

other country would be impracticable, morally indefensible, and impertinent.

Then there are certain steps that might be taken. Most important, I believe, would be to alert, mobilize, and support the world medical-scientific community, the health scientists, and the health professionals of every nation. I believe very strongly that the international medical-scientific community has the unavoidable responsibility, not merely to recommend, but to assure that full and objective information on drug products is made available to all nations in which they are marketed, and to all physicians and all pharmacists who may prescribe or dispense. It should be the responsibility of this world medical-scientific community to resolve the differences of opinion that will inevitably arise and to set at least minimum guidelines.

Now this international medical-scientific community has no formal structure—it has no officers, no bylaws, no official delegates—but it is far from impotent. Even without any legal powers, it has already played a key role in having controls placed on the use of human subjects in medical research, assuring more humane treatment of prisoners, reducing environmental pollution, slowing the world population explosion, and placing at least some safeguards on so-called genetic engineering.

Although it should not—and probably cannot—dictate to a physician how he prescribes, it should see to it that each physician has available to him full and honest information.

And, finally, there is one thing that must be done. The existence and the nature of the problem must be made fully known to all countries, their physicians, their pharmacists, and their patients. It should be made fully known to all drug companies—their officers, their boards of directors, and their stockholders.

In your committee hearings today and tomorrow, Mr. Chairman, in the publishing of our findings, I believe we have taken the first step to achieve this goal.

Thank you, sir.

Senator BEALL. Thank you, Doctor.

I think we should be concerned about problems of this sort. It seems to me that it, as a matter of public interest or for public health, we establish policies in this country relating to the admonitions or the warnings that are placed on the drug containers as a matter of policy, then I think it is reasonable to assume that the producers of the drugs should also produce those same warnings for people wherever they live, even outside the United States. And I would hope that the drug companies would feel compelled to do that. At the same time, I think that we have to be careful that we do not tar American producers with the inadequacies of local government regulations or local laws.

Dr. SILVERMAN. I agree.

Senator BEALL. And I think there is too much of that around the world. And I would hope that as a result of using world health organizations and other international organizations we could get some influence brought to bear on that problem and improve licensing and training that is available for people in these governments who are dispensing drugs.

Dr. Lee is next, I believe.