

that they don't know. Maybe the requirement of identification would be of benefit to them, and if it is known already that at county border lines and in borders between states like Nebraska and South Dakota that there is a tendency for bad check operators to function, then the people in those areas ought to be especially on their guard and the check casher ought to be aware. We all know that if a person has prestige in a community and is a big businessman and writes an insufficient or even a no fund check, the bank is not going to prosecute him, nobody is, he in effect gets a short term, no interest loan. His reputation remains intact and he is none the worse for it, this takes out of the felony category certain types of insufficient and other bad check writing. I don't think certain people who write bad checks ought to be put in the penitentiary and on the other hand, I think that people who would not be put in the penitentiary now for bad checks perhaps ought to be sent there, because their money and prestige in the community allows them to violate the law in a number of respects. Where a lot of people can not and get away scott free. If this is going to be such a problem, the difficulty of drawing a boundary line between a felony and a misdemeanor in the writing of bad checks, perhaps the entire idea of check writing should be abolished. There should be no more checks, there should be cash. The only kind of paper that is usable in finance and transactions is money, legal tender, and forget about the checks, I tell you that I don't use them and I manage to make it but maybe if I dealt on the high level that certain individuals even in this Legislature do where carrying around the amounts of money that they have to transfer in order to carry out their transactions, maybe I would use a checking account. Maybe if I was going to get \$20,000 from the government for not planting my ground in certain crops, I would want to use commercial paper instead of legal tender. I am for this bill, I think that it fits into the whole concept of more enlightened treatment of people who run afoul of the law. All that a law is, which places a punishment on somebody, is a determination by certain people that somebody else's conduct is so abhorrent and reprehensible that the person engaging it ought to be locked up. There are certain things which we traditionally think of as crime, and once a pattern of conduct has the term crime attached to it, then the individual is considered a criminal and therefore a very bad person and has to be locked up behind walls and bars, I don't think that obtains. I am for this bill and I am going to see if we can't get other bills which will show that the concept of banishment and being totally removed from the community and society of other human beings is not a humane nor is it a defensible means of punishment. There are very few people, I think, that ought to be locked up for anything. What I am saying in other words, is that locking people up is not a proper way to punish, it is not a proper way to deal with the human being who is running afoul of those of us who set standards for other people's conduct. I am for this bill, if you all think about what it's aim is, I don't see why you would want to destroy it all together. This bill, like so many others, could be given a trial period, we can pass it. If it results in all the terrible things that have been indicated here this morning, then next session we can do something about it, but I think that the idea behind it has so much validity. The goal is so note worthy that it is worth giving it a trial, and I will tell you something else. Not only do citizens not read and pay close attention to the bills that come out of this Legislature, but a lot of the legislators sitting in this body don't pay that much attention and had not merchants and other people whom Senator Carstens described as greedy, he might have been facetious, had they not brought it to the attention of certain members of the body, there would not be the opposition this morning, and I know that the Legislature is supposed to be responsive to and reflective of the interests of people in society, so they are exercising their right by bringing things to our attention. But we should not have our ethical standards changed, our overall outlook and attitude toward life altered by the information brought to us