

eighty thousand dollars a year, the county judges seventy-five thousand dollars a year and this might surprise some of you, give the municipal court judges two hundred thousand dollars a year and kick out every municipal judge that you have got now and start all over again because since this is the level where most citizens come in contact with the law and if the cases are properly handled there, there won't be so much for the district courts and the Supreme Court by way of appeal or even if the work is there there won't be so many reversals, we should pay those judges the most.

SENATOR CLARK: You have one minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: We should require the greatest amount of knowledge and understanding of the law at that level, and as a result we would be justified in establishing a more stringent basis of qualification for people to hold that position. But ranking them as we do now as a hierarchy it is impossible for the public to escape the notion that the incompetents trained at the municipal level, the stumblers and bunglers get at the county and district level and those who might have competency wind up at the Supreme Court level. That is regrettable that the courts are perceived in that fashion but they are. So before I can even begin to address some of these other issues, the bill has a chance...it must have a chance to live and move so I will temporarily at least support what Senator Cullan is trying to do.

SENATOR CLARK: I would like to announce Mr. and Mrs. Conrad Shearer from Kenosha, Wisconsin; Mr. and Mrs. John C. Shearer from Omaha, Nebraska, under the north balcony and they are guests of Senator Kahle. Would you stand and be recognized, please. Welcome to the Legislature. Senator Nichol.

SENATOR NICHOL: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, in listening to Senator Chambers talk you will note that his percentages were pretty close to what the Judiciary Committee's percentages were, moreso than the percentages prescribed by Senator Cullan. I am not an authority on percentages either and I think perhaps we made a mistake last year when we tied these judges' salaries to the Supreme Court judges' salaries. We are attempting to do the same thing this year in a referendum to the people where we are saying, "Ladies and gentlemen of the State of Nebraska, why don't you tie the salaries of the Legislature to the Governor's salary? Therefore, ladies and gentlemen, when we the Legislature want to raise our salary we merely have to raise the