

disability or other things. I am going to talk about environment." Can you express it in such a way that it lives before us?

Dr. Parlee: I think in a brief tour around our City in some of these areas you could see for yourself the homes that are old. They are run down. These are places in which people are asked to live because they have no place else to go and they cannot afford anything better. There is no place for their children to get out and play except perhaps they run three or four blocks away to a small area that the City has tried to fix up as a park or playground.

The Chairman: But, doctor, poverty is not confined to the south part of Saint John, about which we are talking, or any other place or area. In every city we find poverty here and there where it is least expected. There is no use in taking that as a total example.

Dr. Parlee: This is what we see in making house calls to people. They live in sub-basements. They have no proper plumbing. There is a bathroom maybe down the hall or somewhere upstairs. When you go into the bedroom there is no window in it but there is somebody sick in there.

I say move these people out of this area into a place where there are better surroundings and then they have a chance to try to do something for themselves.

What can a mother do in a home like that? She cannot do anything.

Senator Inman: Dr. Parlee, I was very interested to hear your experience in this field. I would like to ask you: How much service, if any, is provided for the poor who live in this province or even in Saint John?

The reason I ask you this is that this week we heard some people from, I think it was, Point Clair and they have a very active clinic up there for the poor people. Is there such a thing here?

Dr. Parlee: Yes, senator. We think it is probably unique in our province. We have a clinic in Saint John's Hospital that is open five days a week. I think there are 28 clinics in all. They run from the General Practice Clinic early in the morning to all the specialty clinics.

These are for what we call our medically indigent and they receive a card from the Department of Welfare. They are entitled to

attend these clinics at any time. Everything they get is free—all their investigation, their medical services, their doctors and their drugs are free—supplied by the hospital and I think there are roughly about 2,000 people attending these clinics.

Senator Inman: If they require house calls, is there any way that doctors make arrangements for this?

Dr. Parlee: House calls are getting to the point they are almost lost causes.

Senator Inman: In a lot of cases?

Dr. Parlee: Yes. In our field we still have about 30 general practitioners in our area and they do make house calls. It is not a question of "Can you pay or not?" The doctor still goes and with our out-door running 24-hour service and with general practitioners on call 24 hours a day, these people take advantage of bringing patients to this out-door clinic. Besides our clinic this is a 24-hour service.

Senator Quart: Doctor, you represent the Department of General Practice?

Dr. Parlee: Yes.

Senator Quart: Therefore you are a G.P.?

Dr. Parlee: That is correct.

Senator Quart: Now, would the medical profession not be a logical field to start a real protest against this living because you can frighten the public by saying it is not only very bad for the individuals who live in that environment and slum and so on and so forth, but it could start an epidemic.

Senator Fournier: You could even start one.

Senator Quart: If you called a press conference and said that it is a terrible thing, they would be more afraid of you than they would of another group because you have the know-how. That is a challenge for you now.

Dr. Parlee: Thank you.

The Chairman: That one he will not accept.

Senator Hastings: Dr. Parlee, with respect to the environment, you tell us that the change is remarkable. Was it just the change in environment that brought on this change of attitude, or was there something other than that?

Dr. Parlee: Oh, I daresay there are other contributing factors. I was thinking, when