

March 11, 1932

LB 1063
LR 219

that they disagreed with me, they nonetheless, because I did not lie to them, they still supported me. But the facts are that eventually they became tired of coming to this Legislature and asking for a fair shake and so they took the initiative process and they drafted Initiative 300 and it went on the ballot with an overwhelming vote and my constituents voted for it 82 percent. Well, ladies and gentlemen, I do not need to get run over by a truck twice and I do not need to get trampled twice and Senator Moore has discussed just a bit the possibility of initiative led by himself and maybe some other young men from this body that would place a clear-cut constitutional amendment on the ballot. Now if that were done, if that were done, ladies and gentlemen, let me tell you what will happen. First of all, I believe that if the amendment passed, if any amendment passed, the one that gave the voters a clear-cut decision would pass. And secondly, if that happened, the language in LB 1063 is clear, if one comma is changed in the Constitution, then there is no longer any threat of the entire process being implemented or the reinstatement of all of the personal property taxes. So there is another opportunity to do that which needs to be done. If this Legislature insists upon giving a counterfeit amendment to the people, there are other methods that can be done and if my phone calls and your phone calls are any indication of the unrest that we see in the country and the dissatisfaction I get from the city, then I think again the timing might be right. I want to refer again to another call I received from another banker, a western Nebraska banker who reiterated much of what the eastern banker said yesterday, the fact that financing for agriculture is tight this year. Financing for business is going to be impacted if agriculture continues to be adversely impacted.

PRESIDENT MOUL: One minute.

SENATOR SCHMIT: He said if you do not seriously consider the adverse effects of returning personal property to the tax rolls on every local community of this state, you are not fulfilling your responsibility and you cannot convince the Legislature to give the people a clear choice, you are not fulfilling your responsibility. Ladies and gentlemen, the Moore amendment gives you a clear choice. I do not know what Governor Nelson, why Governor Nelson or members of this body want to give the people no choice or a choice of being hanged or shot. Neither of them is acceptable to most people. Thank you very much. I support the Moore amendment.