

March 21, 1973

(Start Belt #8)

they have to be able to flash money in order to get the big, the big pusher, those fellows who deal in hard drugs and hard narcotics, you can't send a man out with three dollars or seven dollars or ten dollars, to buy twenty thousand dollars of heroin, and as Senator Chambers has pointed out repeatedly time and again, we don't, we have chased these small fry around long enough, you've got to have money and you've got to have large amounts of money and you can't expect to get a receipt for the, when you use it, this money has got to be available and it's available under LB 13 and no where else in anyone's budget. Now in regard to, in regard to saving money, all of us are concerned with money, all of us are concerned with the impact of these bills, everyone of us. I suggest, I want to commend Senator Whitney for the efforts they have put forth in the matter of programs for rehabilitation. I have always supported those programs, I shall continue to support those programs whether it is in the first year of my term or the fourth year of my term, it makes no difference to me. I think that this is a good approach, a sound approach and a sensible approach, that we can treat addicts for ever and ever, if we do not shut off the supply and it's time we shut off the supply. Now you can call me a do gooder if you like, that's not the worse name I've been called in about the last twenty years of political life, I kind of like it, really, but the point is that the time comes when you have to decide if you are going to really make a concerted effort. Senator Chambers has pointed out, that they're are problems within the city of Omaha, at the present time the Nebraska Safety Patrol has two undercover men working the city of Omaha. Two men, now we have heard the comment here this morning that anywhere from ten to seventy additional people have been recommended, for narcotics investigative work in the city of Omaha. I suggest that if the city of Omaha feels they need that many men, surely the Nebraska Safety Patrol need a few additional men to assist those people, to coordinate that activity, and to bring to justice those people who are involved in the type of activity Senator Carstens pointed out here this morning. We're not going to stop these men at the city limits. We're not going to stop them at the county line, they move around, they move across the state of Nebraska, and they move in and out of the state and so therefore, we need a coordinating agency that will be able to follow those activities wherever they take place. In the course of the last several months, I have visited with a number of persons involved in narcotics arrests, I have visited with a number of the Narcs, the men who have been doing this work, and you would be amazed at the methods by which these people transport drugs, some of these people are sub-human, I cannot tell you on the floor of this legislature, the methods which they use, but they are so vile and so obscene to be revolting to anyone of decent, any person of decent caliber, but these people are not human, they are animals and they need to be treated as such, because they have no concern, absolutely no concern for the lives they have ruined. In the course of my activities the last several months, I've visited with a former pusher, and he told me that one of the best places to secure heroin in the state of Nebraska, is within the penitentiary. He said that two of his friends deliberately went out and busted drug stores in his terminology to get sent to the penitentiary in order to have available a supply of heroin. Now I suggest and I have no way of knowing whether it is true or not, but I suggest that if this is common knowledge among the people who deal in drugs, that we certainly need to do some work in this area and we don't, we do not know and we will not know unless we employ additional people. I have no personal ax to grind in regard to these bills, I have no pride of ownership, I do not care expect from the standpoint of solving the problem whether a bill of mine becomes law or not, I have lost many bills on the floor of this legislature, if I loose this one this morning, it won't be the first and it probably won't be the last and it's not going to affect my relationship with my fellow members,