

MARK ANDREWS

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I dropped in to say hi and Marge filled me in for a few minutes. He greeted me and we talked about his ailment and how he suffered through.

He's got a teddy bear on his couch. "See that teddy bear. That's pretty disconcerting to these military types. It throws them off when they see it. They don't know quite what to make of it. I love to see their faces."

I asked him about his fight for the 102" truck width. (Grace had filled me in a little on it in the morning.)

"I just picked up two more votes--from Kentucky. It seems they want a new airport control tower in _____. If they could just have that tower, there is nothing they would rather do than vote for the 102" truck width."

Then he called the lobbyist from Boise Cascade in, since she was sitting in the office beside me. They are pushing hard for the 102" width because they carry forest products on palettes that will fit 102". She says 3.5 billion is at stake. She says that the 102" is in the 5 cent gas tax proposal, but that they're afraid that bill will be Xmas treed and may get vetoed. She turns to Andrews "so that makes your 102" provision in the appropriations bill that much more important."

"The whole thing has been muddled up by the 5¢ gasoline tax bill." The 102" provision is in the bill as it stands. But it's been taken out in the House I think.

"I'm in favor of it because it's good for agri. business. But all I can do is provide the framework. She (the forest products people) and the grocers and the farmers who think it's important to them have got to go out and get the votes. If they want a vote from South Carolina, they've got

*Grace G.
says same
thing.*

to convince their people to convince Fritz Hollings that it's a good thing. I can't go to my good friend Fritz and ask him to vote for it. If it were something in North Dakota that I wanted then I would go directly to him and seek his support. But it's not up to me to do that in this case. At least that's the way I see it. Isn't that right? (he says to the lobbyist). I don't even want to know who she has trying to turn the votes around. We provide the vehicle. They have to want it badly enough to do the work."

I asked her who she was using when she said "We're using some vote changers." She said they had gone back to all 45 who voted for the 102" width last September to solidify and reeeforce. And she said they had turned around three votes that went against them last year "either because it was the end of the session and they went for a compromise or because they didn't know what they were voting for.

Schmitt and Eagleton are against them. They tried to hold it up in full approp. committee but lost. They will make point of order on the provision. So the vote on 102" will be on a ruling of the chair that its legislation on an appropriations bill.

Mark told me that "The NBC crew came out and filmed a segment on my warranty proposal. It went over well with North Dakotans when you were there, didn't you think so? They seemed more interested in that than anything else. It's scheduled to be on the Today show Tuesday morning."