

upon a response to a letter I wrote to him last week, because I thought he ought to have the courtesy of knowing what I was going to say today before I said it.

So I outlined the statements that had been made to Mr. Stetler by me in my office, and then he in response to that delivered a letter, and about 10 minutes to 10 it came to my desk.

I repeated this invitation, that is the invitation I made in my office to him and Mr. Ingoldsby. I repeated this invitation during hearings on May 16, the second day of the hearings. At those hearings I stated that Mr. Stetler had been invited and that the industry was invited to come and would be heard. I said it again on June 8, the fifth day of the hearings, publicly from the chair. During a discussion with Senator Javits, I stated:

We want the companies in here to speak for themselves, and I understand that to be the Senator's position.

Senator Javits agreed with that, said it was his position.

In fact, if the subcommittee should possibly run into difficulty obtaining testimony from the drug companies, Senator Javits suggested that they might be subpoenaed. I mention this simply to show the determination on the part of the subcommittee to hear drug industry witnesses. There never has been any question about that point from the very start, and Mr. Stetler knows it.

Yet Mr. Stetler has tried to make that the issue. Even though he has not accepted my invitation after hearing it in my office, and after it was twice repeated at a public hearing, he has repeatedly charged that we will not let him testify.

He made this false charge in a letter released to the press on June 6. He made it again in a letter to newspapers in my State dated June 14.

In this letter of June 14, Mr. Stetler stated:

We have yet no idea when Senator Nelson will give the American public an opportunity to hear from the industry.

This, despite the fact that I had told him twice publicly and once in my office to let me know when they wanted to be heard.

It is interesting to note that on the same day that Mr. Stetler was writing Wisconsin newspapers stating that we were refusing to hear drug industry witnesses, he wrote another letter to the drug industry stating the exact opposite.

In this second letter, also sent on June 14, Mr. Stetler quoted me as having "encouraged all interested persons to participate," and Mr. Stetler went on and urged the drug industry spokesmen to accept my invitation, so we had two contradictory letters going out on the same day.

Meanwhile, as Mr. Stetler was carrying on this dual correspondence, we were actually making arrangements with major drug manufacturers to testify.

On June 12, I personally wrote to the Schering and Parke-Davis companies and invited them to testify. They agreed to do so, and they will be heard in July. Just yesterday, E. R. Squibb & Sons wrote to me to indicate a desire to testify. A date will be set for their testimony.

These are the first requests that I have received from industry to testify. Two industry representatives came to see me in my office and when asked "When do you want to testify?" told me that they weren't