

Senator NELSON. I knew that was a good city.

Representative PATTEN. We have a lot of Nelsons there.

Senator NELSON. All right Mr. Callahan, go ahead.

Mr. CALLAHAN. Thank you.

Hospital laboratory tests are becoming increasingly complex and difficult to perform. In many hospitals there is an insufficient number of trained or experienced personnel to perform the various lab analyses. Also, smaller medical facilities do not have the automated analytical instruments to perform these tasks. The combination of communications and computers is helping to solve this problem at Perth Amboy General Hospital in New Jersey. A group of pathologists and other laboratory specialists there developed a clinical laboratory automation system which employs a computer to handle the large volumes of data associated with a hospital laboratory. The computer can, as with the other systems we have demonstrated, transmit information by telephone lines. By placing a call to any location equipped with Data-Phone service and a teletypewriter, the computer can print out a variety of medical data reports.

As Dr. Hugo C. Pribor, director of the Institute of Laboratory Medicine of Perth Amboy General Hospital, will explain in a moment, this communications arrangement makes it possible to deliver data from the analysis of multiphasic screening tests and accumulated patient records direct to other hospitals, nursing homes, or even medical departments of corporations. Dr. Pribor's presentation will show that any medical organization able to deliver patient specimens for analysis in a reasonable time could avail themselves of this service and enjoy the advantages of the most up-to-date laboratory facilities and almost instant access to patient medical records.

Dr. Pribor is on Telelecture now speaking from Perth Amboy and at the conclusion of his remarks we will have an actual demonstration of this system with the data being sent to the teletypewriter here in the caucus room.

Dr. Pribor.

STATEMENT OF HUGO C. PRIBOR, M.D., PH. D., DIRECTOR, INSTITUTE OF LABORATORY MEDICINE, PERTH AMBOY GENERAL HOSPITAL, PERTH AMBOY, N.J.

Dr. PRIBOR. Gentlemen, it is a pleasure to brief a Senate committee on our work in applying data processing to the improvement of health care. Last year, we described to the Subcommittee on Health of the Elderly our plans for setting up a multiphasic screening program for disease detection at this hospital. I have taken the liberty of providing each of you with a copy of our testimony.

The activities I will outline represent a team effort. The team consists of our medical staff, Dr. Samuel Breslow, president, the hospital director Mr. Robert Hoyt, our governing board, and the laboratory specialists outlined in this slide. We have had good consultative support from Professors Welkowitz and Maloney in biomedical engineering at Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey. Through joint