

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Senator Schimek. Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I'd like to resume my discussion with Senator...I was looking to see if Senator Brashear is still here, or has he headed for the hills, brothers? Let me talk about these railroad things that Senator Jensen was discussing earlier. They're truisms. He handed us a piece of paper that shows us all these things, and if Union Pacific has all this tie into Nebraska, has sunk these deep roots, as I was telling Senator Beutler, Senator... I just saw Senator Brashear walk in, and then I'll ask my question. But Senator Jensen gave us a kind of poetic symmetry that was worthy of Shakespeare, and it just kind of...it almost made me start writing rhymes again. The history of the railroad is the history of Nebraska, and the history of Nebraska is the history of the railroad. Such symmetry, such poetry. Here's the question I want to ask Senator Brashear, though. Senator Brashear, when you were... Did anybody approach you about bringing a bill like this?

SENATOR BRASHEAR: Yes.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Okay. And those people were from Union Pacific, correct?

SENATOR BRASHEAR: Yes.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: And when they came they had in mind this merger as a basis for wanting a bill like this and to obtain benefits that would accrue as a result of what would happen from this merger and the creation of jobs and so forth. Is that logical, even if they didn't actually tell you that?

SENATOR BRASHEAR: That's logical.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Okay. Now, did they tell you that?

SENATOR BRASHEAR: Essentially, they simply said as a part of their merger planning process,...

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Okay.

SENATOR BRASHEAR: ...that they were considering various locations, among them of course Nebraska. And in considering those locations they had done an analysis of LB 829, and that's