

January 9, 1996

PRESIDENT ROBAK PRESIDING

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Wickersham. Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Madam President, members of the Legislature, let me tell you why I will win. First of all, you see I've done something that the rest of you will not do. I've smoked these people out and made them tell the truth. They misled you by emphasizing what happens in the committee as the reason for this amendment. I, by my approach, have made them tell the truth. That's not what's on their mind at all. That's not it, but that's the most alluring thing to you all, and they know you'll swallow it hook, line and sinker. And you're going to swallow it hook, line and sinker. Do I care? No! Why do I do this? When I say, do I care, I mean about what you do on this particular amendment, I care about the rules in general. I always vote against them when we adopt them, yet I use them and follow them more meticulously than anybody else on the floor, and I emphasize that, that anybody else on the floor. And I hear people always standing up here yammering about, well, anybody can do that, anybody can do this. But nobody does it, except me. So all that nonsense and piffle has no impact on me whatsoever. I want the record to be replete, and by the record I mean the transcript of what we talked about, because I have copies of the transcription...the transcript made and I share them with people to show what it is that I contend with on the floor of this Legislature, how there is all this argument about what the reason is for an amendment, then I'm able to come back and show that that's not the reason for it at all. And after having that brought forth and made clear, those who originally gave a certain rationale, back away from it and say, well really, that's not the rationale, we just talked about that. So I do win, Senator Wickersham. And however I win is a small moment to me this year of politics. That's where we find ourselves. The real posturing hasn't hit us yet because, except with reference to the Equal Opportunity Commission, where I think Jim Crow was presiding in the Legislature, where I think the Grand Dragon was giving the orders, where I think a majority of the legislators behaved as a klavern, more than as an objective, fair, deliberative body. Put as those issues come up that affect the interest of white people, we're going to have the posturing and I'm going to be in the middle of that with