

them or how they may be perceived by me, this is an issue that is greater than both of us, or either of us, and I would like you to consider that down through the years when I have been in this Legislature fighting off that bounty bill, Senator Hefner, your county officials have never, never shown their hides to do anything about solving that problem. It creates a highly demoralizing and somewhat unethical, even if not illegal, situation. Senator Kahle, you and Senator Lamb and other people who are called conservatives, know that this money is going to be given to the sheriffs one way or the other. Now you can do it in the dirty fashion with the bounty bill, where you place an incentive on putting people in jail so that the sheriff can supplement his income, or are you going to do it in a clean aboveboard fashion with a salary which is called a salary? There are sheriffs right now who feel that they can make more by taking this \$3.50 per day per prisoner than they make in a salary. Now I think we ought to get rid of the hypocrisy and face the issue as it is. The counties have never been adverse to the state setting the bounty, and the bounty usually comes into play in those counties where they have large concentrations of native Americans, although they are used throughout the state. So there is no concern about that. Let the state set a bounty but don't let the state set a salary. I think that bounty has become so discredited. It is such a demoralizing force among the sheriffs that they are asking for some relief from it. But if you don't give a decent salary, then they are going to do what other people who have a way which is legitimate to supplement their income, they will take that way out, and I don't want to see it done. And I am tired of these county officials who will sit back and never show hide nor hair of themselves. We had hearings throughout the state all summer and they did not show up. They have never offered to undertake a study of the bounty situation, but now that the difficult work has been done and a proposal has been hammered out, they want to come up here with some dull chisels and misdirected hammers and destroy the entire work. This bill is almost a work of art. You have taken something which even an artist can't do with clay. An artist is not able to take clay and metal and mix the two together and form a bond. You have taken Chambers and law enforcement and put them together in one bill and they are going down the same road in the same direction. I don't think there is anything hidden in this bill. We have tried to be open and aboveboard throughout.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Thirty seconds.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: For those who were supporting the bill but