

Senator NELSON. Did you have the opportunity to read their testimony?

Dr. GODDARD. No; I have not read it yet. I will obtain it and do so.

Senator NELSON. There was a representative present from the University of Wisconsin where, I think, with some Federal funding they have developed an information bank which the doctor can call directly. He has before him a listing of the problems that they are prepared to respond to, and he can call without cost and receive this information.

The point was made that a doctor in an emergency situation or quasi-emergency situation may be dealing with a reaction to a bee sting, for example. He has not had a serious one in the last 4 or 5 years. He wants the latest information and needs to get it quickly. He can pick up the phone and call and immediately would be told what drug to use under what circumstances and what reaction to expect.

What I am asking you is, Does the concept strike you as a valuable one?

Dr. GODDARD. It certainly deserves a trial, Senator. We need to use modern communications techniques to a greater degree than we now do for dissemination that would assist the physician in the practice of medicine.

Senator NELSON. The other aspect that was raised in connection with this kind of communication is its use in the question of drug recalls.

What is your present method of notifying physicians of a recall, especially if it is a very serious recall which requires immediate results?

Dr. GODDARD. Well, for the recall where we deem it necessary to contact all physicians, the company is required to contact all prescribing physicians by direct mail.

That is our present practice.

Now, you will recall that on one or two instances it was deemed necessary to go right into the homes to advise housewives to look in the medicine chest. And that is accomplished by use of the public media.

Normally—rather, usually the recalls are carried out either to the retail level or to the wholesale level, occasionally to the physician and rarely to the consumer level.

Senator JAVITS. Mr. Chairman, may I ask the special permission of the Chair to ask just one question of the witness—

Senator NELSON. Certainly.

Senator JAVITS (continuing). On this marihuana issue.

I just wanted to ask you one question. I read your statement—and Senator Nelson will deal with all the matters in it, I am sure, very effectively—but what I would like to know from you is this:

I do not see anywhere in your statement what you did say that was misquoted. What did you say about marihuana? What was your actual statement?

Dr. GODDARD. All right. May I do two things? One, submit for the record the actual words, but, two, just give you here and now in my own words what I said in response to the question.

(The information referred to follows:)