

opportunity of winning. It's better than a lottery. It's better than horse racing because you start with a fifty-fifty chance to win. There is no other type of wagering where you have odds that good to favor you as the bettor. Every foolish kind of gambling is legal. Lotteries, where everything is left to chance and the majority must lose in order for a few to win is legal. Horse racing, where the odds against you are prohibitive, there are several horses in each race. That's really a lottery. There is no way to improve your chances of winning. When you bet on a sporting event you go to somebody who in some circles is known as a librarian. Others call the person a bookmaker. Some might call him or her a publishing house, but what this person really does is take two teams who might be unequal in terms of ability. They have to calculate what the difference in those two teams' ability will be to score points and then the weaker team is assigned a certain number of points which will be added to its score. That's called the spread. If you take the strong team and give the weaker team those points and those points are added to the weaker team's score and it's still less than the score scored by the strong team, the one who bet on the strong team wins. Now the World-Herald has editorialized against legalized betting on sporting events but they religiously, every day of the football and basketball season, print what is called the point spread that I just touched on briefly. They know that people gamble. This information is not presented just for information, it's presented for the use of, by and for gamblers. No baseball game, no football game, no basketball game score will end with a half point. So when they give a spread of 3 1/2 points, 1/2 point, 12 1/2 points, it's only for the purpose of gambling. If this proposition is put before the people, there is the opportunity to establish once and for all that the majority of voters in this state who will go to the polls and vote on this proposition favor legalized sports betting. So I'm asking that you adopt this amendment and if you have any questions I will be glad to answer them. There is one other point I should make. People look down on bookies, but bookies are probably the most honest business people in the world. They must be if they want to stay alive. If you go to the racetrack, Senator Smith, this parimutuel comes from the term Paris mutuel because that is where it started, all the money is put in a pot. The racetrack rakes its off the top and the state gets its cut off the top. Then they put the rest of it in a pool and then, depending on how many suckers bet on which horses, they divide it among the suckers. So if you bet \$2 and you get \$2.60 back, you had to