

that it is not appropriate for the state to provide facilities for gambling to the public. The committee includes, in the prohibition of state lotteries in Canada, those which might be operated by provincial and municipal Governments as well as the federal Government.

We see that the joint committee that was studying this particular activity as well as others, came to the conclusion that this was no place for the federal Government to move in and establish a national gambling facility in order to try to finance operations.

This particular amendment with which we are dealing now concerns the activities in the following fields: the arts and culture, fitness and amateur sport, medical health and research, the Winter Olympic games to be held in Calgary, and worthy capital projects of national interest in fields described in other paragraphs.

As we look at this particular matter, the Government is arguing against itself when it says that the Olympics will not take place unless this is set up. However, it has listed the Olympics as number four in its priority projects that could expect funding from this particular facility.

**Mr. Blaine A. Thacker (Lethbridge-Foothills):** Mr. Speaker, I rise again this evening with respect to Motion No. 3 which is an attempt to delete a part of this statute that amounts to nothing more than sheer blackmail in the very worst form that could ever be found in the deepest and darkest dens and sin holes of the world. But that is the nature of the Bill.

We have heard the very excellent debate throughout tonight and on earlier days. Interestingly enough, the speeches came only from this Party. Where are the Government backbenchers who privately told us that they do not like the concept of this Bill? They are not speaking because the Cabinet has decreed from on high that this Bill is going through and that those backbenchers should toe the line for they will not get their pay-off or an election will be called and they will lose their seats because the Cabinet has so destroyed the Party and the country. In fact, they would be of great benefit to of all of mankind if they were to bring this Cabinet down and let democracy prevail.

This Bill will never get through because we will stand up again and again. This session will go on for ten more years before this Bill passes.

The points have been made. This Bill makes gambling by the Government legal, yet if I were to go to someone's home to gamble, that would be illegal. The Criminal Code, to which we have all agreed, has said that gaming and betting houses are illegal and not an action which we should encourage in our society. This Bill says in blatant words that if the Government does this, it shall be legal. What kind of an Act is that? As my colleague says, we all know of people who have been charged for running gaming houses. They have gone to jail and paid the penalty, with the entire blight on their career that this has meant. Yet the Government said that it can run these same type of gaming houses and operations legally. That is not how our society works.

#### *Athletic Contests and Events Pools Act*

We have also heard great argument on the method of raising money. We have heard it said that what this Bill proposes is simply and intrinsically bad and immoral, let alone regressive and that it will impact upon the poor in the country far more than on those of us who are wealthy. This Bill is certainly morally debilitating.

We have heard the argument of Crown corporations. Do we really need another Crown corporation in this country with its president, vice-presidents and directors, all of whom will be paid enormous salaries and all of them appointed by that gang across there? The proof of the pudding is in the eating and Canadians have eaten some rather sour pudding, all at enormous cost.

The point is that we know that these Crown corporations never fail. It is a matter of statistics that if 100 private firms are established, at least 40 per cent or 50 per cent of them will fail just because of bad management or under-capitalization. Not one Crown corporation in 15 years has failed, with the result that we now have over 300 Crown corporations. When one looks at their subsidiary corporations and sub-subsidiaries, they become totally unaccountable to us, the people.

When these Crown corporations face difficulties, the taxpayers of the nation simply have to kick in more money, which means that there is less disposable income in the pockets of ordinary, honest hard-working Canadians. They are the Canadians who are getting black lung disease in our coals mines, the farmers who are losing arms and legs in machinery and others who pay the supreme price in order to survive and look after themselves. Yet the Government is taxing it away and other people are deciding how it will be spent.

Motion No. 3 relates to Clause 18. Clause 18(3) states:

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—

The point has to be made that the statute does not set out a set formula for the distribution of these funds. Again, that is wrong because it means that the Cabinet will be able to choose who gets what each year and how much. This simply reflects the system that the Cabinet has tried to implement in a dozen other areas by making people come to the Government to get grants. It says that if people do the right thing and support the Liberal Party, show up in large numbers when the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) and others travel through their towns, they will receive a grant. However, if the other group wants to stand on its own two feet independently, it will not get any Government largesse. That is wrong in principle. Nobody should have that kind of power over any other human being. Yet that is the kind of power that the Liberal Cabinet and Liberal backbenchers permit the Cabinet to have over and over again in our society.

Clause 18(3)(b) states that one of the recipients of the money will be:

—the XV Winter Olympic games to be held at Calgary, Alberta.