

January 4, 1974

SENATOR CHAMBERS: So do you think that I am totally incorrect in characterizing banks as looking at all of the programs that they institute as being designed as to produce profits?

SENATOR CARSTENS: No Senator Chambers, I said that I thought that it was a mutual thing, I was not criticizing you, I will try and clarify that.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: O.K., thank you. That is all that I wanted to clarify.

SENATOR CARSTENS: Nor was I criticizing you about anything else, I was referring to a remark that Senator Carpenter made about Chamber of Commerce.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: (laught) O.K. There is one other issue that I think has to be dealt with here. We have talked about crime and criminals, when we are little children in school, they tell us that crime does not pay. Senator Carstens, and we do say that we must be careful not to exalt crime, I think Watergate has already done that. If we want to talk about crime paying or not paying, we could see a man who was Vice-President of the United States assess a smaller fine than the amount of money that he got in extortion kick backs, income tax evasion and other activities which if you or I did would put us in the penitentiary. So we do have to be concerned about the people who don't have the power of an office or the prestige of powerful associates to keep them out of jail. The expression always uses that the law is like a spider web, it catches a small insect, it lets the large ones fly through, we see the Vice-President who flew through, we see a President ignoring subpoenas, who is telling a legitimate constitutionally justified congressional committee where to go when they issue subpoenas, he is telling a judge that he can be God in his court but in the whitehouse he is not more than a gardener, I make these statements for a reason. There is white collar crime, there is blue collar crime, when crime is discussed in this Legislature, we are talking about blue collar crime, we are talking about people who will not rub elbows with lobbyists, who will not have powerful attorneys who show them how to avoid paying taxes. Capital gains taxes when they sell property by showing that they don't live anywhere, they don't live where the property was sold, they don't live in the state where their primary residence is, and they don't live in the state where they hold office. We are not talking about that kind of crime, but those are the kinds that I am concerned about because they weaken the fabric of the nation, if criminals committing crime on that magnitude do not belong in the penitentiary, we should be considering a bill now to open the doors of every jail,

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city jail, every county jail and the penitentiary in the state and let everybody go free, I think that we must have some perspective and we must establish priorities. This bill is not going to inon-date this state under crime, that is not what the bill is for, it is saying that for some certain offenses a person will not go to the penitentiary and that all that the bill deals with pure and simply, it is time for us really to stop becoming panic stricken every time a merchant or a Chamber of Commerce or whether they be truckers. The liquor industry, the tobacco industry or anybody else come to us and we are grown men and tell us that they are going to get us defeated for office or they are not going to let us sponge off of them at their rooms, where they feed us everyday. If we don't go the way that they want us to go on a certain bill. I think that we ought to defeat the kill motion on this bill and try to judge it on its merit and try to see what its ultimate end is. I am opposed to the kill motion, and I hope that you will defeat it.

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