

January 11, 1996

lack of circumspection, and their own inability to deal with these simple-minded rules that Senator Beutler and Senator Landis keep telling us anybody can handle. If anybody can deal with the rules, and they certainly should be able to, why don't they put their amendments up first? That's the question that I ask. These people are trying to find ways to explain why they don't study the rules, why they don't use the rules in the way that I do, and then they say, well, there's nothing to it. Well, I've seen them draft amendments which I found were defective under the rules so, if I have sense enough to find the defect based on the rules, what is it saying about them when they don't know how to draft an amendment that comports with the rules? When the Speaker drafted a motion last session to try to cut off some debate and I found a defect in his motion, what are you saying about the Speaker? He didn't know the rules, he and those senators who collaborated with him? That is nonsense. We're talking about intellectually slothful people who want to have their work done for them by changing the rules. They don't have to be alert. They don't have to be attentive. They can just loaf along and then let the rules do the work for them. Senator Landis is back now. He had said that the elements or the tools necessary...I'm paraphrasing...to do with the rules what I do with them, all those are found within the rules...

PRESIDENT ROBAK: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ..and that's true. But I'm going to tell Senator Landis something. In the dictionary will be found all the words necessary to write any book that has received a Nobel Prize, so if all the words are there, why hasn't he written a book that wins him a Nobel Prize? Because not everybody knows how to use those words. Nobody knows how to put them together. Nobody knows how to...few people know how to formulate stories and novels. So these superficial comments don't get us to the issue. It's easier for them to be witty than wise. It's easier for Senator Beutler to try to be clever than correct. I say that his earlier statement about it taking no brains to slap up amendments is correct. It's correct. It doesn't take brains to do that. Anybody can do it. So why don't those, like Senator Beutler and others, who are so concerned about these major bills...

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Time.