

have not first-hand knowledge of the working of such legislation to know just what evidence was given before this commission. Sir Arthur Stanley gave the following evidence on behalf of the hospitals:

The annual conference of the British Hospitals Association held at Eastbourne June 2, 1931, passed the following resolution:

That the British Hospitals Association is not in favour of amendment of the law affecting public sweepstakes which purports to be for the benefit of voluntary hospitals.

That is the attitude of the British hospitals towards sweepstakes legislation. The evidence continues:

Those engaged in hospital work know that if a large sum of money were given out of the proceeds of lotteries as in Ireland towards the maintenance of individual hospitals, it would have a tendency seriously to diminish charitable contributions which are now the main source of the income of those hospitals.

It is estimated that approximately £8,000,000 a year comes from private contributions. A considerable part of this sum is given by people who are opposed to lotteries on principle, and these would certainly withdraw their support.

That is the evidence given before the commission by a gentleman representing the hospitals in Great Britain. Another interested organization was the jockey club. The following evidence was given by the Earl of Harewood, senior steward of the jockey club:

The jockey club does not ask for, nor even support, the legislation of sweepstakes. So far as the interests of racing are concerned, the jockey club opposes it.

Here are the reasons for so doing. They oppose it—

—because of opportunities for fraud which are offered by these sweeps. A man who has £30,000 (or in some cases much more) to play with can offer large bribes. Stable boys, jockeys and trainers might be tempted to accept a bribe to secure the defeat of a horse, and are, of course, in a position to make certain of his defeat. Even an owner, placed in the same temptation, can prevent his own horse from winning.

That was most convincing evidence, and it was evidence submitted by the jockey club to show where they stood in regard to the sweepstakes investigation. There was also presented before that commission the evidence of the Church of Scotland. On page 151 of the evidence we find recorded there that the church and nation committee of the Church of Scotland submitted evidence as follows:

Its membership embraces 1,300,000 communicants and has the religious training of 350,000 boys and girls in Sunday schools, and 120,000 young men and women in bible classes. The

general assembly in 1931 communicated to His Majesty's government a statement of their "opposition to any legislation which would sanction sweepstakes or lotteries for charitable or other purposes."

On May 31, 1932, the general assembly, in considering the report of one of their committees, passed a unanimous resolution in these terms:

The general assembly instruct the committee to take steps to bring before the royal commission on betting laws a statement of the church's conviction that any amendment of the law should be in the direction of reducing the facilities for every form of betting.

Then we have recorded also the evidence of what is known over there as the Christian Social Council of England. This council is made up of representatives of all the Christian churches in England except the Roman Catholic church. The speaker for this organization was the Most Reverend and Right Honourable William Temple, Archbishop of York. He said:

The Christian Social Council, which is a body consisting of representatives officially appointed by all the churches in England (except the Roman Catholic church) through a special committee appointed stated:

"That legal recognition should not be given to lotteries, sweepstakes or prize draws in any form whether for charitable purposes or otherwise. . . . The committee view with alarm the suggestions made to the commission that the hospitals should derive benefit from state lotteries, and are assured of the strong opposition of the Christian churches to any such proposal."

There was further evidence to show how sweepstakes as carried on in the Irish Free State tended to foster disrespect if not contempt for law and order. It was brought forward in evidence that in England, though it is illegal for anyone to sell tickets in the Irish sweepstakes, approximately £2,500,000 of English money had gone across the channel to Ireland in connection with Irish sweepstakes; and besides that £100,000 of English money had been intercepted in the mails. Prosecutions had been undertaken against some individuals in certain cases, but it was pointed out in the evidence that there seemed to be rather a contempt for meting out law and justice to offenders in such cases.

If we want any evidence nearer home with regard to the possible effect of sweepstakes legislation on the people of our country, we need only look back about two years to note what happened in the stock market crash. That crash will give some idea of the results of speculation and gambling. Stock values in 365 leading securities on the London Stock Exchange in 1922 were worth £5,500,000,000,