

relative to the value of a man's hire. I think that that can be worked out and I think it can be handled properly. I know that Senator DeCamp has had some experience in the hiring of people who some of whom he thought were excons and found out they had left all their old traits behind and some of the reasons why you might want to adjust those wages are because of the risk factor involved. It is not my intention in this bill and I don't mean to be facetious about it. I believe that it is very important that we provide opportunities for these people to work. I believe that there needs to be a wage scale that is commensurate with the ability of the individual. I think that if all forty-nine members of this body were to be hired out for certain types of work some of us could earn more than others and some of us may not be worth as much as we would like to think we are but I think that that decision has to be made almost on an individual basis and again I want to tell Senator Chambers and assure him that if the things that he is concerned about occur, I will be right there to help him correct them. I think my record on behalf of the institutions is a good one, supported improvements in those institutions without any concern or I would almost say for the cost. I would hope that we would be able to advance this bill and in so doing we would have to beat the Chambers amendment.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Chambers, do you wish to close on your amendment?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, I don't know if Senator Kahle was referring to me or something I said when he said there has been an intimation that agriculture is a lowly profession or trade or whatever. The thing I said was that its purpose was to train city people to do farm labor and I still say it. In states, Senator Schmit, where they allow chain gangs and people to be hired out by wardens and others, they found out that there were certain favorite interests, enterprises and businesses who were given treatment by the warden in exchange for kickbacks. So when you leave it to the discretion of the director, he and this other individual could sign an agreement saying that the inmate will be paid whatever the minimum wage is. When the people on that particular job are making maybe twice the minimum wage, the warden will then take the difference or half the difference between the minimum wage and the going rate for that employee in exchange for getting this cheap labor which the warden or the director has at their total disposal and I think it is not good to leave things to discretion when you are enacting a law and