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that little Stone Age creature in my mind, wearing the animal skin and carrying the club, thirsty for blood and revenge. Even if that were the case, I would acknowledge that my attitude is based on those primitive animalistic feelings. Such being the case, I could never say that the settled deliberate policy of the state should be based on the vengeful feelings of a very angry, perhaps temporarily demented, member of a family, one of whose members was viciously murdered. It's all right for Senator Bruning to feel like he feels. It's all right for blood, and by analogy, to drip down his jaws like a bloody-jawed wolf. But we're not talking about Senator Bruning. We're talking about the state. We're talking about society. And the U.S. Supreme Court has said, when you talk about the constitution, especially the Eighth Amendment that prohibits cruel and unusual punishments, the meaning of that amendment grows and expands as a society matures and becomes more civilized. We are supposed to be a civilized nation. Practically every Western country in the world has abolished the death penalty. Russia wanted to join the economic...the European Union, that EU, and a condition imposed was that they had to do away with the death penalty because it is deemed barbaric, and Russia immediately imposed a moratorium. Then Yeltsin and the others undertook action which is designed to result in the abolition of the death penalty. And here, in supposedly the most advanced country in the world, we don't have rational argument at a high level. Those who favor the death penalty need only say, somebody died, kill the one who killed. And that's how you show a respect for life, without every seeing the inconsistency. Violence is a terrible thing...

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...and to show that violence is wrong the state must inflict a higher level of violence, and you produce a Timothy McVeigh, who felt that because of what the federal government did in Waco justified him in seeking revenge against the government and those who work for the government, if he indeed is the one who blew up that building in Oklahoma City. That's what the attitude of Senator Bruning brings about. It was his attitude that led during the early days of English history to the blood feud, where a family member would seek revenge on the murderer, but it go so far out of the hand...out