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of how much work they do. Instead of piecemealing as we have, in terms of hiring individual judges...creating new judgeships, we ought to undertake a comprehensive study of the entire judicial system. If we need to re-district, that is what we ought to do. There may be some areas of the state where judges do too much work and others where they don't do enough. So I am not going to vote for any more bills that would allow additional judges, that would increase salaries, or do anything with reference to the judiciary until we take the time to review the entire situation. Last session Senator Beutler reluctantly agreed to go along with the bill... I don't know if he voted for it or not, but I think it was Senator Cullan's bill to add a district judge out in western Nebraska. It was promised at that time that a study would be taken to determine whether or not there should be a redistricting throughout the state. No such study, to my knowledge, was undertaken, and there are no bills to ask for redistricting. But we do have a bill for an additional judge in Lancaster County. So the judges are going to piecemeal us. They are going to nickel and dime us to death, and in addition to that, they will create a set of circumstances where there is no accountability. We all know that judges are appointed for life. We all know that some judges are nothing more than political hacks and they get appointments because they are the friend of somebody. Senator Johnson tried to create a little better environment for the consideration, at least, of people with qualifications by expanding the list of those who would be considered, and I think that bill met an ignominious death. So we are left with a situation where people can be given plums. The old spoils of office philosophy is existent in the judiciary whereas it cannot exist to the same extent in any other area of government. The Senators are exposed to election once every four years, the Governor and every other officeholder. Judges need never run. Judges can be as incompetent as the day is long and their salary automatically increases. They will stay in office forever. And now a bill is being brought before us which is to even take away the bit of control and accountability that goes along with holding and controlling the purse strings. I doubt that you would see Congress at the national level or any country do the kind of thing which is envisioned by this bill. It is to give the Supreme Court and its little brothers down the line a complete coup and the Legislature will be routed and is going to give up its responsibility. The judges have been placed on pedestals. They are allowed to be clothed differently than other officeholders. Who else in any other public office wears a disguise or a costume other than the judges?