

to ignore the fact that seven of every ten of our sister states have similar provisions in their constitutions.

Mr. Chairman, those who disregard history are condemned to relive it. We are determined that our children will not have to relive the scandals and buying of legislatures, the hoodlums and criminal organization control that characterized the history of Maryland's lotteries and the lotteries of other states.

THE CHAIRMAN: You have one half minute, Delegate Chabot.

DELEGATE CHABOT: We are not voting on an academic philosophical question. The question clearly is of constitutional importance. If you want to have lotteries, you vote for the minority, if you want to continue the prohibition on lotteries, vote yes to sustain the Committee.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Dukes.

DELEGATE DUKES: Mr. Chairman, I yield seven minutes to Delegate Koger.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Koger.

DELEGATE KOGER: Mr. Chairman, ladies and gentlemen, I support the minority report recommending constitutional silence on lottery because, one, it means a deterrent to crime; two, it may be a source of income; and, three, it is a prohibition that does not belong in the state constitution.

The gambling instinct is universal and cannot be stamped out. Most of us play poker, pinochle, bingo or something. It may be far better to have governmental lotteries, honestly run, than to leave them in the hands of racketeers.

Yes, nearly everyone does a little gambling. *The Sunday Sun*, November 12, headlined this story:

"Laurel, Maryland. Maryland's political leaders acted like timid and unsuccessful gamblers yesterday at the Washington, D. C., International Race Course. Most of them bet on Damascus to win. The favorite came in second. Among those present were Mayor-elect D'Alessandro, Senators Tydings and Brewster, Judge Finan, and Attorney General Burch. Some bettors were taking little chance. One man was asked by a friend what horse he had bet on and he replied, 'You name the horse, we probably have.'"

Now this is gambling, but it is out in the open. The poor man, the laborer who

only wants to bet 50 cents or a dollar on something does not have time to take off from his work and go to the races. He does not have a car, or if he has a car, he does not have the money to park his car. He cannot bet \$2 on every race. Yet, if he bets 50 cents on tickets, this man's government would make him an outlaw, brand him a criminal, and characterize what he does as dark and evil.

However, if he gives urge to his gambling instincts, the same as Senators Tydings and Brewster, Judge Finan, Attorney General Burch and Mayor-elect D'Alessandro, his government condemns him and becomes an unwitting partner in fostering vice, corruption and crime. This lottery that collects \$72 million a year for underworld barons also corrupts and enmeshes our police and office holders. Crime begets other crimes in terms of drug addiction, murder, theft, fraud and prostitution.

Is illegal gambling the only danger in lottery and numbers? No. Today, this money is being felt in government, not in just lowly ward heelers, but in well-organized, well-educated, well-oiled political machines. Fellow delegates, they represent you today. They are already electing themselves and others of their ilk to high places. It is a nationwide pattern. The lotteries are an untapped source of wealth, creating an uncontrolled, unchecked web of crooked Midases.

There are other dangers. Racketeers are infiltrating legitimate businesses. At least, President Johnson thinks so. He regards it as an emergency. On June 29, 1967, he asked for the recruitment of business and community leaders for a war on crime. He felt it must be brought to life by the constructive support of an informed and participating public.

The economic cost of crime is \$25 billion a year. People everywhere are concerned with the racketeer who is putting big money in big business and making it look legitimate.

Did we not learn a lesson from prohibition? Let us leave out of our constitution this stumbling block so that our children may not have to fall over it or even have to go around it.

Here in Maryland, our cooks, barbers and factory workers are playing \$200,000 a day on lottery, just like the race track gamblers — trying to get something for nothing. This is \$72,000,000 a year that we do not tax. Instead it goes to increase our tax burdens in terms of crooked police, vice