

Athletic Contests and Events Pools Act

being foisted on us in this session's dying moments, and the country will pay in more ways than we care to know for the legislation that is now before us. That is why my Party is voting against it.

Hon. Gerald Regan (Minister of State (International Trade)): Mr. Speaker, I will only take a moment of the time of the House. I want to thank all Hon. Members who have participated in the debate. I regret that I am unable to agree with many of the views that they have expressed.

I want to remind Hon. Members of the House that many of the points and concerns that they have expressed are certainly worthy of careful examination and we have sought to do that. However, what we have before us here is not a question as to whether there will be sports pools and lotteries in Canada, but, rather, whether they will be run so that the benefits are available only to the provincial level of Government or whether there will be funds made available to federal Governments to meet their responsibilities that must be met from a non-tax source.

The Hon. Member for Surrey-White Rock-North Delta (Mr. Friesen) has just mentioned where kiosks are placed by Loto Canada. He perhaps does not realize that Loto Canada has not existed for the last four years as an operating entity out in shopping centres, and that the kiosks are all provincial Government lotteries that he sees located in those places.

It is unfortunate that Hon. Members in the debate seem to have been taking two standards. The New Democratic Party at the provincial level has been and is involved in operating lotteries, and the Conservative provincial Government of Ontario is indeed unduly aggressive in the way in which it operates a provincial lottery. Therefore, I do not think it is a question as to whether these will exist. I think that the legislators have decided that in the past on the basis of federal laws that make it possible for provincial operations to take place. Rather, what we have here is a question as to whether the national Government will be able to support occasions like the Calgary Olympics.

I came into this question because of my commitments to the Calgary Olympics. However, there will be other occasions that will be worthy of support beyond those. That is why it is not limited only to those reasons. My colleagues felt that we should make a provision that payments could be made to culture and to medical research as well as fitness and amateur sport. I want to assure Hon. Members that every effort will be made to carry on the sports pool in a tasteful manner, much like the British soccer pools.

I finally want to say that our statistics show that sports pools do not appeal to people of low income, but have an appeal to a very different clientele than those who use lotteries.

Once again, I thank all Hon. Members. I urge the House to vote for the support of this positive Bill which will enable the Government of Canada to support very worth-while causes to a greater degree.

Mr. Nickerson: Why don't you put slot machines on the JetStar, Gerry?

Some Hon. Members: Question.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Blaker): Before I put the question, may I point out to Hon. Members that there is a small procedural problem. There is a Standing Order of the House to the effect that the constitutional Bill relating to aboriginal rights should be commenced at four o'clock. It seems to be reasonable that if we now call in Members on the subject of this Bill, we would not want to call in the Members and then advise them at four o'clock that we must proceed with the aboriginal rights Bill. Therefore, I think I had better seek the view of the House.

Mr. Pinard: We will vote first?

Mr. Lewis: Vote first and then proceed.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Blaker): If the House wishes to call in the Members, then we would proceed with the vote as soon as the whips appeared, but that the one and three-quarter hours allotted to the constitutional Bill would still remain available for that debate.

Mr. Pinard: We would like to vote first, and I think that if Your Honour seeks consent, provided we agree to a maximum of one hour and 45 minutes of debate on the resolution after the vote, you will find unanimous consent.

Mr. Lewis: Agreed.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Blaker): The House has heard the proposition of the President of the Privy Council. It appears that there is agreement. Accordingly, is the House ready for the question?

Some Hon. Members: Question.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Blaker): All those in favour of the motion will please say yea.

Some Hon. Members: Yea.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Blaker): All those opposed will please say nay.

Some Hon. Members: Nay.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Blaker): In my opinion the yeas have it.

And more than five Members having risen:

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Blaker): Call in the Members.

The House divided on the motion (Mr. Lumley, for Mr. Joyal) which was agreed to on the following division: