

**The Chairman:** That is what it says. It will some time, whether it is July or August.

**Senator Fournier:** Will some of your problems be resolved as a result of that?

**Mr. Wilson:** Financial problems?

**Senator Fournier:** Yes.

**Mr. Wilson:** I cannot say, really.

**Senator Fournier:** Well, it will remove some of the burden.

**Mr. Wilson:** Some of the service burden.

**Senator Fournier:** Yes.

**Mr. Wilson:** Don't forget, we are splitting into service and research. As far as paying for the services, it may help, but the provincial government may say, "Okay, we are going to give you a grant and you will have to refund all your medicare receipts."

**Senator Fournier:** You do not know yet?

**Mr. Wilson:** No. We will have to work something out.

**Senator Fergusson:** Mr. Chairman, I certainly found the presentation and the brief most interesting and certainly compliment the Pointe St. Charles Clinic on the project which they have undertaken. I hope that they are going to be able to secure the money one way or the other to carry on, which seems to me to be a very progressive and necessary community service. I think we will be very interested to see if this can be carried on and if this can be extended into other communities.

I would like to know one thing. Can anyone in the community avail himself of this service or is it limited to people whose income is under a certain amount?

**Miss Stewart:** To begin with, senator, we do not limit the service to anyone. It was open to anyone who came. Even the 50 cent fee was only a sign on the wall "The fee of the clinic is 50 cents." There was no investigation of your income. All came and were asked to pay. Those who did not pay in many cases came back later and brought us the money. They felt responsible for it. We in no way chased after people for payment.

**Senator Fournier:** If I wanted to go, would you accept me?

**Miss Stewart:** If you lived in Pointe St. Charles.

**Senator Fournier:** That would be a requirement?

**Miss Stewart:** Yes, we have had, in the past few weeks, to face a few facts and are now restricting it to the families. Because of the increase in demand for the services, we are just not able to cope with one and one-half doctors. We were just not able to cope with seeing more and more new patients. So at the moment, and we hope it is just temporary, we are limiting it to the families we already know. If family members come, we ask if any of their families have already been seen and if we have files we will see them.

**Senator Fergusson:** Apparently your clients have increased greatly since you started.

**Miss Stewart:** We have a great many more.

**Senator Fournier:** Is the 50 cent fee perhaps the reason for the increase?

**Madame St. Aubin:** I think it is because it is our clinic and when you go there you are not a number, you are a human being, whereas if you go to the hospital you feel like a number. This is quite different. I would like to go there even if I had to pay \$10, as I would going elsewhere.

**Senator Fournier:** So you do not think the money is a factor?

**Madame St. Aubin:** It may be for people that cannot pay, but I think the atmosphere of the clinic is much more important and I think that Medicare should be worked like that because that is the kind of medicine that doesn't push down human beings. It lets you go higher. You don't feel like a number, like I said before, you feel like a human being, and that is a very rare thing nowadays. Even when you are hospitalized, you are not Mrs. St. Aubin but you may be a leg or you may be—but this doesn't happen at our clinic.

**Senator Fournier:** You have your name instead of your number on your wrist?

**Madame St. Aubin:** Yes, and our doctors know us.

**Senator Fergusson:** Supposing somebody comes to you and isn't able to bring 50 cents.