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FLOOR DEBATE

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Chambers, we'd recognize you to close on your amendment.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I would ask, but it wouldn't do any good, that this vote be like a referendum. If you're going to support putting the State Fair in the constitution, vote against my amendment. If you're not going to put the State Fair into the constitution, vote for my amendment. Let the forces of evil know where they stand. Evil will prevail, or evil will be banished. I consider gambling with the state as the house an unmitigated evil with no redeeming quality whatsoever. I consider the contamination of the constitution, by legislators who know better, to be inexcusable. Whoever people are on the outside who are looking in, whoever they are, they should not be able to get us to forsake our duty and our responsibility. We are the caretakers of the constitution, in addition to being bound to uphold it. These chambers of commerce are not going to let you all come in there and tell them how to run their operations. These businesses are not going to let you come there and tell them how to run theirs. When do you think a day will ever come when somebody from the Legislature is going to be the king of Ak-Sar-Ben? They have contempt for the people in this Legislature. If you propose that, they would laugh at you. They'd say, get out of here; somebody from the Nebraska Legislature? And why do they have contempt? Because that which we are to treasure and protect and safeguard we spit on. If we don't have sense enough, if we don't have integrity enough to protect the most treasured item entrusted to our care, why should anybody think anything of us? They shouldn't. Sometimes it's all I can do to avoid criticizing the Legislature. But I'm a member of this body and I don't just potshot. I spend more time on this floor working than anybody in the Legislature, including my friend Senator Chip Maxwell, who showed me a critical letter he wants the World-Herald to print about how I get things my way. Well, I work harder than him. I'm on the floor. He's not even here now. But I'll tell you where he's smart, and I may as well get this in while I'm thinking about it. Senator Witek, former Senator Witek, parlayed having confrontations with me right into the Auditor's Office and she's become a better person since she got there. Former Senator Jon Bruning parlayed his weak, anemic attempts to confront me on the