

*Unemployment Relief*

suffered from an acute attack of appendicitis, but who was refused admittance to a hospital because he had no money.

Mr. CASTLEDEN: Will the hon. gentleman permit a question?

Mr. DONNELLY: You said it; it is in *Hansard*. You said it was reported. Where was it reported from? What was the district? Who was the man? From whom did you hear it, and where?

Mr. CASTLEDEN: Read what I said.

Mr. DONNELLY: You insulted the whole medical profession and all the hospitals throughout our country when you said they would not look after a man because he did not have the money with which to pay. I have never heard of a hospital in the whole Dominion of Canada that would refuse to take in a man suffering from an acute attack of appendicitis, and I defy anyone to tell me of any such instance. I never knew of a medical man who would refuse to attend a person suffering from an acute attack of appendicitis. We have heard several attacks made on the medical profession, but if I say so myself there is no profession in the world that does as much charitable work as the medical profession. I practised medicine for a number of years, and in all that time I never refused to attend a case when I possibly could attend, whether or not they had the money. That, I believe, is true of practically all medical men throughout the country.

To hon. members in the far corner who talk about the medical attention given to people on relief, I want to say that while we have had no crops in our district for ten years, our people are better attended medically than ever before. I can give a practical illustration of that. Prior to 1929 practically ninety-five per cent of our women were confined at home and were lucky to have a doctor at all; or, if they had a doctor, not one per cent of them would have a trained nurse assisting. What do we find to-day? Now ninety-five per cent of our women are confined in hospitals, with all the attention that is given in those institutions. Let hon. members investigate and they will find out for themselves; this is no hearsay. I could tell the committee where these people are, who the medical men are, and all about the matter. From 1929 to the present time our people have been better attended and better looked after, from the medical point of view, than ever before.

Mr. NICHOLSON: In the Wood Mountain constituency?

[Mr. Donnelly.]

Mr. DONNELLY: Yes, right in my home town, in Kincaid, Saskatchewan. There they have a municipal doctor, and they are looked after in that way at the present time. Then I hear people say, "Oh, it is terrible the way the children are suffering without proper food." A couple of years ago the dominion government sent fish, cheese and other articles to our people, and they had to send instructions to a great many of them on how to prepare this food. They did not know how to cook it or how to look after it. They saw more varieties of food than they had ever seen before.

Mr. MARSHALL: Will the hon. member permit a question?

Mr. DONNELLY: You made your speech. There has been so much talking from over there that we are all deaf. Sit down.

Mr. JOHNSTON (Bow River): The accounts were all guaranteed by the municipality and the province, so the doctor did not lose very much.

Mr. DONNELLY: I want to tell my hon. friends that as a rule we find more of these underfed and undernourished children in the families that are better off, the richer families. A great many children are underfed and undernourished, not for lack of food but because of the kind of food they get and the way in which they are fed. That is well understood in the medical profession, and it is just as true to-day as it ever was. Frequently it is lack of the right kind of food, not lack of food itself, that causes many of these conditions.

Not long ago I listened to the hon. member for Témiscouata (Mr. Pouliot) when he spoke of the amount of relief that had been handed out to Saskatchewan. I just want to say to him that Saskatchewan is not the only province which receives assistance in looking after unemployment. It is true that we have had farm assistance out there. We have had to have it because of the great disaster that has overrun our province for ten years. I doubt if any other district or country in the world could have looked after its people as well as our people have been looked after during that time. We were ten years without a crop. It is a wonder they are not worse off than they are to-day.

Mr. HANSON (York-Sunbury): That includes from 1930 to 1935, I hope?

Mr. DONNELLY: Yes, I said from 1929 to 1939. As far as that is concerned, the people were well looked after under both Conservative and Liberal governments. None