

felt they could spare by sending me down here to the Legislature, to muddle and befuddle. But I seem to be doing a tolerably good job, and maybe I'm not the best man, but I'll do until the best man, or even a better man or black woman comes along. So here we're dealing with the constitution, the organic law of this state. And we have these well-intentioned guys sitting around a table. I don't know what they do there. I don't know if they smoke cigars, I don't know if they smoke cigarettes, I don't know if they chaw, you know, a nice little pinch between the cheek and the gum, I don't know what they do. Most of us are not allowed in the inner circle of these great men. But this, I think, cannot be a commission deemed to represent, reflect, or be able to take cognizance of all of the issues and the points of view that are necessary to be taken cognizance of when the constitution is being dealt with, unless it is believed in arrogance that those of us who have no representation on that commission are not to be included in the provisions of the constitution. And if mistakenly, or through happenstance we were included in the document as it stands now, they're going to do whatever they can to make sure we're excluded. That's what I have to believe. Maybe I'm in error, and maybe somebody can pull my coattail on that and straighten me out. To now say that having put together this Frankenstein monster, from here a little, there a little, we're now going to try to correct a blunder that was made by not attaching an A bill to the bill that created this thing. But as usual, when it involves white men, the rules go out the window and a way is found to take care of them. We'll find other issues far more worthy than this involving people much more in misery, and we will cut them down without looking back. We can't even consider raising the minimum wage by a quarter, for example, and yet here we are twisting the way we do business to take care of the expenses of these white men who could pay out of their pocket for what it is their expenses are. But, no, they have to be taken care of. So with all this talk of the law, building prisons to put poor people in who don't obey the law, we as a Legislature will blunder and then say, well, we'll just forget that. This is the good old boy syndrome, and everybody in the Legislature will go along with giving them this money in this fashion. I think it's inappropriate, I think it's not justified. And many times we have to look at the spirit of the law, we have to look at what it is that our duty entails. And if it entails cutting a corner and twisting the law...