

in its behavior. My testimony applies equally well to the medical device industry and the diagnostic products industry.

The best solution to this problem is easy to describe in concept, but difficult to envision without major changes in the whole structure of postgraduate medical education. As I have emphasized repeatedly, I believe that control of the educational process for physicians properly resides with university-based medical schools. The pre-Flexnerian era taught us that medical education should not be entrusted to a commercial trade school environment, and our society should not have to learn that lesson over again. Medical schools, however, are not financially in a position to accept responsibility for the postgraduate education of physicians.

I believe it is important that this problem be discussed openly, and I commend your subcommittee for undertaking these hearings. If the extent of the problem is as great as I suspect, and if my concerns are confirmed by others, society must entertain innovative solutions, even drastic changes in some of our current behavior.

The possibility of permanent pharmaceutical industry dominance over the total postgraduate education of physicians and other health professionals is too serious for us to ignore.

Thank you.

Senator NELSON. You made some reference—I think very briefly—to medical textbooks. Has the FDA done any survey about how many companies that are in drug advertising or in the publication of drug-industry-supported magazines also publish textbooks. McGraw-Hill is one, I guess, that publishes textbooks in this field.

Mr. GORDON. Does McGraw-Hill produce medical textbooks?

Dr. CROUT. I believe so, yes.

Senator NELSON. Here is an ad which claims that McGraw-Hill is the largest healthcare publisher in the world. It says that Dr. Seymour Schwartz, who edited "Principles of Surgery", a basic text for medical schools, is also chief editor of one of its industry-supported magazines. Are you familiar with textbooks that are published by McGraw-Hill and/or any other companies in similar business?

Dr. CROUT. I cannot speak specifically about McGraw-Hill or any survey of the industry. I suspect that some firms are very likely to produce both textbooks and the kinds of multimedia communication systems you have seen today.

Senator NELSON. Would anybody in your medical library be knowledgeable about that?

Dr. CROUT. We can try to get knowledgeable if that would be helpful.

Senator NELSON. I would not want to put you to all kinds of extra work. I think it would be worthwhile to know how much involvement in the formal textbooks publication business is the pharmaceutical industry, directly or indirectly.

Dr. CROUT. Interesting question. I am not aware of direct or indirect—

Senator NELSON. Maybe we could find it out from the Library of Congress. If anybody in the FDA happens to be knowledgeable please submit it for the record because it may or may not be of consequence.