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LB 202

for civilized people to use to solve any problem. Everybody, as has been stated, has a little fur clad stone age creature down inside his or her heart dangling the club, seeking blood and revenge. Senator Wesely pointed out how this little creature asserted himself when Senator Wesely's friend died, but when Senator Wesely found out that the hand of the perpetrator was also a friend, then the mixed emotions began to come into play and the moral struggle ensued. His better lights asserted themselves...

SENATOR LAMB: One minute, Senator.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...and he knew that if he couldn't stand to see his friend killed by the state, then nobody should be killed by the state, and what we want for those who are dear to us is what we should want for everybody and it seems to me this would be the hallmark of any true religion. If I remember correctly what I read, Senator Howard Peterson, Christ didn't say take the blood of those who are shedding my blood. He didn't say take a spear and run it in their side as a spear has been run into mine. He didn't say plant a crown of thorns and press it on their brow until the blood flows. He didn't say scourge them until their back is lacerated. Senator Howard Peterson, I think he said, "Forgive them, for they know not what they do." They knew they were executing a man. They knew they were extinguishing a human life, but on a deeper level, there was not a total awareness of what was being done and what in fact was being snuffed out. I hope the Legislature will go...

SENATOR LAMB: Time is up, Senator.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ..to a deeper level and truly understand what we are dealing with here today.

SENATOR LAMB: Senator DeCamp on the amended version of the bill.

SENATOR DeCAMP: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, Senator Labeledz, Senator Howard Peterson, and some others have very graphically described the problem and the problem is serious. The problem is people out there kill other people and I can describe it in as much gore, with as much violence, as anybody. Senator Peterson, Senator Labeledz, Senator Venditte when he was here before, and the others have never yet offered the solution to the problem. They have never yet said how you make the death penalty more efficient, more swift, more certain. They have never yet said how you bypass Supreme Court decisions. They have never