

their colleagues strutting, because they feel power. And that's what they call power? Because in the Legislature of the State of Nebraska you can force something through and that gives a sense of power? If I were allowed to make an analogy to the wild world, I would say this, if I, as one, could come upon a pack of wolves and put them to flight through my single might, then I have some power. But, if I find a lot of little chicklets and ducklings and I run among them discharging weapons, ringing bells and sirens, and they run, that doesn't give me a sense of power. I have to look at the foe. We have people in this Legislature running scared not just on the issue of abortion but a lot of issues that come before this Legislature. But to be frank, and my memory could be defective on this point, I don't recall a vote of the kind that has been taken with reference to dividing the question where the rule gives that prerogative to a member and a majority of those voting, without suspending of that rule, take that prerogative away. Their rules, your rules are written for a purpose. There must have been some reason for allowing a division of the question. You don't...abolish that rule, maybe that's what we ought to do next time. But since it is there it ought to be adhered to. And do you see how quickly, when I make a motion, people start scurrying to the rule book to see whether I can or not, so they can try to stop me. Do you see how quickly that is done? How many scurry to the rule book to show that the Speaker was abdicating his responsibility or the Chair in failing to rule that a question shall be divided in accord with the rules? There was a man named Ralph Waldo Emerson who talked about a person of moral strength and the willingness to stand alone, observing on an issue, being opposed, then observing again and yet again. The rule that provides, in mandatory language, for the division of the question does not say that if the Legislature in a headlong, silly, stupid, jackassish fashion votes to not allow a division of the question, then when the question is again put to the presiding officer, the presiding officer shall be bullied by that vote into not complying with the rule. That's not in the rule. What has this Legislature done? I think it has done itself proud because the intelligence quotient is not considered high anyway. People ridicule this Legislature and its members all the time. They talk about members who sit here like knots on logs, and they're not far from the truth. You know what I've said on occasion, that when I die, and I think Senator Conway reminded me of it, I can be cremated and my ashes placed on an urn and be reelected to this Legislature and placed on this desk and it will continue to