

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, and Senator Simon, I am so weary of walking the same ground and chewing the same food, asking the same questions, eliciting the same responses, but since the matter comes up repeatedly, I have to do it. Senator Simon stated that this bill has come in because there is a backlog on the docket of the district court in Douglas County and that is totally wrong. If he was told that, now he can be mistaken because he is not aware of what happens in district court, municipal court or too many other things in Omaha because he has stated he doesn't live there. But if he was told that by any official in Omaha, he was told a lie because the city officials in Omaha know better. There is no backlog in the district court. That is not why these matters have not been brought to district court. The county attorney will not file the actions. That is why they are not brought. Senator Simon is still not being told the truth but I am saying it in the record again and again and again, and if I am lying, why don't the city officials send somebody down here to pull your coat to the fact that I am misleading you and deceiving you. There is no backlog in the district court. That is not the reason for this bill. That is the last time I will say it. Senator Simon is going to tell you that again because he doesn't understand the bill and he doesn't understand why it is being brought and he doesn't care. He tells you that he doesn't know the answers to some questions because he doesn't live in Omaha, yet here he is with a bill related to Omaha which does far more than what he indicates. It is more than just a clarification. It doesn't even clarify his thinking but I have said into the record what I think ought to be said. It is a bill which cannot even be classified according to the way that Senator Barnett tried to help have it classified. But were it classified according to the criminal code classification, it would not do what Senator Simon and the police chief told Senator Simon to do. So they are not coordinating it with any other law. They told Senator Simon, you trot down there and put this in the Legislature and it is drawn up and there are no problems. Then we find problem after problem after problem which Senator Simon does not understand. They sent him down here naked to run through a thorn bush, and when you run through a thorn bush naked, you get a few scratches and a few cuts and you come away a little battered, bruised and bleeding but he is young. This will make him strong. It will make him more careful. It will make him ask questions when they bring these bills to him and tell him it is nothing but a clarification. Now the city attorney certainly could have pointed out that you can't make an act a felony and a misdemeanor at the same time but they did it and told him there is no problem with it. Senator Barnett, the manager of the criminal code, has tried to help classify it according to the felony classifications in the criminal code but it is too difficult to do that because they didn't give Senator Simon any trotting orders on how it should mesh with the criminal code. So we have a young, exuberant, enthusiastic Senator here who doesn't live in Omaha trying to do something for Omaha, not having been given all the answers. So I want to ask him a question, just one question, Senator Simon.

SENATOR SAVAGE: Senator Simon, will you respond.

SENATOR SIMON: Only if Senator Chambers will be easy on me.