

November 13, 1989

SENATOR HALL: Far be it for us to try to do that. I think that would be a record far beyond our reach. But...

SENATOR SCHMIT: Well, congratulations on the attempt, anyway. I guess we'll just have to see what we can do tomorrow morning. I just want to say this, ladies and gentlemen, that we are addressing here the lives and businesses of the people of the State of Nebraska. I appreciate that the Revenue Committee really had no other choice, other than to do what Senator Hall has proposed here for us to do. But for us to meet tomorrow morning in an attempt to debate these bills with any degree of understanding, is not a reasonable request. I would just hope that the rest of you will try to address it in the best manner that you can, but it's not going to work very well. When we get out of here we're not going to have a very substantial product, I can tell you that right now.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Chambers, please.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, I'm very troubled by the prospect that confronts us. We don't have to meet tomorrow. Now, there might be something in our Special Session rules that say when a bill has to be reported from committee, but there is nothing that says that we have to stick to the schedule that was given to us, if, by sticking to that schedule, we come here naked. Seldom has there been a situation before this Legislature as serious as the one we're considering. Never has there been an issue before the Legislature where I've felt so totally unprepared and unequipped to deal with it. We all like to pride ourselves on being intelligent and dedicated public officials. Whether we are that all the time is beside the point, that is the way we want to view ourselves, when circumstances beyond our control, in terms of when amendments come forth and when they are presented, are just that, beyond our control. But when we approach the portion of legislative proceedings that is within our control, then we ought to behave in a responsible manner. I'm due to give the keynote address at a conference in Tulsa to abolish corporal punishment. I have to be there Thursday. I've been wrestling with myself as to whether or not I ought to cancel that, even though it's been planned for months, and a lot of the conference is based on what I'm going to do. Had it become evident that the Legislature intended to behave as a Legislature, I would have cancelled it, and I would have explained to the people how