

Dr. SHUTE: Well, the person soon may not need as much insulin as he had before and we warn these people about this fact. We warn them that they should carry candy or something similar in their pockets. That is a potential danger.

Hon. Mr. GRANT: For the use of vitamin E?

Dr. SHUTE: Yes. In a case of a person who had had a goitre operation, in a small proportion of such patients vitamin E may cause some reaction through its thyrotropic function. It may set up activity in that old quiescent thyroid. There are certain small dangers like that which we warn people about. You see, these are such dangers as people face when taking sulphadiazine drugs. They can buy sulphadiazine drugs, and I think they can buy penicillin, and a certain proportion of people are sensitive to these drugs. For instance, some people are sensitive to aspirin.

Hon. Mr. MCGUIRE: When you made this discovery did you offer the knowledge of the use of it to the medical profession? Did you offer it freely?

Dr. SHUTE: Yes, first to the Canadian Medical Association *Journal* where it was rejected. We have written everything we know about it. In order to make sure that we ourselves could never profit by this discovery we formed under Ontario Letters Patent the Shute Foundation, which employs us without contract. I can be dismissed tomorrow without recourse. I am not a member of the Foundation nor is my brother. We are paid employees, just as are our secretaries. We cannot profit by anything. We have no financial interest in vitamin E ourselves, nor does the Shute Foundation. The Shute Foundation does not derive one cent from anybody connected with vitamin E. In fact, by way of lost practice it costs me several thousand dollars a year to work for the Foundation.

Hon. Mr. MCGUIRE: Can you give me any idea of the cause of the prejudices existing amongst physicians in respect to this vitamin E?

Dr. SHUTE: You are asking one of the most awful dreadful questions you could ask, and I am frank to give some of the answers but not them all. I think that many men spoke too soon, and speaking too soon they can never retract what they have said. If a great man or group of men makes a pontifical statement it can hardly retract such a statement without losing face.

Hon. Mr. HAIG: Hear, hear. We all know that.

Hon. Mr. EULER: Even politicians.

Some Hon. SENATORS: Oh, oh.

Dr. SHUTE: I can tell you a little story. A very prominent physician of New York City came to visit us a couple of years ago. He saw slides of our treatment with the use of vitamin E and so on, and then walked out to the steps of the Institution and said to me, "Dr. Shute, you have done a remarkable thing." I said, "What have I done, doctor?" He replied, "You are the only person who has ever defied the medical associations and lived." Well, honourable senators, we have not defied them. We have just kept on trying to show our evidence. I have tried to indicate here today how difficult it has been for us to do so. I have enumerated some of these difficulties. We have always found it difficult to secure platforms and to get physicians to look at our cases. I can cite you two cases in point but I do not like to take up your time.

Some Hon. SENATORS: Go ahead.

Hon. Mr. EULER: It is most interesting.

Dr. SHUTE: Twice I have had patients at Victoria Hospital in London who have had extraordinary conditions. I had operated on a woman for cancer and on the day she was going home she developed thrombosis in the