

January 8, 1993

undertaken the controversial stands that I have, who has not offended the Auditor and Assistant Attorney General, the Governor, the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, and practically every person of power and prestige in this state, how can a person who has not done such things think for a moment that she is entitled to place herself on a standing with me and say that the Legislature has punished her. Senator Pirsch, it takes work, it takes time, it takes assiduous effort to achieve the lofty position of causing the Legislature to change its rules, as they have done for me, in imposing a cloture rule, in having no criteria whatsoever in selecting a chairperson in order to deny me a chairmanship. But what those of us who take these positions, and we all know when we are in politics, we are not playing tick-tack-toe, or mumbly-peg, or whatever those little games are. We are not at a tea party. We are not going to be dealt with with soft violet and squirts of rose water. This is the belly of the dragon. This is the part of the caldron where the fire is hottest. This is where, instead of the tinkling peals of laughter that we hear emanating from the nursery of children who are being amused by their parents and baby-sitters, the laughter often is bitter from the teeth out and sounds more like drawing a rusty rasp across a bed...

SPEAKER BAACK: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...of thorns, but that is the reality of being here. When they knock us down, we have to go to that old song. We have to pick ourselves up, dust ourselves off, and start all over again. I don't think there is anybody in here who has made more bitter statements on the floor than I have, yet somehow I can turn the anger of my colleagues into a feeling of sweetness and light and they will support me in passing very controversial legislation. So we go through these bitter periods, but since we are going to be here doomed and tied to each other for 90 legislative days, we have to forget it when it is past, find a way to work together on those things we agree with, disagree with those things and oppose them that we disagree with and oppose, but try to maintain at the same time the ability to get things done. Now that's...oh, I took my glasses off.

SPEAKER BAACK: Time.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: That's all wise Grandfather Chambers has to offer this morning.