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ways to get around them. For all practical purposes, there are no usury limitations in the State of Nebraska today on interest rates, and I don't care what kind of a loan you try to obtain, if you go after a loan on a home, they use the point system and they have built in some cost there. We are going to have an extremely difficult time in Nebraska in the future if we do not do something about the cost of money. But I would just like to point out one other thing about usury limits insofar as artificial establishment of floors or ceiling is concerned. A few years ago how many of us ever knew or heard of the prime rate impact upon local lending rates? The prime rate was something that was set back in the east, New York, or some other place, impacted upon a few of the larger banks and that was it. All of a sudden now we have an active Chairman of the Federal Reserve, Mr. Volker has decided he is going to do two things. He is going to tighten the money supply, or control the money supply and you never know from week to week what he is going to do with it. One week it is up. One week it is down. The prime rate was coming down and all of a sudden the prime rate begins to go up again, and what has happened? Almost without exception the local banks who never used to pay much attention to prime have snuggled up to the prime rate and they are either a little above or a little below but they have found a comfortable benchmark. You don't have to worry about the demand for money. You don't have to worry about the supply of money because regardless of what you do, you know you can always peddle your excess money to the federal government and get a healthy return on it, but the prime has become a kind of benchmark which many people shoot for. It is ironic that at a time when the savings and loans are in extremely serious financial condition as are some of your insurance companies because of long range loans, we find the banks have had the best year they have ever had. A number of bankers have told me that right now they ought to lower their interest rate 2...2½ percent but because of their colleagues' position, because no one wants to lead the pack, they maintain those rates at the present levels. A banker friend of mine is a farmer and he owns a principal interest in a substantial bank, has actually written me some proposals relative to issues which are so radical as to defy belief. He has written to me and he has laid out for me a plan. He said, we ought to confiscate all interest payments in excess of 10 percent and to make the bankers send them back to the...apply them to the Social Security fund, and you would see interest rates drop drastically and dramatically because none of us would send more than one check

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