

Government, and to the people of Canada. The civilian population are dependent on a variety of organizations, such as hospital committees, church organizations, the Red Cross, and the Daughters of the Empire. Their revenues come from fees received from paying patients, public subscriptions, endowments, and in many cases provincial and municipal grants. Also, the provincial and municipal governments have set up certain classes of hospitals; for instance, sanitariums for tubercular patients, and asylums for the treatment of those suffering from mental diseases. All these institutions are under government supervision, and nearly all receive, to a greater or less degree, municipal or provincial government support.

That being so, I prefer that it should be left in the hands of the constituted authorities to make up any deficiencies that may occur, rather than that the hospitals should be dependent upon chance, as I think they would necessarily be under the present proposal, or upon the enactment of further legislation. Of one thing I feel certain: if we adopt a measure of this kind, we shall find that the source of revenue now available will dry up.

Hon. C. P. BEAUBIEN: Honourable members, I should like to clear up certain objections of a practical nature which seem to attach to this Bill. I cannot but congratulate the honourable member from Victoria (Hon. Mr. Barnard) upon the crisp and clear way in which he has presented this measure, and the very sincere effort he undoubtedly has made to restrict its application to provinces which might desire to adopt the sweepstake method of raising money for hospitals. Nevertheless, I question very much whether the honourable gentleman is really presenting a practical proposition to this House. Is it true that if this Bill is passed every province will be free to accept it and make use of it, or to reject it? I am extremely doubtful that it will be possible to prevent the flooding of this whole country with tickets for sweepstakes, should even one province take advantage of the provisions of this Bill. The reason for my doubt is that although the authorities are at present armed with the weapons of the criminal law, and have the assistance of the arsenal at the disposal of the Post Office Department, they do not seem able to prevent the permeation of the whole country by tickets for sweepstakes which are being operated thousands of miles from here.

Now, honourable gentlemen, if a lottery is established in the Province of British Columbia, do you think it will be at all possible

to prevent the tickets of that lottery, which have been legally issued, from being sold in the other provinces? In my humble opinion, based upon the example that we have before us, it will not be possible. If money is required in a province for the purposes that have been mentioned, and a sweepstake is authorized, the only means the other provinces will have of keeping within their own boundaries money that would be likely to go to such an enterprise will be to institute lotteries of their own, and appeal to their people to patronize them. Therefore, in every province of the Dominion sweepstakes will be organized from time to time, and tickets will be sold. What will be the result? Although in theory the liberty of each province is preserved, in practice every province will be constrained to make use of this law in order to protect itself.

But that is not all. If we now create a precedent by granting such extraordinary privileges for the purpose of maintaining hospitals, where are we going to stop? I can name many meritorious objects which are deserving of consideration in this respect. For instance, we have in my own province, in the city of Montreal, a Refuge for Incurables. I know of no more praiseworthy endeavour, no more necessary institution. Should the Province of Quebec decide to make use of this law, could we refuse such institutions as this the right to conduct a lottery in order to raise necessary funds? Think of all the meritorious undertakings of this kind that would be entitled to consideration. We have our insane asylums. They are not hospitals.

Hon. Mr. BOURQUE: Yes, they are.

Hon. Mr. BEAUBIEN: No, they are not. They are refuges. That they are not hospitals is demonstrated by the fact that patients are forced to leave the hospitals when once it is determined that they are incurable. I know that the rule in all hospitals, at all events in Montreal, is that incurable patients must find some other refuge; and that admirable institution, the Sacred Heart, receives these unfortunate people who, having no further hope in this life, seek a haven in which to pass the remainder of their days. Where are we going to stop? One organization after another will knock at the door of this Senate asking for measures similar to this one. If we grant the request now before us we shall be creating a precedent that will tie our hands in the future.

But suppose that we are all converted by the very excellent argument of the honourable member from Victoria, and that sweepstakes