

that would do business with NIFA so that we could get a housing loan in Bellwood for someone out there. I doubt we'd ever have an agricultural loan, but we might get a housing loan. Obviously, the rural banks have not been too concerned about doing business with NIFA, but the institutions here in the City of Lincoln, City of Omaha, being more oriented toward the benefits that we ladle out here and the housing industry itself being aware of it, take advantage of it. So this is an advantage that could be transferred to outstate Nebraska with Senator Warner's amendment, and I think he's right. Being honest sometimes, Senator Warner, doesn't make you popular, but I believe you are right. It's inevitable what is going to happen. We've already got it. We've already got it, LB 956 carried by the Banking Committee, lays it across the state. Why jump up and down and cry and beg and plead when you got it? The most, Mr. Kurt Yost, most bitter opponent of branched banking, can buy an S & L branch in his hometown any time he wants and he'd have a branch. But, oh, no, the bill comes under 457, bad bill; 956, good bill. Ladies and gentlemen, a branch is a branch is a branch. Now how ridiculous can you get? I remember, like Senator Conway said, the length of the pneumatic tube was important. I will never forget the time when we amended a bill on the floor here back in the days before First of Lincoln were so enlightened and we provided that a branch had to be only X number of feet from the main facility and the next morning a friend of mine in the First National Bank was out there measuring, stepping it off, to see if he came in or not. To his chagrin he was outside by about 20 feet and he thought it was an accident. It wasn't any accident. We knew how to get his support. We fought over the length of the pneumatic tube, we fought over how many feet it could be from a main facility, we fought over all sorts of things. When I introduced the bill in 1973 that provided for a second auxiliary teller facility, you would have thought I was opening up the banks to Jesse James and Bill Hickok.

PRESIDENT: One minute.

SENATOR SCHMIT: It's been nothing but good for the industry and has been good for the people of the state, and I think Senator Warner's amendment is good for the people of the state. Probably a good idea, Senator Warner, that comes along now because as you say otherwise, five or six years from now, someone who is not quite as enthusiastic about it as I am might be carrying the bill and my chances of being here at that time