

confused by the facts or information. Look at that article based on the statistics from the police department itself and see 15 one-year officers. That's not by extrapolation or projection, 15 out of 26 new officers are located in my one area. That's more than the total number of one-year officers in the rest of the city and Senator Bromm is going to tell me that's not a serious problem, Senator Hall is going to say that's not a serious problem? You all can vote to kill the bill and show that you don't care and I will find another way to deal with the issue, I assure you of that because I live in that community and I won't desert it and I won't forsake it. But don't...

SPEAKER BAACK: Time.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...come talking about problems that could have been helped towards solution which were not once those problems come to fruition.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator Hall, you're next.

SENATOR HALL: Thank you, Mr. President and members. Again I rise to oppose the Hartnett amendment and just to set the record straight, with all due respect, Senator Chambers, what my statement was is that seniority in all cases does not equate to good officers. That's what I said, in all cases it does not equate to good officers. I know how important seniority is. I know how important it is to members of the Legislature when they don't want to be moved out of their offices or shifted to other areas on the floor. I know how seniority plays into every segment of our society. I know how important it is to collective bargaining. The fact of the matter is, is that in Omaha on the statistics 55 percent of the police officers on the force have less than 10 years on the force. Why is that? It doesn't stem from an incident two years ago or eighteen months ago or a year ago, it stems from a pattern, frankly, on the part of the administration not to hire new classes when they were needed. So what we've had happen in the last few years, last five or six years is that we've hired a bunch of new officers because that's the only way you get them is by hiring them and bringing them on and they have had to build up the force that way because previous years they neglected doing that. They haven't had a steady flow of smaller classes to make sure they did have experienced officers on line when those most senior