

with the appearance of the police the individuals scattered so quickly that I do not see how anybody would have had time to go through the neighborhood trying to find these people.

And I do believe that it is helpful for the officer in an area to be able to ask somebody why they are there.

I also have observed lately at night that there are many of our good citizens who are afraid to be out on the streets. However, if you look out through the window you will find there are other people walking around at 3 and 4 o'clock in the morning and there is no way of knowing whether these individuals are residents of your area and, as citizens, we have no right to question them.

We may suspect that they should not be in the neighborhood and that there may be something wrong about it. Yet as individuals we cannot do that.

And I believe that our policemen, when they are walking around, if there is something happening they should have the privilege of trying to find out what these people are doing there for our own protection.

I know that about a month ago a very good friend of mine was walking along a street at 11 o'clock at night, and he felt perfectly safe and he noticed across the street there were about 12 boys walking along and one of them called across the street and asked him if he had a cigarette and he replied he didn't have.

And in a few minutes there were 12 young men that crossed the street and completely surrounded him. And this man had been in the Medical Corps in World War II, and he realized that he was no match for these 12 boys, and one boy asked him for a dime, and he refused to give him any money and another fellow replied, "Well, you are a wise guy."

And immediately they started pumping him and before he knew it he was down on the ground. He said he realized the only thing he could do was to make unmerciful sounds, which he did, and in a few seconds' time these 12 boys dispersed.

Well, Senator Bible, you can realize how could we possibly find 12 boys in the neighborhood. Perhaps they did not even live in our neighborhood.

I think that this has to be brought out before you.

The other thing that I noticed was in yesterday's paper or last night's Star that Mr. Bennett had felt that there was not any urgency for crime legislation.

I wish that someone would make a survey either through the newspapers or some organization and permit the number of people to write in who would actually answer whether or not we need legislation.

Those of us who have lived here many years and, sir, I have lived here since 1936, and those of us who like living here and who realize this is our Capital, I do not think, sir, that we look at it comparing ourselves with other States or other places. I do not think that we should.

If the crime is here it is our problem, and I think we should solve it here and not worry about whether some other city or some other State has more or less crime than we have.

I think we should settle that problem here and make our city safe for our own people.