

bankrupt, but we did not realize it had reached the stage where we must consider legislation such as we are faced with today.

Let me deal with gambling and the chance of winning. This country is relatively young. Many towns, villages and agricultural societies in my area are celebrating their one hundredth anniversaries this summer. People came to this country 100 years ago with a sense of hope and opportunity that if they worked hard they could actually acquire something. I feel very sad about what has happened in this country in the last 15 years. The Government, through its bankrupt policies, has eliminated the opportunity many people had to realize their dreams. The Government has replaced those opportunities with lotteries.

As was pointed out, the best odds one has to win is 600,000 to one. If those who got off the boat to come here to make a living for their families faced those kinds of odds, I suspect that they would not have got on the boat in the first place. If they came here and saw the odds which they faced, they probably would have returned home. I am very sad that our country had degenerated to the point where the Government coerces people not physically but mentally. In some ways that is even more insidious than physical coercion. Al Capone used to run a numbers racket by kneecapping people and threatening physical violence. Instead, this Government is threatening emotional and intellectual violence. It is coercing people into buying lottery tickets with the admonition that they will help the arts, athletes and medical research. That is absolute nonsense because these programs are worthy of support without coercing people with these admonitions of the good they will do by taking a chance at spending a dollar. I find it incredible that we must continually rise to point out facts to the Government which are obvious to any normal person.

If we are to have this legislation, since it appears that the Government will crush the legitimate opposition to it which we have on this side, surely it can let the people know that the money it will collect will be spent in a sane fashion. This can be done by allowing the Auditor General to examine the books. I suspect that the Auditor General believes he should look at the books. I also believe that those who would benefit from this lottery, such as those in medical research, would also like to see the books audited by the Auditor General as well.

This would eliminate the use of chauffeur driven limousines and fancy hotel suites, as pointed out by my colleague for Saskatoon West (Mr. Hnatyshyn). It was also pointed out that the Government's idea of restraint is to have the chauffeur also act as the bartender. I suggest that is the Government's definition of restraint, because not much care is taken about how other people's money is spent. The adoption of this motion would allow the Auditor General, while after the fact, at least to point out that those purported expenses for advertising and

Adjournment Motion

overhead actually represent a slush fund for the Government to look after its supporters. Therefore I would ask the backbenchers of the Liberal Party, both of them in the House today, to talk to their colleagues. We appreciate that they are here to listen. I would suspect that if they did want to get up and respond, they would have to agree with many of the points we are making in terms of this amendment. I see an Hon. Member on the other side shaking his head. I would like to know why he disagrees. I think all of us on this side would like to see him get up and explain his reason for disagreeing with this amendment. Then we would know why he is shaking his head or if he understands the amendment.

• (1650)

I think anybody who is concerned about public funds, and all of us are elected to represent people, should be concerned about the way they will be spent. I do not think anybody would be against the Auditor General looking at these books. That is precisely what motion No. 4 provides. Let me put it on the record; the amendment is: "each year by the Auditor General of Canada". That simply means that each year the books should be looked at by the Auditor General. It is a very simple and straight-forward amendment.

As I have said, I suspect everybody connected with this lottery would be in favour of having the Auditor General look at the books. If the Hon. Member for Thunder Bay-Nipigon (Mr. Masters) wants to rise, we would be polite because we would like to hear why he is shaking his head.

I will certainly vote in favour of this amendment because it is a very worth-while one; but I would like to hear why Members on the other side are going to vote against it.

PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT MOTION

[English]

SUBJECT MATTER OF QUESTIONS TO BE DEBATED

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please. It is my duty, pursuant to Standing Order 45, to inform the House that the questions to be raised tonight at the time of adjournment are as follows: the Hon. Member for Surrey-White Rock-North Delta (Mr. Friesen)—Freedom of Information—(a) McBride Commission Report. (b) Government policy; the Hon. Member for Bow River (Mr. Taylor)—Veterans Affairs—Request that commemorative medal be struck to honour Dieppe veterans; the Hon. Member for Portage-Marquette (Mr. Mayer)—Grain—(a) Cash advance payments—Request for increase. (b) Request for assistance to farmers.