

14876 COMPETITIVE PROBLEMS IN THE DRUG INDUSTRY

severe abuse incidence in spite of increased effectiveness of our enforcement officials. The street price of amphetamines which rumor tells us is presently about \$3.00 per dose would certainly increase which may afford some deterrent action; but, more likely, such an increase would prove of greater efficacy in supporting the ventures of organized crime.

Speaking to the pro-Category I question, the therapeutic merit of amphetamine products are probably not sufficiently remarkable to dictate that they remain available even with further labeling restrictions.

It seems unlikely that clinicians on the whole would strenuously object if the amphetamine products were completely banned; particularly if they could be assured that deletion of these occasionally very useful drugs would not be an exercise in futility.

An investigative reporter, with whom I've become friendly recently disclosed to me that reliable information exists suggesting that other sympathomimetic drugs are presently achieving the wide-spread abuse category. He specifically designated the drug, phenteramine as a popular amphetamine substitute. This drug is presently listed among the drugs with low abuse potential in Category IV. Our work at Biometric Testing Inc. indicates that at effective therapeutic doses some of the sympathomimetic side effects may occur (dry mouth, palpitations, nervousness) but that the mood-elevating, anti-fatigue actions associated with amphetamine and methamphetamine are minimal.