

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

March 8, 2004

LR 209

I am, even though it involves the constitution. But having heard them disparage and denigrate the constitution, it takes away some of my feeling about the understanding they had of what the constitution is for and what it should be. To them, it is just words on paper. Be that as it may, I cannot be governed by that. This morning we will talk about this. You will take a vote whenever there's the opportunity to do so, and you may advance it. And you may feel you've done a great thing. You will certainly have improved the status of "Emperor" Radcliffe, but some of you all will have diminished yourselves in the process. And you can say you don't care if you're diminished in my eyesight, but you do care. See, that's where I understand human nature. You can say with your mouth anything you want to, but I've come to know you down through the years, and I know you better than you know yourselves. And I know you ought to be ashamed of yourselves, and some of you are, but you let yourself get caught in. And you didn't think it would come to this. It would be one of those little favors that you would do, one of those little lickspittle jobs for the chambers of commerce. Give them what they want. Give Lincoln what it wants. Then it will even seep into the Appropriations Committee, where Lincoln is given more, by way of the budget, to this State Fair that is unworthy. So if that's what they want to send out here, they are challenging me and I accept the challenge. I want Senator Wehrbein to know it, I want Senator Kruse to know it, and I want all those others to know it. They're the ones who want their way. They say I want my way. No, they send stuff out here and say, Ernie is wrong if he opposes us; we're the majority and we should get what we want, by God. Well, you're not going to get it by God or the devil if I have anything to say about it. Other matters are starting to lose significance in my scale of values for this session, because now we're dealing with the constitution. Senator Tyson had begun to talk about how bad lotteries really are, even in a horse race. In the old days, they used to have eight horses running in a race, I don't know how many run now, but your odds are eight to one against you. In a sporting event, the odds are fifty-fifty. You can't get better odds than that anywhere. That's why sporting events are not to be allowed to be legalized, because the odds are too close to being fair. When it comes to dice there are several ways to lose when you roll them. If you play card games like