

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office

January 31, 2000 LB 175

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator Chambers, you're recognized to close on your motion to bracket.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Mr. President. Members of the Legislature and Senator Tyson, I had pronounced a word, l-a-r-g-e-s-s-e as "lar-jess" and Senator Tyson scurried back to the Oxford English Dictionary because he wanted to check to see how that was pronounced. So he came back and told me it's "lar-jeece", as though it's l-a-r-j-e-e-c-e. That's so that phonetically the transcribers can spell it approximating the way it's being pronounced. I'm getting a lot of disagreement in the culture corner to what Senator Tyson suggested. I'm even getting some turned-down mouths and some snorting expressions on faces. But the "Baron" believes that a dictionary does not record the pronunciation which is popular but the pronunciation which is "correct". He thinks that a dictionary tells you the correct pronunciation, but that is not what dictionaries do. Dictionaries give you the pronunciations that are popular. Now I don't know if he wants to, at some later point, stand up and verify what I have just said about him, but I think his research should not go unnoticed nor should it go unrewarded. I do listen to whatever somebody says to me, but I do not accept it as a basis for changing my modus operandi. Now he's going to tell me I mispronounced that too. But you'll notice however I pronounce a word people understand what the word means and usually what the word is. I don't know which society Senator Tyson spends his daydreaming hours in, but the people that I communicate with understand when I pronounce the word "largess" as "lar-jess", l-a-r-j-e-s-s, "lar-jess", not "lar-jeez". I feel like saying, jeez, Senator Tyson, what's going on here? (Laugh) But one reason I'm kind of digressing, there are issues apart from this bill which I'm going to discuss so that it won't become so one-dimensional that people's eyes glaze over, a metal shield slides across their mind and they no longer are able to function. There is one matter that is very serious which I intend to discuss on my next motion and it will show that Nebraska had a chance to be ahead of the curve, to use a cliché that I really don't like. But again, "Baron" Tyson, I'm using a cliché that will conjure a notion that is familiar to people. Senator Brashear may not even be aware of this having happened yet. I had discussed the possibility of it because Jim