

A until representations were made by his major to the local doctor at Valcartier camp. I want the doctor who is responsible to be fired.

Here is another case, a classic case, from the citadel at Quebec. I do not know that the man concerned is still there. The man had rupture. He was on sick parade. The doctor asked, "What is the matter with you." He said, "I suffer from a rupture." The doctor answered, "Have a good rub." The man who rubbed him was a lumberjack with hands as long as I am indicating to you, and like sandpaper.

Mr. BLACKMORE: Is the hon. member really serious in what he says, that a doctor prescribed a rubbing for a rupture?

Mr. POULIOT: Yes, sir, surely; it was said there. They do not call such men doctors; they call them blacksmiths. That man had to do his drill, though he could hardly walk.

Here is another case, HQ 869-0-1367. It is that of a son of a farmer who asked for postponement but did not get it. He was in camp at Rimouski from March 16, 1942. In August, 1942, he was sick for several weeks and was at room 208, military hospital, Laurier avenue, Quebec. The doctors declared he could not make any cure. On August 17, headquarters at Quebec informed him that the mobilization commission had refused his postponement. On August 24 headquarters informed me that the young man was actually under observation at the Quebec military hospital. On August 26 Lieutenant-Colonel Mercier informed me that he had been classified C for a period of three months and that he will have to be reexamined to establish definitely his medical category. On September 4, Lieutenant-Colonel Mercier informed me that he was still under observation.

Mr. RALSTON: My hon. friend says "informed me." He is really reading a diary?

Mr. POULIOT: Yes. On September 4 he was still under medical examination. On September 9 he was passed in category C-1. A minute examination was made; the man was transferred from Quebec military hospital to the hospital l'Enfant Jesus at Limoilou, and finally to the hospital of Saint Sacrement, Quebec. On January 8 information was given that he had been sent to the hospital for a complete medical examination. On March 4 he was released.

The CHAIRMAN: If the hon. member will allow me, the minister has stated to him that if he will give him this information he

will deal with it. Would it not shorten the debate if the hon. member would do so? I do not say this with any idea of trying to discipline the hon. member for Témiscouata; it is not in my power to do so; but I believe that if he would accept my suggestion the debate would be considerably shortened. I may remark that the reactions of the public to the discussions which have been going on during the past few days are not very favourable to the parliamentary system as it is operating at the present time. The minister has undertaken gladly and voluntarily and diligently to deal with matters which are placed before him. I offer this suggestion to the hon. member as a piece of advice.

Mr. POULIOT: If I am allowed, I will quote only one more memorandum, and afterwards I shall refer to a few matters which will take only five or ten minutes.

This file, which is numbered H.Q. 869-L-1251 (DM), relates to a man, classified A, who went to the camp at Rimouski on March 17, 1942. He had already suffered from pleurisy and abscess of the throat, and had lost seven pounds the first month he was in the camp; he was coughing to such an extent that he could hardly speak. Once his temperature rose to 102.3. He was excused from the obligation to drill, but he had to wash the floors of the camp for three hours. On April 1 two medical certificates were sent to Lieutenant-Colonel Mercier from the doctors stating what was wrong with the man. He suffered from arterial hypertension and also from pleurisy. On April 28 another letter was sent to Colonel Mercier, and on the 9th of May a reply came from Doctor Mercier stating that his pulmonary radiography was negative. There were, from a clinical point of view, it was stated, indications of acute sub-ague. And so on. On April 15 I received this letter from his mother:

Our son, whom we had succeeded in getting out of the army where he had been classed as A, has always been very ill since. He suffers with his back, which is sore, and they could not find the cause of it. Fifteen days ago he was operated on for appendicitis. The operation succeeded but as he still had a sore back the doctor took a radiography and found he had some vertebrae that were sore. We sent him immediately to Doctor Samson, a specialist at Cartierville. This doctor found an abscess on the spine and he will be operated on next week.

Here is a man who would have died if he had been kept there, and yet he was classified as A. There is something wrong somewhere. I do not deny the qualifications of the doctors whom the minister has mentioned. They may be the ablest men, but there are others who are not so competent. If you go to the Cha-