person and put him in the caboose. That is the meat of the bill. They are right but that is exactly the intent of it is to force them to hire another crew member so somebody can sit and occupy the caboose.

SENATOR CLARK: At the present time the caboose is occupied while the train is moving anyway, is that not true?

SENATOR GOODRICH: Depends on what the crew (interruption).

SENATOR CLARK: By the brakeman and the conductor?

SENATOR GOODRICH: ...the other, for example, the brakeman and that sort of thing, they can go through the train and do their other chores, but if you have to have one of them sitting in the caboose doing nothing, then it seems to me like you are adding one more man to the crew.

SENATOR CLARK: That's right. Thank you very much. I really thing what he is talking about is the fact that it should be occupied when it is moving and it is occupied at the present time when it is moving. When the train is stopped, the brakeman has to get out, the conductor gets out, and of course it isn't occupied and I suppose you would have to hire someone else to sit in there and occupy the caboose for no reason at all. So I would certainly agree with the amendment.

SENATOR NICHOL: If I may interrupt for a minute, we have some