

STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

March 17, 1965

The meeting was called to order and Rep. Unruh was introduced to discuss HCR 515. He stated that he believed to establish pari-mutuel betting would improve the economy of the state; that it would produce needed revenue, bring a new industry and attract tourists; that this would simply give the people a choice of voting whether or not they wanted it. *John*

Mr. George Bryan, Public Relations Man from Littleton, Colorado, discussed horse racing, and the benefits involved in this sport. He states that they requested the help of J. Edgar Hoover in setting up the organization; that everyone from the groom, up was fingerprinted and that if they refused they were not permitted to work around the industry; that if they were found to have a record they were not permitted either. He read a letter from the Denver Chamber of Commerce which stated that it had been a definite economic boost to the state; that the payroll was significant and that the people who came to race their animals spent their money for themselves and their animals and that tourists were attracted to the sport and spent money in the Denver area in other ways; that the state realized \$2,700,000 from the industry last year.

Mr. Pat McMahon of Abilene, stated that he is active in the Greyhound Industry; that there are 15 large breeding farms around Abilene, which provides considerable in payroll as well as dogfood purchases; that all they lack is the right to race the animals; that now they must take them out of state; that it is not a hoodlum type enterprise but good clean sport where the bets are among themselves and it isn't gambling as such.

Mr. Hugh Dennis of Eureka, president of the Kansas Fair Ass'n., appeared on behalf of Harness Racing; stating that this is a growing industry; that the industry is carefully scrutinized as are the employees in every category. He states that he takes his horses to Ohio to race because there are no closer facilities; He states that experts handle the financial end of the wagering and that it is all electrically computed so there should be no gangster stigma.

Rep. Davis appeared and pointed out that this resolution simply places the issue before the people and urged adoption.

Mr. Unruh discussed a proposal concerning amonia tanks; that Mr. Freeland would like to get out from under inspection requirement as he has no money for that; that Ways and Means refused to appropriate money for this purpose. Mr. Fibley moved that it be submitted to the Committee of the Whole. It was seconded by Mr. Ford and carried unanimously.

* exhibits
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The Chairman stated that he had two proposed bills as requested by the Kansas Peace Officers, dealing with a training center; one to establish it and the other to finance it. Mr. Doyen moved that the bills be not introduced, explaining that the officers didn't seem to be together on what they really wanted and that he thought more time should be given to it instead of a last minute proposal. Mr. Buchele seconded the motion which carried 9 to 3.

Mr. Rogers stated that he had a bill concerning the public employees retirement, made necessary by an actuarial requirement; that he would have it ready by tomorrow, and asked if it could be introduced and re-referred. Motion to do so was made by Mr. Griffith, seconded by Mr. Fribley and carried unanimously.

The Chairman stated that Mr. Clark was going to move on the floor that notwithstanding Committee action, that HB 718 be considered. He stated that if we are to stand by the Committee system, it would be poor business to vote for such a thing.

Meeting was adjourned.