

phone calls that you referred to earlier. Now I received a whole series of phone calls from mayors in my district because the lobbyist for the league told the mayors Schmit was not protecting the municipal tax base. Unfortunately for the very fine lobbyist for the league, the mayors in my district know me better than they know the lobbyist and so they weren't too concerned. But the principal reason you didn't get those calls was this. First of all it was widely touted as being outside the call, so there is no real danger. So the major groups that are going to be hit thought there was no problem to be concerned, but the real reason is this also, that the smaller corporations don't have those lobbyists. They are home trying to run the business and trying to make the system work and they think we're down here tending to the original business of the Governor and the call would not be expanded, that we would be held to the Governor's direction and that they had nothing to be concerned about. This will, of course, reaffirm their worst fears about the Legislature, but that's all right because people ought to be knowledgeable enough to keep on their toes when we're in session, and if you don't, then the devil take the hindmost. I think that it's interesting, of course, that we pass...I didn't vote for 775, I didn't vote for 773, the neutral tax bill that raised \$300 million in new revenue. Now that's going to raise the hackles all across the place, but the facts are that's what you've got in the bank and you can't prove anymore than I can prove it didn't raise it, it did raise it. You can't prove it didn't raise it. But there are a group of people here today who told me they are going to get this money one way or the other. No one has told me yet how you're going to get it back to those subdivisions that lost it. I'd like to know that and I hope that someone, not on my time, will address that issue. As I understand it if the railroads don't pay personal taxes, certain subdivisions will lose money. Are you going to repeat what you did a few years ago and send a specific amount of money back to those subdivisions in the exact amount that they lost? Well then, does it pay then to collect an unconstitutional tax regardless of what happens and secure in the knowledge that this Legislature, naive as we are, will reimburse you if you get caught at it. I don't know why they should, if they've been living off an unconstitutional tax for all these years, why should we bother trying to reimburse now? I don't see any reason for it. I think you have to remember also that the \$12 million is not a lot of money from the standpoint of the State of Nebraska, not nearly as much money, ladies and gentlemen, as we have played around with in many