

Senator Wickersham, Senator...Senator Speaker over here, Baack, old man Baack, thank you "Judge" Kristensen, and "Judge" Kristensen, the ring leader, makes me think of Jessie James, Frank James, the Dalton Brothers and the Quantrel Gang. They can wreak a reign of terror on innocent, unresisting legislators who throw up their hands and give up the field. I don't believe that this bill has been properly processed by the Legislature.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Time. Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator Schmit. Senator Schmit.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President and members, again I want to say this, that for many years in Nebraska we have done those things, legislatively, which were requested of this Legislature in an attempt to improve the court system. We introduced bills that provided for additional and extraordinary salary increases. Those salary increases became law. I carried most of them the last good many years. I defend that today, I've done it and I would do it again, because again I want to say the vast majority do an excellent job. I am concerned, and I want to state on this floor here today that there ought to be a better system for getting rid of judges who should not sit on the bench. There ought to be a better system for monitoring the performance of judges, there ought to be a better system that would see to it that judges do not allow lawyers to lie in front of them, and allow prosecutors to get away with what amounts to a travesty of justice. We do not have that at the present time. A judge's word is law, he is god with the bench, and what he rules becomes final. I am standing here today to tell you that I feel suckered by individuals whom I have trusted, who have not performed according to the statute and are not doing so today. Reminds me of the time that I spoke to an individual about a member of the medical profession who was violating his oath, and I asked the medical professional why they did not clean up their own act. And I was told, god will punish that doctor some day. Well, I said, if you're going to wait for god to punish, then we just as well get rid of the entire system, because, with a few exceptions who profess to say there may not be a god, god will take care of it all some day. It's the same way with the judicial system. If you have members of the judicial system who are not functioning according to the high standards which most of them function under, then there ought to be a better system for getting rid of them, because they do a disservice not only to the public but to the system they represent, and the system which is held in high esteem by most of us, and properly so.