

April 2, 1974

have charge of the prisoners. Now this makes a two-headed monster. Who's going to be responsible for those prisoners in case of a riot or in case of an escape. Or in case of any trouble in the jail. Who's going to be responsible. The County Board or the county sheriff going to be responsible for those prisoners? Douglas County at the present time has a man there, deputy sheriff, who has been there seven years. He'll graduate next week, next month with a BS degree in criminal science and he's in charge of the jail at the present time. He's worked most of his time in the jail. I think this is all we need to say about this bill. It's just the fact that the bill can be amended, it can be spread all over the state. These fellows are concerned about it.

PRESIDENT: Senator Kime has closed. Now the question is, shall LB782 be returned to Select File for specific....for the striking of the enactment clause? All those in favor of that vote aye. Those opposed vote no. Motion is to return to Select File for purpose of striking enacting clause. Have you all voted? Clerk will record.

CLERK: 26 ayes, 12 nays to return.

PRESIDENT: The bill is returned to.....

CLERK: Now, Mr. President, the specific amendment is to strike the enacting clause.

PRESIDENT: The bill has been returned to Select File. Now, the question is, shall the enacting clause be stricken. Senator Fellman.

SENATOR FELLMAN: I don't wish to prolong the debate and it appears that this bill is going to go down the drain. And I feel an obligation to spell this thing out. I'm amazed at Senator Duke Snyder unless he just wants to pick a fight for the sake of fight. I really would think he would know better.....

(End of Belt #3)

(Begin Belt #4)

I can understand Sheriff Kime's fear of this bill. I think that this...if you think that this is a split in the Omaha delegation, I think you're buying a package of fear. Now let's get down to specifics. The county board today in Omaha is a group of politicians who are insurance men and surveyors and engineers and business men, etc. They run the County Hospital in Douglas County. And they hire an administrative director who has a doctorate to run that hospital. They run all sorts of other functions. This bill allows them to set up a jail and do the same thing. They will hire a professionally qualified person to run this jail. And he will be trained professionally in corrections. Now if you want to go back to 1930, fine, kill this bill. If you want to go ahead into the '70's and '80's, you ought to reverse that vote and let this bill pass. Now let me get to another point. There's a couple million dollars of federal money coming into Douglas County for a new jail facility. The word I have received is that this money could be in jeopardy unless this professionalization of the corrections function in Douglas County is passed. Now, if