

ments is 48 days late in delivery. That is the American firm, the only one capable of building this equipment. Yet Canadians are already there.

Realizing that it was beaten to the punch, the federal government ended up negotiating and agreeing with the provinces to get out of all lottery games of \$9 and under if the provinces would in turn leave lottery games of \$10 and over to the federal government. The point I want to make is that the federal government entered into a \$23 million contract, and it has thrown away \$5 million already spent. It has thrown away \$300,000 on consultants' fees; it let a \$2 million contract in early July in telecommunications services to effect the \$23 million contract; and it had already incurred the cost for marketing in respect of the new game. It had already incurred costs in leasehold improvements on buildings for outlets it had leased or arranged for in order to instal the machinery. This amounts to some \$5 million over and above the \$23 million which has been thrown away or lost down the drain. The federal taxpayers will never see anything of that again. That is only \$5 million and the Liberals are dealing in bigger figures than that, so it is just a small amount.

In addition, the government made such a rotten contract with General Instruments that it cannot get out of it, and if it does get out for less than the \$23 million it will probably cost in excess of \$10 million in penalty, simply because it negotiated a contract in which it had no rights. The government was just leasing and therefore cannot now even purchase the equipment and sell it to those running the western or Atlantic lotteries. The government cannot transfer the technology because it was all left with General Instruments.

This is a contract which is entirely different in principal than the contracts I understand were negotiated by the provinces in respect of their games. Those provinces have been more shrewd with their taxpayers' dollars. This government will perhaps incur a penalty, therefore, of \$10 million, \$12 million or, \$15 million. The two provinces involved in order to get the federal government out of this mess, have said they will contribute 25 per cent each in respect of any penalty up to a maximum of \$10 million. Even with that, if there is a \$10 million penalty the federal government will have to pay at least \$5 million, and anything over the \$10 million will be paid by the federal government.

This government will have lost probably \$10 million unless it gets hardnosed and asks General Instruments to deliver the goods. If that company cannot deliver the goods, or is 48 days late, for example, the government could then say it does not want the goods because they were not delivered on time. I am afraid that this bunch of softies over there are not capable of that kind of hardnosed bargaining. That is one small example of mismanagement, as a result of which the government will lose at least \$10 million.

The frustrating and maddening thing is that the Minister of State (Fitness and Amateur Sport) (Mrs. Campagnolo), the hon. member who comes from the riding of Skeena—I am sure her constituents will be embarrassed to hear of this but they should know the truth—held a meeting in Toronto following

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which she said to the reporters that the government did not really want to get into the game, and was just using this as a bargaining tool in order to gain access to a certain segment of the lottery business.

There is \$23 million for the contract and an additional \$5 million in taxpayers' money the government is using as a bargaining tool, all of which has been lost. Some \$28 million of taxpayers' money has been used as a bargaining tool, even though the minister has said the government is not interested in this dollar game. That is one hell of a way to bargain.

I wanted to point out that one small example because I have followed this process from the beginning of the problem back in early June, through the summer and the fall. I was very interested in it, perhaps because one of the Canadian computer firms capable of handling this work is in my riding, but also, over and above that consideration, because of Canadian jobs and Canadian content. In spite of this situation this government is worrying about our trade deficit in manufactured goods. I suggest ministers over there do not know what is going on.

This is small example of how, within four months, this federal government, through one small ministry in a very small area, has thrown away millions of Canadian taxpayers' funds. This illustrates the mismanagement, the inability to govern, the inability to administer and the general inability of this government to take care of these funds.

In the first bill presented to this new session the government is asking us to give it \$17 billion with no strings attached. They have to be lunatics, but I suppose with the majority over there they will vote this through. The taxpayers of today and the taxpayers for generations down the road will be the losers because of the greed of this government.

I hope this government will accept the very reasonable proposition put forward this afternoon by my leader. That is an intelligent and courteous proposition for any legislative body, whether it be a town council, a county council, a city council, a provincial legislature or whatever. My leader has suggested that the government does not ask for the \$10 billion which it does not need until the next fiscal year until it has at least tabled the estimates showing how it intends to spend the money. Up until now this government has been getting away with what might be called theft, and certainly with the squandering of Canadian taxpayers' money and the future of Canadians as a whole. We must pay in the future for what we borrow now. That is the case according to my banker, at least, and probably according to your banker, Mr. Speaker, and everybody else's banker except the banker for those spend-thrifts who presently occupy the government benches.

It is my hope that the people of Canada wisen up and send a message even stronger than the message which lies in the loss of 13 by-elections out of 15 about ten days ago. I hope before this bill is passed Canadians will write to their members suggesting that perhaps the government deserves the \$7 billion, but not the \$10 billion for the next fiscal year.