

quarter to these same laboring people. You will crucify them upon a cross of a cheap base alloy? Yes, you will. And you will dance around the cross and be happy and feel that somehow you helped these poor people by depriving their children of more to eat, of depriving them of a little more in the way of decent clothing that they can purchase for their children. And you will stand there and look at them in their misery and say, I'm doing it for your own good in the same way that my people supposedly were enslaved for our own good. I understand these things. Not only do I have an individual personalized memory from what happened to me in my life and continues to happen, there is a collective memory that black people have of the way we are mistreated and have been mistreated in this country.

SENATOR LINDSAY: Time.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: So looking at life from the underside of the garment gives me a different perspective.

SENATOR LINDSAY: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator Schellpeper.

SENATOR SCHELLPEPER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman and members. I don't know whether this body realizes it or not, but we're not talking about the 25 cents here, I don't think. What we're talking about is a power play. Whether or not business is going to say, we want a tax break, but we want our wages to stay low. It's a power play for business people to come in and say, we won the tax break battle, and by golly, we also won the low wage battle. They don't care about the 25 cents. Very few businesses are paying that low figure anyway. If you have a decent employee, you're way above the minimum wage, you're going to pay them what they're worth. The more you pay somebody, most generally, the better work they do for you. You pay them according to what they do for you. I don't think business people are going to say, well, I need to keep that \$4.25 because without it I'm going to go broke. They look at it as if we increase this wage 25 cents, by golly, labor got the best of us today. And that can't happen. We're going to get the best of labor today. We're going to take tax breaks, but by golly, we're not going to give labor an increase. They have to go hand-in-hand, fellow senators, you can't do one without the other. It's a package that should move as a package. If you don't, you're not being fair with the workers of this state.