

man. He was examined at Rimouski by the army doctor and the civilian doctor. He suffered from his heart. He was classified A, and seven or eight times they gave him certain treatment. He was at Rimouski for two months for basic training. He could not walk. At Valcartier he started advanced training. He would start to walk but could not finish with the other soldiers. After a month he got a re-board and was reclassified A and sent again to drill, but was on sick parade every night. He was sent to military hospital at Quebec and after four days returned to drill. He was then transferred to the Montmagny regiment the same as before. It was impossible for him to bend his back. He was examined again and passed, having been given X-rays. He has been notified that he will have to work according to his capacity. He did not want to leave the army, but it was impossible for him to drill. He wanted to be appointed as a clerk or on the guard. He was qualified to be a clerk, having had banking experience. He was kept there for a month and a half and afterwards sent back to Valcartier to do some commando work. He was sent finally by the major, who understood his case was painful, to a civilian doctor, who reported that he was not fit, and then he was sent to Doctor Stevenson, with another doctor. He was undressed but not examined. He has been sent to the commandos again. He was returned by the major, who suddenly became polite, and after that was examined again and found unfit.

I have numerous cases of this kind, and when I mention them I do so simply to prevent mistakes; to see that we do not pay money for nothing, and to save these boys the embarrassment of doing something useless when they could be useful somewhere else. The army should be very careful about the examination of these young men. What is the use of keeping them when they cannot do what all soldiers are supposed to do? For instance, here is the case of a young man who now has been classified E, but only after numerous difficulties. There were many doctors' certificates; he was very ill, and recently his mother wrote me to say that if he had remained in the army he would have died. Then how many young fellows are suffering from heart trouble who are told they have nothing wrong at all? There are certain kinds of illnesses that do not show on the outside, like rheumatism and so on. A man may be examined and X-rayed; I am not a doctor, but I accept what I am told and I believe it is impossible to discover in this way whether a patient suffers from rheumatism or certain other diseases, so that the doctors call these

[Mr. Pouliot.]

subjective illnesses. It is very easy to discover whether a man suffers from heart trouble; there are many scientific instruments used by the doctors to discover such cases. But here I have several men who were suffering badly from heart trouble, who were classified A, and whose cases had to be submitted again to the attention of the medical boards in order that the men might be well and carefully examined. We ask no favours; it is not a question of protecting any pets, for I have no pets. The point is that when a man is sick it is unjust and unfair, not only to the man but to the state, to put him in the same class as the man who is totally fit. Some doctors were so stubborn that they said, "Well, the case of this man has been brought up by Jean François Pouliot, so this man is not sick." To his own shame that doctor had to admit later that the man was not well.

Mr. RALSTON: Is my hon. friend speaking of an army doctor?

Mr. POULIOT: Oh, yes, and I will tell the minister who he is.

Mr. RALSTON: I should like to know.

Mr. POULIOT: I will not bother the minister with these files now; but I have no secrets; I will send my files to his office if he wants to have them checked by anyone in his department. These are only a few of the files of boys who were ill and who have been treated badly by the medical staff.

Mr. RALSTON: I should like to have them.

Mr. POULIOT: Surely; I will give the minister all the files.

Mr. RALSTON: I want to ask my hon. friend if he would mind dealing with this matter when we go on to-morrow. I should like to make an observation with regard to the case of the man with the wooden leg. I have sent out to the records office to get the file, and I should like to place the facts on record to-night if my hon. friend would permit me to do so.

Mr. POULIOT: Certainly; and if I may say one further word, I do not wish to create any obstruction. I do not want to be disagreeable to the minister; I just want these cases to be examined carefully, and I shall be satisfied with that.

Mr. RALSTON: The case mentioned was that of—I have the name here, but the hon. member gave it to me in private so that