

March 19, 1990

LR 293, 297, 301-304

PRESIDENT NICHOL PRESIDING

(Recorder not activated immediately. According to Journal LR 301-303 were introduced and read for the first time. See pages 1404-07 of the Legislative Journal.)

PRESIDENT: ...reports.

CLERK: And, Mr. President, LR 304 introduced by the Speaker. (Read brief explanation. See page 1407 of the Legislative Journal.) That resolution will be laid over, Mr. President. Mr. President, the only other item I have are LR 293 and LR 297 are now ready for your signature. That's all that I have, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: While the Legislature is in session and capable of transacting business, I propose to sign and do sign LR 293 and LR 297. We'll move on to the confirmation reports, please.

CLERK: Mr. President, the first report I have this morning is by the Natural Resources Committee, Chaired by Senator Schmit. He reports on the appointment of Lance Paulsen to the Environmental Control Council.

PRESIDENT: Senator Schmit, please.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President, the Committee on Natural Resources voted unanimously to recommend the appointment of Mr. Lance Paulsen to the Environmental Control Council, and that there be a record vote on that appointment.

PRESIDENT: Any further discussion? The question is the acceptance of the confirmation report. All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Members of the Legislature, we're a little bit light this morning, so we do need your attention for a moment, if you care to vote. Record, Mr. Clerk, please.

CLERK: 28 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the appointment confirmation of Mr. Lance Paulsen.

PRESIDENT: It is accepted. The next confirmation report.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Schmit has a report, found on page 1385 of the Journal. Senator, it's my understanding you'd like to vote on Mr. Richard Lichti.

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LB 1018, 1090, 1090A
LR 304

SPEAKER BARRETT PRESIDING

SPEAKER BARRETT: Good morning, ladies and gentlemen. Welcome to the George W. Norris Legislative Chamber. Our chaplain of the day, Sharon Shields, Assistant Minister for the Christian Church of Nebraska and the United Church of Christ. Pastor Shields.

PASTOR SHIELDS: (Prayer offered.)

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you, Reverend Shields. We hope you can come back again. Thank you. Roll call.

CLERK: I have a quorum present, Mr. President.

SENATOR KORSHOJ PRESIDING

SENATOR KORSHOJ: Are there any corrections to the Journal?

CLERK: I have no corrections, Mr. President.

SENATOR KORSHOJ: Any messages, reports or announcements?

CLERK: Mr. President, your Committee on Enrollment and Review respectfully reports they have carefully examined and engrossed LB 1018 and find the same correctly engrossed; LB 1090, LB 1090A, correctly engrossed. That's all that I have, Mr. President. (See page 1573 of the Legislative Journal.)

SENATOR KORSHOJ: Okay, we'll go to legislative resolutions, LR 304.

CLERK: Mr. President, 304 was introduced by Speaker Barrett. It's found on page 1407 of the Journal. It asks the Legislature to salute Mrs. Ruby Stuftt for 70 years of volunteer service to the National Weather Service.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you.

SENATOR KORSHOJ: Senator Barrett.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you, Mr. President. Do I dare? I'm pleased to bring to the body this morning a resolution found on page 1407 of the Legislative Journal honoring Ruby Stuftt of Elsmere, Nebraska. She's been a volunteer cooperative weather

observer for the National Weather Service since 1920. This year, 1990, she'll celebrate her 90th birthday, and she'll also be celebrating 70 years as a volunteer for the National Weather Service, also to the Nebraska State Climatology Service. She has faithfully taken the weather observations daily for 70 years. She is a senior woman volunteer weather observer in the United States, the senior volunteer. Her family is planning a birthday party and a family reunion on June 17th in Ainsworth. At that time the National Weather Service will present Ruby with a commendation for her years of service and will also present her with a copy of this resolution, which I hope the body will adopt this morning. I hope you'll join me in sending congratulations to Mrs. Stuftt for her great volunteer service, and I hope you will support the resolution. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR KORSHOJ: There are no further lights, so those in favor vote aye, opposed no. Have you all voted? Have you all voted? Record.

CLERK: 29 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on adoption of LR 304.

SENATOR KORSHOJ: LR 304 was adopted. LR 308.

CLERK: Mr. President, 308 was a resolution introduced by Senator Coordsen. It's found on page 1420 of the Journal. It asks the Legislature to congratulate the Deshler Broom Factory on its 100th anniversary of its founding.

SENATOR KORSHOJ: Senator Coordsen.

SENATOR COORDSEN: Thank you, Mr. President. Members of the body, I am nearly speechless with our presiding officer this morning. But, nonetheless, I will introduce this resolution and hope that the vote will be a clean-sweep of the body.

SENATOR KORSHOJ: Thirty seconds. (Laughter.)

SENATOR COORDSEN: (Laugh.) This resolution commemorates one of the oldest businesses in the State of Nebraska that was founded in 1890 in the then three year old Village of Deshler, Nebraska. The Deshler Broom Factory has produced quality corn brooms for 100 years and are still in business today, producing about 100 dozen brooms a year. With that, Mr. President, if my 30 seconds has elapsed, I would ask for the approval of the body of this

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LB 1246
LR 304, 308

committed a crime. We were to find out if the institutions of government had worked. Sadly, I have drawn the conclusion that the institutions have not worked as they should have. The committee now has an even greater responsibility, I believe, and that is to find out why they did not work. If, in fact, they did not work, was any individual or group of individuals responsible for the fact the system did not work? There are many persons incarcerated today in Nebraska penal institutions for various crimes. You will find that in most instances the system worked with dispatch. It should work the same for all persons, regardless of who, what position, or any other factor. The public has a right to expect that. The public, I believe, is satisfied with the work of this Legislature. The public knows that this Legislature has acted in the public interest. I believe the public will respond accordingly. I am concerned, and it has been expressed on this floor many times, that if prosecutions do not result, that there may be deep distrust of government by the general public. We are concerned that there not be, and we are well aware of the fact that we can carry the role of character assassins. We've been very careful about that. I would hope that the work of the committee will be judged in finality as being for the good of the citizens of this state, and that the other individuals of those other institutions which have responsibilities to carry out will not be found wanting. Ladies and gentlemen, it is necessary, it is necessary indeed that they not be found wanting. And, if it turns out to be less than what we expect, there will be, I'm sure, certain questions to be answered. I hope that the committee...that the Legislature will vote affirmatively on this bill, and that it will become law so that it might be some small degree of assistance for prosecutors in their responsibilities, but also that it will reassure the public that we are concerned that no perpetrator of a crime shall go free because this Legislature did not do its very best to make certain that prosecution could take place. We ought to make this state as safe as possible for the children of this state, because if it is not safe for the children of this state and those who have no one else to protect them, then it is not safe for anyone. I ask you to support the bill.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you, sir. While the Legislature is in session and capable of transacting business, I propose to sign and I do sign LR 304, LR 308. Also, Senator Coordsen is announcing some guests in our south balcony. We have 16 third and fourth graders from Milligan with their teacher. Would you