

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Senator Maurstad. Incidentally, Senator Maurstad has as his guests in the north balance 19 fourth graders from Lincoln Elementary School in Beatrice, and with them is their teacher. Would you all like to stand and be welcomed by your Legislature? Thank you. Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Madam President, members of the Legislature, I just want to get a few things in the record. Senator Maurstad, let me ask you a question. You are...you are a young man but you're a savvy man. Don't you know, Senator Maurstad, that as unpopular as I am on occasion in this body, if Union Pacific said, we want this bill and I brought it, don't you think the bill would pass? If Union Pacific wanted...okay, it takes you too long.

SENATOR MAURSTAD: Usually...

SENATOR CROSBY: Senator Maurstad.

SENATOR MAURSTAD: ...if I...I won't answer unless you want me to.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: No, you don't have to. That's all right. Members of the Legislature, I'll state it. Union Pacific could have taken a broom handle, if we would have allowed the broom handle to introduce the bill, and it would have been passed. That's not to disparage Senator Brashear, but Senator Maurstad is trying to make it appear that it takes some kind of a special legislative skill to carry a bill for one of these big, powerful special interests which, when it says to the Legislature sit up and bark, the Legislature does it. Senator Maurstad, it's similar to a locomotive going down the track, one of those that had the big smokestack, and I lassoed the smokestack and it pulls me along and then I get credit for having moved that train down the track. Now, I just latched on. It was going where it was going anyway. It doesn't take any skill to get one of these kind of bills through this Legislature. Just put it in and it will pass. You know it and I know it. Senator Maurstad also said how laudatory, how praiseworthy it is for a senator to respond to a constituent or an interest in the way that Senator Brashear did in this case. We have a lot of wage earners, we have a lot of low paid workers. They have asked that something be done, and the Legislature tells them, go to blazes. So it's funny how all of these fine high-sounding words of praise are