

even a member of the Appropriations Committee. I don't have a single program or amendment up there to do anything with your budget. This is all you all's doings. I am the outsider. I am the contrast concept, I am the other, the one that we always, as black people, are portrayed as being in America, and what I am doing here is why white people wish no black people could get into office. People go along to get along. You need to have somebody tell you this is nonsense. This is silliness. This is stupidity, and there was a white philosopher who said, even the Gods labor in vain against stupidity. I want you all to stand up and take issue with what I am saying and show where I'm wrong, and the way to do it is to show me that you are being intelligent, that you are being responsible, that you are showing competency, that you are doing that which makes you and your kind proud. We should have these balconies full of civics classes, so they can see a Legislature in operation. Then when they go back and their teachers make snide remarks about the lack of ability of black people, they can say but I saw white people down there carrying on like that. And these disparaging remarks about my people are made in classrooms in Omaha, and probably throughout this state. And my job is to represent. I am going to listen to you all and watch you, and I say, again, I am reminding you all I have bills on Final Reading, and if you want to get even with me, you can do it. Kill them, and see if I care. The world does not end for me when the legislative session ends. This stuff, even though I work hard on it, is not my life or my wife, but I live for the moments such as this, when I see you all in total disarray, total disarray. You've got business people, you got former teachers, you got big shots, big farmers, little shots, grocers, and here you...former mayors, and this is what you come to. You cannot even build a budget and deal with it on time in accord with your rules. What are your rules for? You write them in pencil with an eraser. When you decide you don't want to deal with them, you just erase it, and you spend more time trying to pass rules to stop me from talking than you do to pass rules to really facilitate the work that you are to do as a Legislature. You should not let one person assume so much importance in an assembly such as this. Now that we have visitors, and they are very young, I am going to tone down what I say. I was talking in-house because nobody was here but us, but I mean every word that I said before they got here, and if I speak again, I am going to say similar things but I will keep in mind that we have very young citizens among us, and we should be examples of decorum...