

Olympic Financing

Mr. Otto Jelinek (High Park-Humber Valley) moved:

That Bill C-63, an act to amend the Olympic (1976) Act, be amended in Clause 4

(a) by striking out lines 23 to 46 inclusive on page 2, lines 1 to 48 inclusive on page 3, lines 1 to 47 inclusive on page 4, lines 1 to 47 inclusive on page 5, and lines 1 to 14 inclusive on page 6; and

(b) that the figure "17" in line 15 on page 2 and line 17 on page 6 be struck out and the figure "14" substituted therefor.

He said: Mr. Speaker, although I am disappointed that the Postmaster General (Mr. Mackasey) did not even compromise with the coin amendment, I am glad to see we are now over that because I have the coins coming out of everywhere except my pockets.

I would like to deal with the part of the bill of which I believe most members are not even aware. Certainly the public is not aware of it, except for the companies and corporations that will be hurt by the effect of this part of the bill. I refer to seven pages of this eight page bill which deal specifically with trade marks and copyrights.

In his earlier statement the minister said that Bill C-63 is just an amendment to the previous Olympic bill. I would like to point out that the minister must have been referring to the coin portion of it. The amendments in this bill that deal with trade marks and copyrights are by no means amendments to the original Olympic bill. This is in fact a whole new ballgame which is tagged on to Bill C-63.

What comes to mind is why this eleventh hour approach to this whole new idea of trade marks and registration with only a year to go before the games begin. Surely if COJO is to sell its trade marks and the trade marks it proposes to register, it has already done so.

Although the Postmaster General said differently, I am sure he will agree that this part is not an amendment to the original bill. It is tagged on to this bill to amend the Olympic (1976) Act. If there are any irregularities, and I understand there may be some difficulty with my motion No. 3 which has been postponed for the time being, I would say they exist in the printing of this bill. In fact it should not just read "An Act to amend the Olympic (1976) Act", but also "An Act to amend the Trade Marks Act". That is what this part of the bill does more or less.

The urgency is the questionable part of this bill. The committee members who were not aware of the contents of this bill in committee said, "Try to push it through that long committee period because there is some urgency in this affair." Where were those Liberal members for the past six months? Where were they when the silver coin program was falling badly behind and COJO needed further assistance from the federal government?

I stood here and questioned the Postmaster General for the past three or four months, requesting an early statement on the position of the government with regard to supplementary assistance legislation for the Olympic Games. There was no action. I heard no cries from the Liberal backbenchers. I did not even know they were interested in further assisting COJO until I walked into the committee meeting and they said, "Pass this damn thing right now. It's urgent. We have to move."

It is very hard to comprehend why the trade marks part is even in this bill. The minister spoke about bad publicity, and about how bad it is for the Olympic movement and

[Mr. Deputy Speaker.]

Montreal. I agree that it is bad. However, who is to blame for the bad publicity?

Montreal and COJO are using money derived as a result of federal legislation, or as direct grants, some \$140 million worth. They received close to \$500 million in aid as a result of federal legislation and direct grants, yet they have the audacity not to have public tenders for the use of these funds, whether it is for the construction of the Olympic sites or for getting the television rights. They did not use public tenders. The federal government is responsible for making it possible for COJO to reap the benefits of these bills. However, it seems to turn its back and close one or both eyes when it comes to the spending procedures. To have a corporation that utilizes funds which come from the federal government, and for it to have no public tenders on construction and TV rights, and for the government to sit idly by and allow it to happen, is incomprehensible.

● (2110)

The minister asks about the word dishonest. I think there must be something dishonest in this area. Someone must be hiding something, because if someone were not hiding something they would bring everything out into the open and show us what the accounting is.

When the former president of the treasury board read the earlier statement he suggested, for example, that security costs alone would amount to \$90 million. I say this only because it all goes hand in hand. This is a direct grant from the federal government, but no one has been able to get a breakdown for this \$90 million for a two-week period, no one has been able to find out how these funds are to be spent, let alone the money derived from the coin, stamp, and lottery programs. I call this dishonest on COJO's part, and I call it dishonest in the government's part for not taking the responsibility to look into these matters.

In committee I suggested that because the trade marks and copyright part of the bill was not an amendment to the original Olympics legislation it ought to be separated and dealt with in two parts, one having to do with gold coins, and the other having to do with trade marks. Again, the members on the committee, the Liberals who sat there not knowing what was in the legislation, would not listen to reason.

I have mentioned the fact that Gerry Snyder, vice president of revenue for COJO, was there, but the Liberal members of the committee would not allow him to be a witness. He was right there, and he is the only one who knows all about the affairs of COJO and how the money is spent. He is responsible. He is the vice-president in charge of revenue. We have been asking for an accounting of the way in which COJO is spending its money. I believe that, had there been a public accounting from the beginning, the deficit which is now apparent and which will be experienced at the end of the games could have been reduced.

The evening before the committee met I received some financial documents from Commissioner General Rousseau and I had intended to present them to the committee, to table them for the committee's benefit. Again, the committee was so uninterested in the material I had with