

yearly recreation for them after the event had passed. I find it strange, Madam Speaker, that this Government would feel it necessary to fund the Calgary Olympics in a manner different from the way it treats projects in any other part of the country.

But when you look at this paragraph where the amendment applies, it reads:

There shall be paid out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund to or for the support of any one or more of

(a) activities in the following fields:

- (i) the arts and culture,
- (ii) fitness and amateur sport, and
- (iii) medical and health research—

(b) XV Winter Olympic games to be held at Calgary, Alberta, and

(c) worthy capital projects of national interest in the fields described in subparagraphs (a)(i) and (ii)—

It does not say anything about medical and health research. Apparently now that is not in the national interest. I do not quite follow that. But the real kicker, and it is underlined in the Bill, is:

—the amounts paid into the Consolidated Revenue Fund pursuant to this section.

It does not say anything about the amount. There is not one word about the amount of money to be available for the Calgary Olympics or any other portion of this Bill. It says that what is paid in shall be paid out. I am sure, Madam Speaker, that the Minister, when he rises in his place to tell us how he feels about this amendment, will support specifically the Calgary Olympics and he will tell us how much money is involved, because I do not see that in the Bill. My colleagues do not see it in the Bill. But we are being told of the whole life and death struggle of the fifteenth Olympics in Calgary and we do not know how much money is going to be made available. We do not know whether it will be all the money that is needed or whether it will be one-third of it. We do not know the proportion. Nor do we know from where the shortfall will come. If the shortfall is to come from taxation, I would suggest, so as to be fair and straightforward to the people of Canada, that the taxation be put in place now, that it be specific so the people organizing the games in Calgary will know how much funding they will receive from this Bill and will not be buying a pig in a poke.

In closing let me say that if a lottery is needed for medical research, for fitness and amateur sport, for culture and for the Olympics in this country, maybe the grain producers in western Canada would like to have a lottery so they would not have to pay additional costs for the transport of their grain under the Crow change coming forth from this Government. Maybe we should have a lottery so that Ottawa, the capital of Canada, can have a decent airport. Maybe we should have a lottery for any number of things. I find it strange, Madam Speaker, that in this Bill, excluding the Calgary Olympics which are a special event, the rest of the projects are daily programs, programs which the people of Canada would be only too pleased to pay for if they felt the funding and the taxation dollars were spent wisely, and that they would not object to it. I will be voting in favour of this amendment and I am sure

Athletic Contests and Events Pools Act

Members on the Government side, including the Minister, will be voting in favour of this amendment.

• (2230)

Mr. Charles Mayer (Portage-Marquette): Madam Speaker, we are discussing an important Bill this evening, Bill C-95, which is entitled:

An Act to provide for government operated pool systems on combinations of athletic contests and events and to amend the Criminal Code and the Income Tax Act.

That is quite a title. On the first page the short title reads:

This Act may be cited as the Athletic Contests and Events Pools Act.

If Al Capone were alive, I think he would be proud of us this evening. As the Hon. Member for Brampton-Georgetown (Mr. McDermid) indicated, it is the great numbers game. That is precisely what I think it is. Another colleague pointed out that if Al Capone were here, he would have wondered why he had not thought of it.

Instead of being here this evening talking about the passage of a Bill to encourage Canadians to be productive or to give them a tax break or incentive to use the tax system to encourage production, we are here talking about making minimal use of the wealth which has already been created by the hard work of Canadians. I find this very disturbing although it is reflective of the socialist attitude when they see wealth to want to confiscate it and regulate; they do not want to do anything about encouraging its creation.

It has been pointed out that this is a regressive form of taxation. It holds itself out as a form of reward for some kind of chance at something to gain; it is a reward for investing a little money. As has already been very eloquently pointed out by Hon. Members who preceded me, how can anyone not be in favour of supporting arts and culture, fitness and amateur sport or medical and health research? I find it incredible that all these activities are tied up in this Bill.

This Bill will become law because the Government numbers will crush any opposition which we may put up or they will thwart any reasonable amendments on our part. If we are to have lotteries in the country, I think we should look at aiming the money at one specific project. On that basis I am very much in favour of the amendment which would have the money available from this gaming operation or from this numbers game to assist in financing the Calgary Winter Olympics. It would be worthwhile to do that with money, if it is to be raised in this fashion. Given the fact that the Government is intent upon having this crazy scheme in place, it would make much more sense for people to have an idea of where the money would go and how it would be spent.

I see the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Finance (Mr. Fisher) is present this evening. He made some comments earlier about the deficit. No one likes to see deficits. I would be much more enthusiastic about debating a Bill—and I expect the Parliamentary Secretary would agree with me—to encourage Canadians to be more productive. There are two ways of getting out of a deficit. One is by holding down expenses, and the other is by increasing productivity. Too often the Government has done nothing in terms of increasing