

for this reason or that at a critical moment, it has to be ready, it has to not be contaminated, so on and so forth. I assume that this is involved in the technicians and the lab equipment and this kind of thing.

SENATOR MARESH: Senator DeCamp, how many unsolved mystery deaths are there in the State of Nebraska annually would you say?

SENATOR DeCAMP: Senator Maresh, I guess that is kind of a Catch 22 question. Lets talk about some of the work of the committee. For example the first death we investigated had been labeled a suicide. That was the death out at the penitentiary. We did have I guess confidential or secret information that really there was more to it than that. In order to bring that issue to a head we submitted the list of questions to the patrol, to the county attorney. Ultimately as you know that "suicide" ended up being labeled a murder and a person has now been convicted and I believe that he has his case on appeal to one of the many courts saying, yes, I did it, but I really shouldn't go to jail for it. The point that I am making is this. Here was a suicide that turned out to be a murder. Ida Fitzgibbons was a suicide that turned out to be, in my opinion and in the opinion of all responsible people, a murder. During the Indian, what do you call them, the Indian trials, what was the name of them? Wounded Knee, the Wounded Knee trials we had another suicide that this committee looked into. That was where an Indian....

PRESIDENT: Time is about up.

SENATOR DeCAMP: Stabbed himself very effectively and wandered around for a long time, not bleeding or anything else, I think there is general belief that that is another murder. The point that I am making is very simple. How many unsolved deaths are there that can't be answered if you don't have a system to answer what caused that death. As I say it is Catch 22. If you simply label murder "suicides" or you say "cause unknown" or "death by natural causes" when in fact it may have been otherwise, nobody is served and you really can't answer that question.

SENATOR MARESH: Mr. President, can I ask one last short question. I guess he doesn't care. The local people would have to call for this help before it would be available, they wouldn't go automatically to one of these death scenes, would they?

SENATOR DeCAMP: Okay, which people, Richard?

SENATOR MARESH: The local sheriff or the county attorney. They