

thing known as gambling, when just a couple of nights ago I was over here at the Governor's Mansion to an award ceremony put on by the vocational schools of this state, vocational educators across the state, and one of the awards that they got for public service was given to Ak-Sar-Ben, was given to Ak-Sar-Ben for the monies that they have, over the years, donated to scholarships for individuals to go on to institutions of higher learning, donated for programs to help develop vocational training across this state. And there were a lot of kind words given by these educators to the Knights of Ak-Sar-Ben for all these monies that they've donated to help in these various programs. Not one word was mentioned as to where that money came from. It was like it was manna from heaven. It just grew up and there it was. It seems to me that if we are going to be anywhere near consistent, and if Senator Hoagland would be anywhere near consistent, then I think Senator Higgins is right. If it is such a wonderful thing that the Knights of Ak-Sar-Ben donate monies to all of these various worthwhile causes, that comes from horse racing which is gambling, and agricultural enterprise. We've had bills before the Agriculture Committee to help an agricultural industry, the thoroughbred horse industry. And I've got some thoroughbred horse breeders in my district, they are agricultural business people. We like them. We want them to be there. We want them to encourage to raise more horses. They are not raising those thoroughbred horses just because they are pretty animals and people like to drive out and look at them. They are raising those horses to run on a track, so that people can bet which one of those animals is going to come in first, second or third. Now if that is fine and we condone it, we not only condone it we encourage it, if we encourage gambling at the tracks then to stand up here and say gambling is so terrible, we ought not start down this road, we ought not get any funds from gambling that quite frankly people are going to do anyhow, if they don't do it here they're going to do it somewhere else, if they don't do it legal they're going to do it illegal, we're not going to get any funds from that because it is wrong, then somebody ought to stand up and say we're going to eliminate Ak-Sar-Ben, we're going to eliminate all horse racing and we're going to kill all those thoroughbred breeders out across the state. I'm not willing to do that. I'm... (microphone cut out)...44 either. Thank you, Mr. President.