

Mr. Speaker, we are going to fund the Calgary Olympics. That's our first priority. Yes, Mr. Speaker, we are interested in medical research and yes, Mr. Speaker, we are going to fund medical research." However, what he failed to say, Mr. Speaker, was by how much and when.

• (1805)

That is the point which was made early in the debate on establishing that sports pool. Some of us said there will be no money forthcoming for medical research, it is only window dressing. The first committee I ever sat on in this House, Mr. Speaker, was the Standing Committee on Miscellaneous Estimates, at which time we had the stamps and the lotteries for the Montreal Olympics. I remember the then mayor, who still is the Mayor of Montreal, said if we give him the Montreal Olympics deal it could no more have a deficit than he could have a baby. Well, Mr. Speaker, I am still waiting for that genetic wonder to take place because the Montreal Olympics not only has a deficit, we are still paying and paying.

That will also be the case, Mr. Speaker, with this deal, and I say to the Parliamentary Secretary that I am not interested in promises. I want to know today, and the medical research community wants to know today, how much money will it receive from the sports pool in 1984-1985? Second, how much money from the sports pool will go to MRC over the next five years?

Mr. W. Kenneth Robinson (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of National Revenue): Mr. Speaker, I welcome the opportunity to respond to the Hon. Member for Provencher (Mr. Epp). I support his concerns for medical research, as I am sure everyone in the House of Commons does. However, it is not really a question of where the money comes from which is so important. He talks about morals. I do not believe it is a question of morals, it is a question of money—money for medical research. It is not a question of where you get it from.

First, I would like to remind Hon. Members of the reasons for the federal Government getting involved in the so-called gaming business. In 1979, the short lived Clark Government made a deal with the provinces to get out of the lottery market in exchange for a given sum. This year that sum will amount to about \$35 million. I should point out that this year the provinces expect to make a profit of about \$500 million. So you can see that this was not a very good deal for the federal Government. But then what can you expect from a government which in 1979 could not count?

In keeping with the Clark decision to vacate the lottery market, the Liberals upon their return to power introduced legislation to enable the federal Government to enter the sports pool business. Contrary to claims made by the Opposition, this does not violate the 1979 agreement with the provinces, so I have been advised. The beneficiaries of the revenue from this new and exciting sports pool game are spelled out in the legislation.

In March of this year, the Minister of Fitness and Amateur Sport (Mr. Olivier) signed an agreement with the 1988 Winter

Olympics Organizing Committee for \$200 million. This amount represents the largest single direct funding commitment by the federal Government for a sporting event. Commitments were also made in the areas of fitness and amateur sport, arts and culture, and health and medical research.

The Hon. Member for Provencher has raised the issue of funding for medical research. Through you, Mr. Speaker, I would like to advise the Hon. Member that this year the federal Government will provide \$170 million for medical research—

Mr. Epp: \$157 million, according to the chairman.

Mr. Robinson (Etobicoke-Lakeshore): Well, I have \$170 million, of which \$152 million will go to the Medical Research Council. As regards a five-year research funding plan, I am sure the Hon. Member will take this as notice and ask questions in this regard of the Minister of National Health and Welfare (Miss Bégin) when she appears before committee to discuss her departmental estimates.

AGRICULTURE—RED BEEF STABILIZATION PROGRAM. (B) STATUS OF DISCUSSIONS

Mr. Charles Mayer (Portage-Marquette): Mr. Speaker, I rise this evening to see if I can prod the Government. I know well the Hon. Member for Etobicoke-Lakeshore (Mr. Robinson), whom I respect, and I believe it fair to say that we are quite good friends. However, it is difficult to prod the Government through a Parliamentary Secretary who gets up and reads something which is prepared by the Department. Nevertheless, let me try, Mr. Speaker.

First of all, this side has been asking for a red meat stabilization program for Canadian producers of red meat for a considerable length of time. There is agreement among at least four of the provinces; Ontario, Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta, to have something like this created. There is an agreement in principle that a red meat stabilization program be put into effect. In fact, I have a press release from October 31, 1983, indicating agreement in principle on the red meat stabilization plan. The Government mentioned it in the Throne Speech in December. Both opposition Parties are in favour of this, and we have supported the Government, yet nothing happens. I suggest that if something does not happen very quickly, nothing will be done until we have a new session of Parliament or a new Government is elected.

• (1810)

There are financial problems in the industry, and one of the ways to rectify some of those problems is to have a so-called tri-partite red meat stabilization plan. The three parties involved would be the federal and provincial Government and the producers. The Minister is in favour, four of the provinces who represent a majority of the red meat industry are in favour, yet nothing happens.

The Minister is on record as of October 9, 1982, as saying that he would resign if something were not done concerning