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LB 843

body, the big issue was the construction of the slurry pipeline from South Dakota down into Arkansas to transport coal. Well, ladies and gentlemen, I made the statement after a number of hearings by the old Public Works Committee, I said the State of Nebraska and its people are being suckered by the railroads.

PRESIDENT MOUL: One minute.

SENATOR SCHMIT: We are carrying the battle for the railroads, and I was immediately chastised and criticized. Well, later on, after the battle was lost and South Dakota lost billions of dollars, the lobbyist for the railroads sat in my office and chuckled. He said all we had to do was to say that Nebraska water resources were going to be lost to farmers, and you came running out of the Sandhills and the farms and you fought our fight for us. As an adjunct to that, hundreds of millions of dollars have been paid recently in the last few years by the railroads for having violated antitrust laws in that situation. And they placed in our own Attorney General's Office lawyers for whom they paid to fight the State of South Dakota. Suckers? You bet your life we were. The issue of the slurry line had nothing to do with it. It was a matter of limiting the competition for hauling coal. That is what it boiled down to.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Time.

SENATOR SCHMIT: But once again the Nebraska Legislature and the farmers and ranchers of this state fell sucker to the bait held out by the railroads, and that is what happened. Let's take another look at this, ladies and gentlemen. Let's try to get along with our neighbors, and let's be a little bit more practical in the amount of money we spend. I ask you to support the amendment. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Schmit. We will now vote on the Schmit amendment. All those in favor please vote aye, opposed nay.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Madam President.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Senator Schmit.

SENATOR SCHMIT: I'd like to see people vote on this. I am going to indulge the body once more and ask for a call of the house and a roll call vote, please.