

*Criminal Code*

**Mr. Gilbert:** Would the hon. member permit another question? Is he aware of the statement yesterday by the Minister of Justice that it was not the intention of the federal government to conduct a lottery? If so, his argument that the government is proposing this amendment as a panacea to counteract the present monetary crisis has little or no strength.

**Mr. Dinsdale:** I think that one of the main evils, if I may use that word, of this legislation was pointed out by the Leader of the New Democratic party—

**Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton):** There are some formidable members in that party.

**Mr. Dinsdale:**—and it is why I am doubly critical of the legislation. It was effectively pointed out by the Leader of the New Democratic party that the federal government is authorized to introduce a national lottery without reference to parliament, surreptitiously, by bureaucratic means, through an Order in Council. This fact intensifies my opposition to the bill.

**Mr. Eldon M. Woolliams (Calgary North):** Mr. Speaker, I will be brief because much has already been said on lotteries.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Order, please. I think the hon. member for Champlain is anxious to ask a question, provided it is the disposition of the hon. member for Brandon-Souris to accept it. However, I should like to caution hon. members against too long an extension of this practice on every speech.

[*Translation*]

**Mr. René Matte (Champlain):** Mr. Speaker, may I ask the hon. member, since he referred to the seven deadly sins whether or not, in his mind, the government is vindicating the seven deadly sins. He talked about lust yesterday; today, it is avarice.

[*English*]

**Mr. Dinsdale:** I am afraid the government will have to reply to that. I cannot speak for the government.

**Mr. Woolliams:** If I may, I should like to speak on lotteries for about five minutes. I think it is one subject that has not really been understood. In fact, I believe much of this bill has not been understood by the general public. The arguments we have heard this afternoon with regard to lotteries strengthen the argument which was made at the beginning of the debate on this bill that it

[*Mr. Dinsdale.*]

should have been divided so that those hon. members who are in favour of certain portions but not in favour of others could express themselves in accordance with their conscience and the consciences of their constituents. That is the first point.

We have to differentiate between two principles with regard to lotteries. One concerns state control of lotteries operated by clubs and religious groups set up for charitable or religious purposes, which is an entirely different matter from a state controlled lottery. It means that a province may say to such groups through the Attorney General that this type of activity is good because it has a charitable or religious purpose. In regard to state controlled lotteries, I cannot envisage a provincial government needing consent for that because such a lottery would fall within their civil rights jurisdiction.

Here we are dealing with the criminal law and with matters of morals. The lotteries with which the house is concerned were referred to by the minister last night when he endeavoured to answer questions, as well as by my leader and the Leader of the New Democratic party. It was said that in a bill affecting the criminal law the state is given the right to set up a lottery without referring the matter to parliament. In other words, when parliament closes on June 27—and many of us hope it will close then—from that date to September or October when parliament meets again the government, provided this bill goes through, could pass an Order in Council implementing immediately without reference to parliament the right of the federal government to bring in a federal lottery and by that method collect the taxes of the land. In other words, they could almost start a new budget by lotteries.

In my opinion this is exactly the point which was made this afternoon by the Leader of the New Democratic party and which was made yesterday by the leader of our party. I do not know where all the members of my party stand in that regard because we intend to have a free vote on this bill. We believe in freedom so far as this matter is concerned. However, I can speak for some members of my party. Some of us are against any kind of gambling or lotteries, and I think the last speaker might be put into that category.

**Mr. Dinsdale:** That is right.

**Mr. Woolliams:** He agrees with me, so I have not misunderstood or misquoted him. However, some of us are not against state