

Some of these things probably would have been prevented and others probably would not. I do not think I could make a generalization there.

Senator HATFIELD. I think to be fair, as you know, we have had instances where certain food products have created ill effects upon the user, and they have been taken off the market, and in such instances there has been a quality control program on the part of the manufacturer, and there has been also in some of these same instances governmental inspection. But it slipped by both, so to speak, and so that we do not really have a complete blanket guarantee on that. Would you feel that by requiring a quality control program, it would receive the approval of FDA or some other agency of Government, it would be part of the private manufacturer's own organization, and that that would be sufficient?

Dr. GARB. I would not worry about who actually paid for it or how it was arranged as long as I was sure that there was some reasonable quality control.

Now, nothing is perfect, and I realize that things do slip by, and I do not want to leave the impression that I believe we have a lot of bad drugs on the market. I do not know.

My point is that I do not know and I do not see how any physician can possibly know what percentage of the drugs on the market are perfectly pure and satisfactory and what percentage are not.

There has been a challenge raised. The challenge has been raised to the effect that there are some small manufacturers who do not do a good job.

I just want to be sure that no member of my family and no patient that I have anything to do with ever gets these.

Well, how do I make sure?

There is no way we can do this in the absence of some kind of quality control. Now, I am not an expert on the mechanics of quality control inspection. I would simply take the word of somebody who is.

Senator HATFIELD. But you are not recommending that it specifically must be a governmental type of quality control supervision or involvement?

Dr. GARB. No, I am not recommending that specifically. It could be arranged with a Government inspector in the plant or it could be arranged with an inspector whom the Government approves or it could be arranged any other way.

I do not know enough about the details of quality control to make a recommendation as to the exact way it should be done. But I would like to have stamped on every bottle or box of medication the same sort of thing that is stamped on the cans of dog food.

Senator HATFIELD. Continuous Government inspection?

Dr. GARB. Yes, sir, it is Government inspection, but as I understand it, the meat companies pay for that service by the Government.

Senator HATFIELD. What about the Good Housekeeping stamp of approval; would that be helpful, do you think, that type of thing? I am not being facetious here.

Dr. GARB. No, sir, it is a very sensible point actually. I would not accept the Good Housekeeping seal of approval.

Senator HATFIELD. This is merely an example.

Dr. GARB. Yes, but I would accept the AMA seal of approval.