

The evidence of Deputy Commissioner W. H. Kelly of the R.C.M.P. of May 13 was to the effect that they had been worried about the activity of a number of persons with criminal records in attempting to get into this messenger service racket, and he believed that such agencies would provide a basis to represent unregulated gambling which would become infiltrated by organized crime. Those are the views of the R.C.M.P., the attorneys general of the provinces, and of the federal Attorney General. He also stated that the revenue obtained from gambling is the lifeblood of organized crime. I repeat, honourable senators, that it is the commission that is obtained by this messenger service that is evil.

There was also a suggestion put forward by the Opposition that provincial licences should be established, but the attorneys general stated that this would be very hard to regulate in order to allow a bet that is placed in the city or town to get to the pari-mutuels in time to affect the odds.

Therefore, honourable senators, I ask you to vote for this amendment. It is with regret that I oppose the intention of the honourable sponsor of this bill (Hon. Mr. Giguere) to refer it to a committee. This bill was considered long and seriously in a committee of the other place, which heard the Minister of Justice, officials of certain provinces, and the R.C.M.P. The provinces of Ontario, Saskatchewan and British Columbia want this amendment passed as quickly as possible.

Hon. Arthur W. Roebuck: Honourable senators, I am delighted to know that all the attorneys general of the provinces and the Attorney General of Canada have agreed to this bill. I would like to say that one ex-attorney general of a province agrees with them.

Hon. Senators: Hear, hear.

Hon. Mr. Roebuck: My honourable friend Senator Haig said that he would not prolong his speech beyond 5 o'clock. I will say that I shall not detain you more than two minutes.

I should just like to say that in my judgment the control of betting and the exclusion of crooks would be an utter impossibility without this bill. I am strongly in favour of it.

Hon. Mr. Haig: Honourable senators, in answer to Senator Roebuck's question I should like to refer him to page 1148 of Proceedings No. 25 of the Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs of the other house where Mr. Turner, after reading a letter he

had written to Mr. Wishart, is reported as saying:

I wrote to all of the other seven provincial attorney generals in accordance with the quotation from the letter which I sent to the provincial attorney generals of Ontario, Saskatchewan and British Columbia.

I received a reply from all of the provincial attorney generals; all of them recommended an immediate amendment to the Criminal Code along the lines of Bill C-197.

Hon. Mr. Martin: I think that Senator Giguere indicated his willingness to refrain from moving that this bill be referred to a committee.

Motion agreed to and bill read second time.

THIRD READING

The Hon. the Speaker: Honourable senators, when shall this bill be read the third time?

Hon. Mr. Giguere: Honourable senators, with leave of the Senate, I move that this bill be read the third time now.

Hon. Lionel Choquette: Honourable senators, I agree with this measure only because I am convinced it is a greater offence to engage in this type of bookmaking than it is to perform an abortion.

Motion agreed to and bill read third time and passed.

INVESTMENT COMPANIES BILL

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ADOPTED

The Senate proceeded to consideration of the report of the Standing Senate Committee on Banking, Trade and Commerce on Bill S-17, respecting investment companies, which was presented on Thursday, June 19.

Hon. Salter A. Hayden moved that the report be adopted.

He said: Honourable senators, I will not announce a limitation, as previous speakers have, to the length of time I might take, but I will say that I shall be very brief.

Bill S-17 originated in the Senate and was referred to the Standing Senate Committee on Banking, Trade and Commerce. I was in communication with the Government Leader in the House of Commons as to the timetable for the passage of this bill through Parliament,