

the stockholders voted "no" to a resolution that the corporation change its policy by divulging to foreign doctors what U.S. law now demands that it tell U.S. doctors about the toxicity of its Chloromycetin, a product of its Parke-Davis division.

Many drugs have been removed from the market in the United States—about 6,000 of them in the last few years—because of lack of efficacy or unreasonable risks to the public. Yet these same drugs are still being sold in foreign countries. The effect of these practices on the people of these countries, especially Latin America, as well as on the U.S. public, will be discussed by our panel of distinguished witnesses today and tomorrow.

The first witness is Dr. Milton Silverman, who is a lecturer in pharmacology, the schools of pharmacy and medicine, and the senior faculty member of the health policy program at the University of California in San Francisco.

Dr. Silverman, it is a pleasure to have you with us this morning and we look forward to receiving your testimony. You may proceed. And, as I said, during the course of your testimony I will slip out to go vote but I will be right back. But do not let my departure deter your testimony in any way. You may proceed as you wish.

STATEMENT OF MILTON SILVERMAN, PH. D., LECTURER IN PHARMACOLOGY, SCHOOLS OF PHARMACY AND MEDICINE, AND SENIOR FACULTY MEMBER, HEALTH POLICY PROGRAM, UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

Dr. SILVERMAN. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I am pleased to be able to respond to your invitation and to meet with you today to report on how the multinational drug companies promote their prescription drug products to physicians in this country and to physicians and other health professionals in a number of Latin American countries.

I must note at the outset that I am not a physician myself or a pharmacist. I am a pharmacologist. And I must further note that any views I may express here today are entirely my own, and do not necessarily represent those of my university.

And, as a final prefatory statement, let me acknowledge that without the dedicated and courageous pioneering investigations conducted by this committee, and especially by Senator Nelson and Benjamin Gordon, much of the work that my colleagues and I have been able to accomplish over the past few years in our own investigations would have been far more difficult if not totally impossible.

The research on which I am prepared to report today will be officially published tomorrow by the University of California Press under the title "The Drugging of the Americas." It involves an indepth study of the promotion to the medical profession of 26 different drugs—active ingredients—marketed in the form of some 40 products by 23 global drug companies.

Most of these companies are based in the United States, but it is important to note that some of them are based in Europe, notably in Switzerland, France, and West Germany.

The drugs that we selected for investigation are, beyond doubt, valuable and in some cases lifesaving. There can be no question that they