

thigh. I recognized this newly-developed condition in the morning and I posted a sign on the medical notice-board saying, "Mr. So and So of Ward 5 has consented to permit any physician in the city who might wish to do so to watch the progress of her case. She developed a phlebitis in the right thigh this morning and she is getting nothing except vitamin E". I was sticking my neck out, but in any case two doctors of the one hundred and fifty or so in the city came to see her in the course of the five days it took to clear up her condition. On the second or third day, I just forget which, I added a postscript to the note I had already posted. It said, "Anybody who wants to see this patient should see her immediately because it is now difficult to recognize that she ever had thrombosis". On the fourth or fifth day I put up a new note saying, "I am sending this patient home today clinically cured". Now, I realize that everybody in this room knows that phlebitis ordinarily cannot be cured like that. We think it is interesting because a clot in a vessel here (indicating the right thigh) must be the same as a clot here (indicating the area of the heart). And, honourable senators, that is what is going to kill so many of us, a clot in the vessel in the area of the heart.

Some three months ago a patient, Mrs. Reinholtz, came to us from Detroit. She had had her left leg amputated. She had had hardening of the arteries and gangrene and she came to us with a patch of black gangrene on her heel. Everyone knows how difficult it is to heal such a condition, and she came to us as a last resort. Amputation had been advised again. We gave her vitamin E and she began to do better. I had a notice posted on the hospital notice-board asking the doctors to come and see her. In the three-month period which she has been with us four doctors, two of whom I had to bring in by the hand, visited her. We took coloured photographs of her progress, and she ultimately lost the gangrene in the heel. I should like to stress the fact that it is difficult to get the profession to look at one's results, especially if they are revolutionary and simple. People will say how can a vitamin that is used for cases of miscarriage and sterility possibly beneficially influence heart disease? I know that on the face of it it is foolish. I know that on the face of it it seems foolish that anybody from a backwoods town such as London, Ontario, could bring forward some important discovery such as this, and I know that 999 times out of a thousand one would be right in thinking so. The fortunate thing is that we sneaked through on that thousandth chance.

Hon. Mr. GERSHAW: Honourable senators, our main concern is to get the best legislation we can. If it is agreeable I should like to ask Dr. Morrell, Director of the Food and Drug Division, to speak at this time, and to explain this amendment.

DR. C. A. MORELL, Director of the Food and Drug Administration: Mr. Chairman, and honourable senators, a great deal of what Dr. Shute has had to say concerns medical practice, and that is not our concern. We have no official interest in it, and this Act is not designed or intended to control or direct medical practice. You can buy vitamin E today over the counter without a prescription—there is no restriction on it.

I think we should go back to the wording of the section under discussion: subsection 1 of section 3, which reads:

No person shall advertise any food, drug, cosmetic or device to the general public as a treatment, preventative or cure for any of the diseases, disorders or abnormal physical states mentioned in Schedule A.

And heart disease is mentioned in Schedule A along with cancer, diabetes and so on.