

A week ago Alcoholics Anonymous in our city held a testimonial dinner for one of the most distinguished Canadians belonging to that group, Cannon Warner. In his speech of acknowledgement, the Cannon mentioned that he thanked God and vitamin E for being present at this dinner after his coronary of the preceding summer. Is that sort of thing to be forbidden now? Gentlemen, it is not as if vitamin E were a foolish treatment which should be stopped because it supplanted useful therapies. The truth is that there is no other therapy for all the common forms of heart disease.

And finally, although this is a thing that I should scarcely say, it seems obvious that long ago our research in this field should have been encouraged by grants, the foundation of a Research Institute, even by certain routine honours. It is a lasting shame that Canada should not only officially ignore our work, but that after six years I should feel any compulsion to come before this committee to defend the cause of vitamin E. This is Canada's greatest contribution to the field of medicine, not excluding insulin, and we still must see it dragged through the mire. How long is Canada to be the laughing-stock of the world of science?

The CHAIRMAN: Dr. Shute's remarks will of course appear in our record, but are there any questions which the members of the committee would like him to answer at this time?

Hon. Mrs. FALLIS: Mr. Chairman, this is not a question, but I thought I heard Dr. Shute say that vitamin E was a greater killer today than the atom bomb.

Dr. SHUTE: I did not mean to say that. What I meant was that heart disease is actually a greater killer than the atom bomb, which is a potential killer. I certainly did not mean to say that vitamin E was a killer, if I did say that.

Hon. Mr. HAWKINS: I would like to go a little further, Mr. Chairman, and ascertain what organization Dr. Shute represents here. He said at the outset of his remarks that he was appearing in a personal capacity.

Dr. SHUTE: That is right, I am appearing in my personal capacity because I have not been empowered to represent the Vitamin E Society of Canada, any more than I am empowered to represent the Cancer Society or the Arthritis Society; but as the person probably most familiar with vitamin E in this country, I am speaking about all these things, especially as they bear upon the Vitamin E Society of Canada. This is a group of patients who have organized themselves in a co-operative way. The chairman is Mr. Karl Eyre, the Member of Parliament from Timmins, who is sitting in the rear of this room. The Society endeavours to do several things: Conduct meetings for public education, publish pamphlets for public education, and invite physicians to all meetings. It does work in professional education, and it would like to do further research if it ever receives donations. It hopes to provide vitamin E for its members on a reduced basis. It is a small group of patients organized under the chairmanship of Mr. Karl Eyre.

Hon. Mr. EULER: Are there any doctors in your organization?

Dr. SHUTE: Yes. I am its medical adviser.

Hon. Mr. EULER: I mean outside of yourself.

Dr. SHUTE: I actually do not know, to tell you the truth. It has a Medical Advisory Board. My brother, Dr. Wallace Shute, who practices here in Ottawa—many of you might know him—and a Dr. Coatsunth of Toronto are on that Board. I cannot answer that question fully.

Hon. Mr. STAMBAUGH: Have you had difficulty with the Department of Health and Welfare with regard to advertising your claims?