

have a baby! Mr. Speaker, this has to be the longest gestation period in the history of mankind.

The Government, its spokesmen and all those who supported the Olympics knew that the financing was not going to be available and they had to hoodwink the Miscellaneous Estimates Committee and other Canadians who wanted the Olympics but wanted an accounting. That same hoodwinking is taking place in this House tonight. I say to Hon. Members opposite that they have cried wolf once too often. We simply do not believe them now.

That is still not the end of the story, Mr. Speaker. What has happened since the Montreal Olympics? What about the court cases? What about the lining of pockets? What about the convictions? That is the legacy. How is it that the Government did not tell us about those things?

While this amendment is put forward with the best of intentions—and I respect that—I am a Member who just does not believe that the pool is going to give the people of Calgary and the volunteers the financial commitment that the Government made in the first place.

While I might be a strong critic of the Government in the Province of Manitoba, I acknowledge that it has done one thing well—it has brought to light what the lotteries are costing Manitobans. There is a commission on lotteries and they call it the \$100 million gamble. The Province has just over one million people. The closest thing to the sports pool is the Calcutta we have in Manitoba. That is why I say I do not believe this program will provide the funding. I will use the Calcuttas in Manitoba as an example and the numbers can be extrapolated for Canada.

The Calcuttas or betting pools on sports events were licensed by 77 organizations, according to an article in the *Winnipeg Free Press* on March 27, 1982. Those organizations raised \$209,000 on those 77 licensed events. The expenses were a measly \$6,133. Would you like to know what the profits were from that pool? Keeping in mind that we are looking at a \$100 million business in Manitoba, the profits as listed by the organizers of those 77 events totalled \$26,000. If one starts looking at this numbers racket we are talking about today, and one starts taking a look at the money spent and the profits received, one can only feel the greatest sympathy for the organizers of the Olympics in Calgary. Those people deserve better, Mr. Speaker. They deserve that this Government keep its word.

● (2150)

My colleague from Edmonton, Mr. Speaker, mentioned that this Government had been involved in the earlier sports gaming business and had also supported professional sports. Where is the thanks from the National Hockey League? What thanks have the people of Saskatchewan, specifically the people of Saskatoon, received in the last months from the beneficiaries of this Government largesse? The people of Saskatchewan were willing to put up an arena, they bought tickets, they produced some of the best hockey players in the world. They said, "Give us a chance. Give us a franchise. We

are willing to pay for it at market value." The answer was, "Oh, no". That is the thanks, Mr. Speaker. I do not trust the word of this Government when it talks about the profits which are going to come from the sports pool. Therefore, the bottom line is not the profits, but whether the federal Government should be in the gaming business, and the answer is still no.

Mr. Fred King (Okanagan-Similkameen): Mr. Speaker, I am somewhat reluctant to enter into the debate on this—what is it called, anyway? I think of it as a lottery. I know it is called a sports pool. I also know we have tried to cover up the fact that it is a lottery by naming it something else, a "sports pool", trying to infer that there is an element of skill attached to this. In reality, the sports pool is nothing more or less than a chance for the majority of Canadians to contribute and lose their money so that a few can benefit. It is a lottery. It is a gamble. My upbringing tells me that gambling is anti-social. I was brought up to believe that I do not get something for nothing. My convictions were molded by the type of home environment in which I was raised. My parents taught me simply that gambling was wrong, that there were winners at the expense of losers.

Mr. Rossi: That is why you are a loser; you are a Tory.

An Hon. Member: Get into the debate, then.

An Hon. Member: Oh, keep quiet.

Mr. King: Does that gentleman have the floor, Mr. Speaker, or do I?

I was taught that winners won at the expense of those who lost, that happiness for one was at the cost of disappointment for others, that rewards were only worthy which were earned, and that work and effort were the instruments through which one achieved both satisfaction and personal advantages. My friend, the Hon. Member for Bow River (Mr. Taylor), told us about what the Scriptures had to say, the basic moral teachings of the Scriptures, from which we as a society are removing ourselves, pushed ever by a Government which seems to be insensitive to any element of morality.

I have the conviction, Mr. Speaker, that the nation and Canadian society would be better for the observance of the basic philosophy that it is work and productivity which is the basis of wealth and happiness, and that nothing comes along which is of value to either us or society that does not cost us anything. I certainly believe that the Government of Canada should fulfill its obligation to Calgary in sharing the cost of the Olympic facilities. The question is simply how to accomplish this. I support the opposition voiced by this side of the House against financing this national obligation through the implementation of a form of national lottery.

Many arguments, substantive in nature, have been raised, and which should, in ordinary circumstances, carry enough weight to reverse the actions proposed by this Government. One of the arguments frequently raised is that this, indeed, becomes a form of tax upon the poor because it is the poor who are the most attracted to the purchase of lottery tickets and