

Hon. Mr. CASGRAIN: My honourable friend, not being an expert, should not talk on this.

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: But what I want to draw attention to is the fact that by voting for this Bill and thus opening the door for these very laudable institutions throughout the country, we are sanctioning pro tanto the principle of the lottery. Of course the hospitals are undoubtedly suffering to-day from lack of funds. I need not go to the Pacific Coast for experience in that respect. I notice it in Montreal. I am not disposed to alter my views in this matter. I shall not be scandalized if there is in this Chamber a majority that differs with me, but we must proceed with our eyes open and see exactly to what principle we are adhering.

Hon. A. B. GILLIS: Honourable gentlemen, I am not going to repeat the remarks I made last year, but I wish to say a few words. The logic of the honourable senator from Winnipeg (Hon. Mr. McMeans) was that we should report this Bill and let it be defeated later.

Hon. Mr. McMEANS: I did not say that.

Hon. Mr. GILLIS: I have not changed my mind on this question since last year. Our action in defeating this measure then has met with the approval of people all over Canada. Wherever I have gone in our Western country I have been much surprised to find that the people, particularly the church people, have very strongly commended the Senate for defeating the Bill.

I quite agree with the honourable senator from Victoria (Hon. Mr. Barnard) that the hospitals are in distress, but their situation is similar to that of many other institutions. We are struggling along. Our hospitals are being fairly well supported, and I think that support will be continued even if this Bill is defeated, because hospitals are institutions in supporting which the people of this country take great pride.

I think this should be pointed out as a very serious matter, that the passage of this Bill would result in nothing more nor less than a system of public gambling which would tend to lower the morality of the people of this country. That being the case, I think this House, following the course it took last year, should vote this Bill down. At any rate, I am going to oppose the second reading of the Bill.

Hon. C. E. TANNER: Honourable members, I should like to say a few words in favour of this Bill. If all we hear said about it is true, I am wondering what kind of

people those Irish people are. I had the pleasure of visiting them a couple of years ago, and I thought they had a lovely country, and that they were good people. I did not think they were depraved gamblers; they did not appear to be; and I came away from Ireland under the impression that theirs is just as good a country as ours, with people just as well behaved as we are, notwithstanding that they carry on these sweepstakes.

Of course I may be bad myself. Perhaps I should make a confession. I began my gambling career many years ago. I am sure my first depravity occurred at a church bazaar, where I threw dice for a picture of Daniel O'Connell. I won the picture, and I have it yet, and am proud of it. I do not feel one bit the worse for having thrown dice. I think I have bought lottery tickets by the hundred—at church bazaars or from religious organizations, if you please—and I never felt any worse, and I never saw that the religious organizations were any worse.

I have been amused at what happens sometimes in Nova Scotia, particularly in Halifax, where we have a few Chinamen. Those poor fellows meet in the evenings, above their laundry shops, to play a game of fan-tan, and the first thing they know, the patrol wagon is down at the door, and the police bundle them in and take them to the lockup. The next day they are brought before the stipendiary magistrate. Yet not more than a hundred yards away are men and women playing poker and forty-five and euchre and several other games for money, but not a word is ever said to them—I suppose, because they are Christians. The poor Chinaman is locked up in jail because he plays a little game of fan-tan.

Hon. Mr. McMEANS: That is gambling.

Hon. Mr. TANNER: Is this thing wrong, or is it right? I go out to this race-course near Ottawa, or to one in Montreal or Toronto, and buy a ticket. I bet on a horse. I may pay \$2, which will buy two tickets. Everybody says that is all right, and the law says it is all right. There is no fine, no moral offence. But if I buy a ticket on a horse in the Irish Sweepstakes, or the races at Epsom, or any race over in England, I am at once a criminal. I am headed for the jail if anybody finds me out. Where is the principle of the thing? Where is the principle in letting religious or any other kind of organizations run lotteries if it is wrong to do so? If the lottery is wicked, if it is immoral, why do we not wipe it out? Why make a law that allows me to buy a ticket on a race at Ottawa