

AFTERNOON SESSION

— On resuming.

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13. JOHN WELSEY VANCLIEAF, sworn.

COMMISSIONER CALLAHAN: Q. Where do you live?

A. Baysville. Now, gentlemen, I have no learning and never swallowed a dictionary and if I get kind of mixed up you must excuse me.

BY MR. MURPHY: Q. Where do you live, Mr. VanCleaf?

A. At Baysville, up at the end of the Lake of Bays.

Q. Near Bigwin Inn? A. This way from Bigwin Inn.

Q. And you were suffering from cancer?

A. That is what they called it.

Q. Who called it? A. Dr. Bastedo, and Dr. Jeffrey in Baysville.

Q. And when was that? A. That is over four years ago, I guess.

Q. And what took place at that time? What did you do?

A. Well, I will just tell you. I couldn't do very little of anything. My health started to fail me about eight or nine years before it took me right down, and I turned as yellow as a Chinese, and I used to weigh 160 pounds and I went down to 132 pounds, and could just navigate around and that was all, but this Dr. Jeffrey, he doctored me all one summer at Baysville and he gave me four different examinations. Finally he says "Johnny, you have got cancer", or not cancer, "a growth some place", but he says "I cannot locate it."



So finally he thought it was my heart. He started  
doctoring me for my heart. Well, he seen that wasn't it.  
Then along about Christmas I was taken right down bad.  
I got awful belly aches, as I call them, so that I  
could not stand it and I took to bed for it. So we got  
Jeffrey up again and he gave me an examination. He could  
find where the growth was then because it was giving me  
such pain he knew where to look for it. So he said  
that he couldn't do nothing for me, only give me a little  
tablet and he put something in my arm to relieve the  
pain. So he said he would call next morning. That  
evening he goes to Toronto to spend his Christmas, never  
came near me again, left me there a dieing man, you  
might say, and next morning I sent for Bastedo to come  
in. Well, he came in, and, and of course, he examined me  
and he seen what was the matter. Well, he said " the  
only thing is X-ray. " He says " we can see if you can  
get an operation". So I said " alright". He says " you  
are not able to go out for it now." He says " You will  
have to wait a day or two and see if you can get  
recruited up". I had a terrible fever. My fever was  
100 and some odd so I said " alright." So in a few  
days I got to Bracebridge and got an X-ray taken. I had  
an awful time to get it though, I was so closed off.  
They could not get the stuff up, you see, and so we got  
a good plate, anyhow, and Bastedo, he read it, and I  
was in the hospital then, and he came to my cot, and  
there was my wife and my brother's wife there, and  
he says " well, old man there is no use thinking of an



operation for you". He says "it is useless to send you down to Toronto, take you down and have you cut all to pieces because you would never stand the operation, a man of your age."

Q. What was the trouble? A. In my rectum.  
He says "you go home", and he says "I will do what I can" but he says "remember I cannot cure you". Those are the very words that man said. So I went home. Well, I was getting worse and worse all the time, couldn't eat anything, you see. I couldn't get any passage. I was just dieing by threads. So I heard of Miss Caisse, and we got her hunted up, and I met her in Bracebridge, and she started giving me treatments.

COMMISSIONER YOUNG: Q. When was this?

A. It is something over four years ago.

THE CHAIRMAN: The diagnosis, Dr. Bastedo's diagnosis was February 22nd, 1935 according to the evidence before.

A. Yes, I could not say just when it was, but I think it will be five years this Christmas.

Q. How long was it after Dr. Bastedo was attending you that you went to Miss Caisse? A. Right away I got with Miss Caisse - well, within a week. Anyway, she went on with her treatments, and, gentlemen, in three treatments that thing started going right down.

COMMISSIONER YOUNG: Q. What was the nature of these treatments? What did she do? A. She gave me a serum in the leg.

Q. An injection? A. Yes.

Q. You mean with a hypodermic needle or did she give you an injection? A. Well, both.



Q. Both? A. Yes, So after I had taken treatments for two months I went to Bastedo again to have an examination. So he gave me an examination and he says "well, it is wonderful. I never thought that could ever be taken down". He says "it is wonderful what that girl has done". "Well", I said, "there I am". So he said you go and get another plate taken. So I went and got another plate taken, and it showed some on the plate but very little. Of course, the thing broke, you know. Bastedo said when he examined me it was just like putting his finger against a mountain. He says "it is just like putting my finger up against a mountain."

COMMISSIONER CALLAHAN: Q. It broke, did it, and discharged? A. Yes.

Q. Pus and everything came from it? \* A. Yes.

COMMISSIONER YOUNG: Q. Quite a lot? A. Yes.

Q. All at once? A. All at once.

BY MR. MURPHY: Q. Was that after Miss Caisse's treatment? A. Yes.

Q. How many treatments had you had when that happened? A. Oh, I had about four treatments, I think, about a month.

Q. What is your condition now? A. I am fine.

Q. You are fine? A. Yes.

Q. No trouble at all? A. No trouble there, no.

Q. You are cured, then? A. Well, I calculate I

am. I would not like to swear to it, but I can tell you, gentlemen, the only trouble that I have, and symptoms



at all is when I take physic. When I take physic  
I will have pains, little sharp pains. Now, there is  
 something strange about that. I believe this gentleman  
examined me in Bracebridge.

COMMISSIONER CALLAHAN: Did I?

THE CHAIRMAN: Page 28 of the evidence, and Dr.  
Bastedo's letter is page six of the exhibits.

COMMISSIONER YOUNG: What does Dr. Bastedo say?

THE CHAIRMAN: Q. Dr. Bastedo gave you a letter to  
 Miss Caisse, didn't he? A. Yes.

Q. That was dated February 22n, 1935.

"Dear Miss Caisse:

Mr. J. W. VanCliffe has asked me to write you  
 giving you the diagnosis in his case. He has what  
appears to be carcinoma of the mouth gland, extending  
into the rectum. He is quite anaemic ( seeming) and  
has refused operation."

COMMISSIONER VALIN: Carcinoma of which?

THE CHAIRMAN: This is "mouth gland".

MR. MURPHY. Extending into the rectum.

COMMISSIONER DEADMAN: Q. Did you ever have any  
difficulty with your bladder? A. Yes.

Q. That is all gone? A. That is all gone.

My worst pains were in my privates.

COMMISSIONER VALIN: Q. When you ddid get relief did you  
 get relief all of a sudden? A. No.

COMMISSIONER CALLAHAN: Q. After this thing broke  
then it gave you relief? A. Yes, I Had relief.

THE CHAIRMAN: Q. Is Dr. Bastedo still there?



A. Yes, he is at Bracebridge. I wish he was here today. <sup>Bastedo</sup>  
 That is just what I wish. Now, he told my wife and he  
told my son both that it was real cancer, that I had  
one of the worst kind, stone cancer he called it.

MR. MURPHY: Now, page 216 of exhibit 46 - first of  
all we have page 213 to show how the Medical Council  
have influenced some of these outside men to make  
statements -

THE CHAIRMAN: Is that page 46?

MR. MURPHY: Page 213 in exhibit 46, my lord.

Re Mr. J. W. Vanclieaf.

Dr. A. F. Bastedo  
 Bracebridge.

Dear Miss Caisse:

Mr. J. W. Vanclieaf"-- this is put in by Dr.  
 Noble -- " has asked me to write you giving you the diag-  
 nosis in his case. He has what appears to be a car-  
 cinoma of the prostate gland, extending into the  
 rectum. He is quite anaemic ( secondary ) and has  
 refused operation.

Yours sincerely,

A. F. Bastedo"

Now, we just heard what the patient said about stone  
 cancer. Then, on page 216, here was a circular ques-  
 tionnaire sent out.

" 1. What were the clinical and pathological findings  
 in this case? Clinical. Pain in rectum" and so  
 forth and so on.

" 3 In your opinion, was the patient benefitted by  
 Miss Caisse's treatment? This patient was brought



\* to hospital here and given colonic irrigation and showed improvement at once. At his request he was turned over to Miss Caisse, he having refused to let us take a section of the mass for examination. He has continually improved since that time and is now back to work.

P. S. I have never made a diagnosis of cancer in this man.

A. He never wrote it but he said it by word of mouth and I can get two or three-

Q. Don't argue with me. He wrote it in another letter. Then we refer to page 217. We read Dr. Jeffrey's letter and see how these individuals have connived. January 15th, 1938, re Miss R. Caisse. This is to Dr. Noble, page 217, down at the bottom of the page, line 30.

\* Unfortunately I am mixed up in a case which is one of her cures (?) and exhibit A or B whenever she gets in the limelight. This is Mr. John Vanclieaft of Baysville. I never kept a record of his case, and my recollection is a bit hazy on some points. Also this particular family is the kind that a physician would rather have nothing to do with, being very critical, and loud mouthed about anything a doctor ever tries to do. However here are the facts as I can best give them to you.

I saw Mr. John Vanclieaft one day in December about 1933 or 1934. He was suffering from intestinal obstruction, probably lower large bowel. I could feel nothing on rectal examination. I suggested the



" possibility of malignancy, and advised X-ray barium enema. This was refused.

Some ten days later, after a short vacation, I returned to find that he had had another attack and had seen Dr. Bastedo in Bracebridge. An X-ray enema had been done, and I was asked to look at the plates by the patient. They told me that Dr. Bastedo had diagnosed CA. I saw the plate which showed an obstruction in the rectum, which was not diagnostic of CA. Now I do not remember whether I consulted Dr. Bastedo or not, but I agreed with the family that the diagnosis was correct, and that is how I got my foot in it. Miss Caisse's treatment was started at once, and the eventual course of the case showed that we were dealing with an abscess obstructing the rectum."

Now, He never saw you afterwards? A. No.

Q. " I have never seen the patient professionally since he started Miss Caisse's treatment, although I believe I have been quoted very often.

So that this one cure (?) is just a case of a hasty and snap diagnosis on a very noisy person. "

Do you consider yourself a very noisy person?

X. Ask anybody around Baysville and they will tell you not.

Q. I never heard anybody speak above a whisper in Baysville. I want to draw to the Commission's attention so we will put in some sort of argument as we go along, that this follows up on page 281, Dr. Saires' letter,





check back over these diagnoses and see if they are correct. I think this should be taken into consideration by the Commission. If these doctors are going to advise individuals to go home to bed and call for their favorite undertaker then it is too bad, and then come back like this when they are attacked by the Medical Council who are attempting to discredit Miss Caisse, then these matters should be taken into consideration. I am trying to bring them up in each individual case as they arise so we will save time later on. That is Dr. Jeffrey's letter at page 217 of exhibit 46. He says

"I think I put my foot in it".

A. Yes, he has put his foot in it. I would like to tell these gentlemen another little thing -

Q. You better go sit with your folks. Alright.

14 MAY HENDERSON, sworn,

MR. MURPHY: Pages 10, 11, 12 and 13 of these books that were filed, Mr. Chairman.

THE CHAIRMAN: Book one?

MR. MURPHY: Book one.

COMMISSIONER CALLAHAN: Q. What is the address?

A. Number 10 Chicora Avenue, Toronto.

MR. MURPHY: I think possibly so we will have it on the record, and to save looking up, this is Mrs May Henderson, 10 Chicora Avenue, Toronto, age 41 years?

A. I shall be 43 at the end of this month.

Q. Dr. Diack and Dr. Barclay, Women's College St. Hospital.

