

S. O. 31

It seems to me there are many drawbacks and that very few benefits would ensue as a result of this measure. No one is against virtue, nor will anyone criticize a measure to prohibit gambling because it upholds virtue.

However, this measure is faulty because it does not achieve what it was intended to achieve. In fact, it is a threat to a program that is eminently desirable—allowing the provinces to collect certain sums of money that are then put to appropriate use to meet local needs, as I said earlier.

All things considered, Madam Speaker, Bill C-255 should be rejected, while all the requisite programs for gambling addicts should be made available to those who want to stop gambling.

Madam Speaker, psychology teaches us about the risk concept, which covers a very broad area and has yet to be resolved. However, psychology also teaches us that individual needs must be met in some way or other, and advertising is not a factor that will affect the individual's impulse to gamble. These problems can only be dealt with through support programs and programs that promote individual responsibility.

As is always the case with legislators who are asked to approve measures designed for the good of the public, we are confronted with options that are well-intentioned but also have a negative aspect.

In the case of Bill C-255, we feel the negative aspects loom much larger than the positive impact intended by this bill. That is why the bill will not accomplish its purpose. It will not achieve its objective and, Madam Speaker, in that case, the bill should not be passed.

[English]

Mr. Dave Worthy (Cariboo—Chilcotin): Madam Speaker, in that I do not have much time, I will try to make my points as quickly as I can.

I have several concerns with the bill. The principal one is my deeply rooted and very sincere belief that legislation should only be enacted when it is absolutely necessary. Many people in this country feel that laws are there to try to make people become something they are not. I am strongly convinced that legislation should only be

enacted when it is shown that there is a deep rooted need to have that legislation in place.

The intent of Bill C-55 is to restrict advertising on all provincially—

Madam Deputy Speaker: I am sorry to interrupt the hon. member, but the time provided for the consideration of Private Members' Business has now expired.

Pursuant to Standing Order 96(1), the order is dropped from the Order Paper.

[Translation]

It being 2 o'clock, the House will now proceed to Statements by members pursuant to Standing Order 31.

STATEMENTS PURSUANT TO S. O. 31

[Translation]

VILLE-DE-LAVAL

Mr. Guy Ricard (Laval): This year, Madam Speaker, Laval celebrates the 25th anniversary of its founding. As a matter of fact. It was on August 6th, 1965, that the 14 municipalities of Île Jésus merged to become the city of Laval.

Since then, Ville-de-Laval has grown economically and seen its population increase from 196 000 in 1965 to nearly 300 000 in 1990.

It is thanks to the dedication of its founding father, Me Jean-Noël Lavoie, Laval's first mayor, and his successors, Mr. Jacques Tétreault, the current member for Laval-Centre, Messrs Lucien Paiement and Claude Lefebvre, as well as Mr. Gilles Vaillancourt, the current mayor, that Laval could experience such development and growth.

My thanks go to its founding father and its leaders! May this 25th anniversary become a corner stone for prosperity in the years ahead!

Finally, Madam Speaker, my colleagues Jacques Tétreault and Vincent Della Noce, join me in wishing all Laval citizens, men and women, a very happy twenty-fifth anniversary.