

Mr. REID: Yes; he was medically examined. His statement is that in his military papers or history is recorded the fact that he has a wooden leg.

Mr. GRAYDON: Did he tell the doctor that?

Mr. REID: Yes. He said, "You will find this information in my military papers. I did not conceal my disability, at all; and so I think I am entitled to treatment." On hearing his story I felt he was entitled to hospital treatment for his leg, particularly if he was taken into the army upon disclosure of the fact that he had a wooden leg. I am asking that every consideration be given to this man's appeal.

Mr. GRAYDON: In view of the widespread interest there will be in such a case, would the hon. member tell me how long this man was in the army before the fact that he had a wooden leg was discovered?

Mr. REID: It was discovered before he went in.

Mr. MACDONALD (Kingston City): Was the treatment necessarily treatment for the leg, and if so, which leg?

Mr. REID: It appears that his left leg had been amputated above the knee, and that it was causing him a great deal of agony and suffering. The wooden part of the leg, or whatever the artificial limb was made of, was causing the stump of his leg a great deal of trouble, and required treatment.

Mr. GRANT: Poor circulation?

Mr. REID: It was very poor circulation, I will tell you. We in British Columbia are also wondering what attitude the authorities will take when this man is discharged from the army. The stand was taken by the hospital board that he had not received his injury in military service. His reply is, "I know I did not; I received it in civilian life, but you took me into the army, knowing I had this disability."

Mr. GRAYDON: Perhaps I did not understand the hon. member's answer. Do I understand that the man was in the army?

Mr. REID: He was in it, yes. The hon. member asked me how long the man had been in the army before it was discovered that he had a wooden leg, and I said it was discovered before he went into the army. That was my answer.

Mr. GRAYDON: I did not make my question clear. How long was he in the army before the authorities finally discharged him on this account?

Mr. REID: He is not discharged yet; he is still there.

Mr. MacNICOL: Worse and worse!

Mr. REID: Yes; he is still there and, so far as I know, he is not yet discharged. Meantime he is demanding treatment for his leg.

Mr. MacNICOL: The wooden one or the other one?

Mr. PERLEY: Which leg?

Mr. REID: That is what I am pleading for to-night.

Mr. PERLEY: The leg, or the stump?

Mr. REID: Well, the stump of the leg. It is clear to anyone that he would not want treatment for the part of the leg which was gone. That would be too silly. He is asking for treatment for the part remaining, because it is causing him a great deal of discomfort. He told me he had to ask for a few days off, on account of the pain that this part of the leg was causing him.

I thought at first he was just joking about it, but he assured me that he was not. I said, "Well, why would they accept you in the forces?" His reply was, "I can do signalling, the same as other men. I want to do everything I can." I would not say the leg is wooden, but it is artificial.

Mr. DOUGLAS (Weyburn): What rank does he hold?

Mr. REID: He is a lance-corporal, with one stripe. He is advancing. Many men with two legs have not done as well.

Mr. DOUGLAS (Weyburn): Sometimes they have wooden heads, but they are of higher rank.

Mr. REID: You would not have to go outside the House of Commons to find that. Mr. Chairman, I am willing to answer any question, so long as they come one at a time, but not a dozen at a time.

Mr. NIXON: How long was he in the army before he made application for treatment?

Mr. REID: It was six months, I believe, before that portion of the limb began to trouble and pain him. It was then that he applied for the treatment he was refused.

There is another matter I would draw to the attention of the minister. Perhaps I should first state the case briefly, but before stating it may I point out that I believe there is in this case a principle at stake. This is the case of a married woman who was first of all working in an aeroplane factory in Vancouver, and whose husband enlisted in the