

## CORPORATION'S LOSSES

**Hon. Perrin Beatty (Wellington-Dufferin-Simcoe):** Mr. Speaker, may I ask the Minister this simple question? What have been the losses of the sports pool to date?

[Translation]

**Hon. Jacques Olivier (Minister of State (Fitness and Amateur Sport)):** Mr. Speaker, to evaluate budget operations, to evaluate the operations of a business on the basis of the first or second quarter, and over a year . . . We shall certainly act responsibly as a Government and table the annual report at the appropriate time. You will then have all the figures, and you will have a chance to challenge them.

[English]

REQUEST THAT AUDITOR GENERAL BE AUTHORIZED TO AUDIT CORPORATION'S BOOKS

**Hon. Ray Hnatyshyn (Saskatoon West):** Mr. Speaker, my supplementary question is directed to the same Minister. It follows on the ones of my colleagues. This is a very serious matter. There is hard evidence with respect to the losses being sustained by the sports pool. If he feels the House of Commons, or a committee thereof, is too political to look at the books of the sports pool, will he agree to giving the Auditor General approval and authority immediately to conduct a full auditing of the operations of the sports pool and to report back to the House of Commons? Will he do the honourable thing and show that he has nothing to hide?

[Translation]

**Hon. Jacques Olivier (Minister of State (Fitness and Amateur Sport)):** Mr. Speaker, the question put by my hon. friend opposite is strictly based on gratuitous statements. It is hearsay, and if he had any proof of bad faith or anything like that, we would be willing to investigate.

[English]

REQUEST FOR INDEPENDENT AUDIT

**Hon. Ray Hnatyshyn (Saskatoon West):** Mr. Speaker, we have given the Minister at least 15 opportunities this afternoon to say that the sports pool is not losing a substantial amount of money. If he stands in his place and tells us that the sports pool is making money, or breaking even, that is one thing. This is not the SIU; the Minister will understand what I am talking about. Will he please allow the Auditor General to make an independent audit and report to the House of Commons? Only then will the people of Canada feel reassured, because the Minister has been evasive in attempting not to answer the questions we have put to him in a very direct way.

[Translation]

**Hon. Jacques Olivier (Minister of State (Fitness and Amateur Sport)):** Mr. Speaker, the Canadian people are going to understand that, considering the really insidious approach taken by the provinces . . . it is difficult in an area where there

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is so much competition, where the provinces have almost doubled their marketing expenditures just to deprive people of their income because they agreed to sell tickets for us, you will understand that Canadians are going to be much smarter than the Progressive Conservatives. They will understand that we cannot give out figures just like that, in public, which would provide ammunition for our competitors who want to destroy the sports pool. That is the real reason, because we believe in amateur sport, and we believe we must help the Calgary Games.

Mr. Speaker, that is why Canadians are going to realize that in an area as competitive as this one, where the provinces, through their lotteries, are spending millions and millions of dollars to counter the sports pool and the federal Government's efforts to help amateur sport in Canada . . . Canadians will, in due time, pass judgment on Opposition Members who do not want us to help the people in Calgary or amateur sport or medical research or arts and culture.

Canadians are going to understand, and if you do not understand, I suggest you do something about it.

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[English]

## CANADA LABOUR CODE

REQUEST THAT AMENDING LEGISLATION BE PASSED BEFORE SUMMER RECESS

**Mr. Rod Murphy (Churchill):** Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Labour. In regard to the passage of Bill C-34, which is important to the health, safety and lives of Canadian workers, the Minister is quoted as saying:

If we pass it, it's on our record. If we don't pass it, because of the Conservatives opposing it, we'll go on the hustings and blame the Conservatives for denying these amendments in favour of the workers.

This response is based upon election politics rather than upon any real concern for the lives of workers. It is completely unacceptable. Will the Minister take the legislation which he has proposed to the House more seriously, and agree to a House order which will ensure its passage before we recess for the summer?

[Translation]

**Hon. André Ouellet (Minister of Labour):** Mr. Speaker, this is of course a matter that is open to debate and to interpretation, depending on which side of the House one happens to be. The Government's objective is indeed to have this Bill adopted, and I hope that next week, when the parliamentary committee is sitting, we shall have the co-operation of all members of the Committee, both Government and Opposition Members, and that we will be able to adopt this Bill before the end of June.

**An Hon. Member:** Hear, hear!