

CAN LOTTERIES SOLVE THE NATIONAL DEBT

A Sydney office is Mecca to Australians who, like many others, want to get rich quick. It's a Lottery Office - run by the New South Wales Government. Half a million tickets are sold each week, £90,000 paid in prizes. Over 20 years, lottery income has topped 53 million pounds. 35 million were paid out, 28 million kept by the State. Financial experts believe that profits from a similar, British state-run lottery could pay off the American loan within 15 years. Watched by the public, an official draws lottery number 2,000. First prize - £6,000 - and the lucky number is:

Nat. sound

"First prize, ticket number 20561."

Our Sydney reporter is first to break the news to the lucky winner. She is Mrs. McCullum of Turrumerra. Our cameraman records what happens when she hears she has become rich overnight. Is she excited? She moves so fast no camera can keep her in focus. It's a great day for the McCullums - and Mrs. Mac doesn't mind who knows it.

This is the home "Lottery No. 1" built. Mrs. Morten won £5,000 way back in 1931. To the newspapers then, it was a novel event. But Mrs. Morten has more than a scrapbook to remind her of her big day. She can look back with pride, for this is what she did with her money.

Nat. sound

"I put every penny of it into this home and I tried to do the best I could for the two girls, and thank goodness we've got a home to live in."

Oh, Mr. Matavish, I believe you won a lottery once?

Nat. sound

"Aye."

What did you do with the money?

Nat. sound

"I've still got it!"