Athletic Contests and Events Pools Act

particular project but sets into place until such time as it is revoked, which I suggest to you, Mr. Speaker, will be after the next election, the enormous cost of setting up an elaborate gaming operation on behalf of the federal Government.

This will be available for a variety of purposes in terms of paying off many friends of the Liberal Government. Examples have been given. This will be done without response on the part of Government Members and its supporters. The Hon. Member for Ottawa Centre (Mr. Evans) sits mute. They will have to answer to the people of Canada later on in terms of their moral, legal and ethical positions in supporting this piece of legislation without the amendment suggested by my colleague. I think it is a sorry day for Canada that we have to end this part of the session with this sorry Government, pitiful as it is, relying upon a sports pool in order to raise tax money to support medical research, the improvement of our athletic position and the Calgary Winter Olympics.

• (1700)

Mr. Smith: Mr. Speaker, I had not anticipated that there would be extensive debate on this particular amendment. In the event Hon. Members opposite are opposed to this amendment, I advise the House that I would be prepared to seek its consent to withdraw motion No. 5. Since it was originally put on the Order Paper, it has been concluded that it is really not necessary. It is fine if it goes through, but I do not think it is necessary to engage in lengthy debate on it.

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Smith: I am just trying to accommodate Hon. Members opposite. If they are opposed to it, rather than force them to go through a debate on it, I would be prepared to seek the consent of the House to withdraw it.

Mr. Mayer: Tell us why.

Mr. Smith: Because it is not necessary.

Mr. Joe Reid (St. Catharines): Mr. Speaker, before the debate continues too far and before any strong positions are taken by the Government side, I would like to indicate, in the absence of the Minister of State for International Trade (Mr. Regan), that originally that particular section of the Act required the Crown corporation to provide to the Minister responsible for the approval of the Governor in Council a corporate plan for its two following years. The executive directors charged with the responsibility of preparing, organizing and developing programs for both fitness and amateur sport raised a question of concern. They indicated that the original two-year period was far too short, too short a period for good term planning or even long-term planning. They wanted an extension so as to provide better long-range planning, particularly in instances of major sports events.

It was argued in committee that it was an acceptable practice for the Minister of Finance (Mr. Lalonde) and for the Government of Canada, in the presentation of budgets, to file financial forecasts of five years. This was generally accepted

by Departments in making submissions to their respective Ministers. Government Departments and Crown corporations should, if they are to do their job properly, plan ahead for at least a period of five years.

Accordingly, in committee the Opposition recommended that the time period be changed and that this Crown corporation be required to submit a fiscal corporate plan for a period of five years. This was not acceptable to the Minister. A compromise arrangement was reached, and hence Motion No. 5 is before the House.

We support this motion which sets out a requirement that the fiscal corporate plan should be submitted to the Minister responsible for a period of its three following years. We in the Opposition are prepared to support that position.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Is the House ready for the question?

Some Hon. Members: Question.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: All those in favour of the motion will please say yea.

Some Hon. Members: Yea.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: All those opposed will please say nay.

Some Hon. Members: Nay.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: In my opinion the yeas have it.

Some Hon. Members: On division.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: I declare the motion carried on division.

Motion No. 5 agreed to.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The House will now proceed to the taking of the deferred divisions on the Bill. Call in the Members.

The House divided on motion No. 2 (Mr. Reid (St. Catharines)) which was negatived on the following division:

(Division No. 365)

YEAS

Messrs

Dick Domm Filis Elzinga Epp Fretz Fulton (Brandon-Souris)

Althouse

Anguish

Benjamin

Blenkarn

Beatty

Blaikie

Bosley Cardiff

Clark

Coates

Cooper

Corbett

Deans

de Jong

Cossitt (Mrs.)

Cook

Andre

Friesen Gamble Gilchrist Greenaway Gurbin Gustafson Hamilton (Qu'Appelle-Moose Mountain) Hargrave Hawkes

Heap Hnatyshyn Hovdebo Howie Huntington Jelinek Keeper Kempling King Knowles Kristiansen Lawrence Lewis Malone Manly Mayer Mazankowski McCain