

May 1, 1973

end up in the Blue River bottom. There's nobody there, there is no demand there. If they go north they are in the residential section, if they go east they are in the residential section. Because both shopping centers that are now being constructed and in the process of being constructed in the city are approximately

(End of Belt #21)

(Begin Belt #22)

a mile and a mile and a half from the location of the parent bank. So the 2600 foot limitation is a kind of farce as far as my community is concerned. Now the smaller banks in my community, in my district, in my area, those that have expressed themselves only one has expressed opposition to this, the other banks have told me that I could use my own judgment on this, but as far as they were concerned the time might come when they themselves, the smaller banks, would want to construct facilities. Now the fact that this exists, this is not a bill that is sponsored by Omaha banks. It is absolutely the opposite is true. The principal opposition from this bill comes from the First National Bank of Omaha because they now have scattered over the state in Fremont--I don't know all the cities, I don't recall, it's in the record--Mr. Giltner, we had an hour, we had a half day's testimony in this chamber on this bill and these facilities are located in every community surrounding Omaha except Omaha, so let us not confuse the issue and get back to this sorry old state of affairs where we raise the scare crow that this is something that is in the sinister fashion sponsored and aided and abetted by Omaha banks. This is certainly not true.

SPEAKER: Senator Richard Lewis.

SENATOR R. LEWIS: Well, Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I don't want to belabor this point but I think the testimony of Senator Carpenter and Senator Schmit points out the verything that I'm talking about and that is a, a division of thought right down the middle of banking people. My main objection has come from the smaller banks who fear branch banking, rightfully so. And as soon as this issue is determined on this vote I plan to renew my motion to bracket for a date certain.

SPEAKER: Senator Schmit.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I don't want to belabor the point and I hope we will not extend this conversation to a great length but I want to point out just one thing. First of all, Senator Dickinson says I made the allegation--I didn't make an allegation, I made a statement. There's quite a little difference. Secondly, I want to point out that this bill does not automatically provide an additional facility. All this bill does is to provide that the Department of Banking, after there is a definite need shown for additional facility, can authorize, can authorize a facility. This is not, they are not automatically going to establish a new additional facility in every community. You still will have to come before the Department of Banking and this regulatory body is a proper body to make the decision as to whether or not we should have the facility. Now why should we not allow the Department of Banking to exercise their rightful authority to provide service to people. The charge has been made that we are not doing this. I suggest that this bill is a people's bill. It is not a banker's bill. We can stand here and argue the point back and forth. We can go along with Senator Lewis but it's not going to be any different in January of 1974 as it is May 1 of 1973. We are still going to have those on both