

Senator NELSON. Senator Hatfield has some questions.

Senator HATFIELD. Dr. Apple, I would like to ask you, in terms of your testimony here, what is the basis for the accusation of being "political opportunists," as you use the phrase? What are the words "political opportunists"; what appropriate use of those words in relation to your profession?

Dr. APPLE. Well, Senator, I suppose I should have put that material in quotes because that was exactly the words used in the speech made. That sentence perhaps should have been put in quotes. Those are not my words. Those are Mr. Stetler's words.

Senator HATFIELD. How are we to interpret that as a committee? What is your professional organization and professional group, how does political opportunism get involved here? Is there some reference to this committee, coming before this committee, or what? Why did they use the words "political opportunists?"

Dr. APPLE. Senator, if I can quote from this statement presented by the president of the Pharmaceutical Manufacturers Association on November 1, 1967:

"Our industry has been under attack from various"——

Senator NELSON. Excuse me, whose statement is this?

Dr. APPLE. Mr. Stetler's.

Senator NELSON. Before what group?

Dr. APPLE. Before the National Association of Retail Druggists.

Senator NELSON. Where was this?

Dr. APPLE. Houston, Tex.

Senator NELSON. All right.

Dr. APPLE (reading) :

Our industry has been under attack from various politicians for too many years. We are getting a little tired of the game and in the present instance it is more than a little disconcerting to know, and we certainly do, that the Nelson Subcommittee and Russell Long and his staff have been getting considerable assistance and encouragement from some representatives in pharmacy. This in my opinion is an unexplainable and a most reckless type of activity.

Senator NELSON. Obviously, since Senator Long and I are statesmen, he is referring to you as a politician. [Laughter.]

Senator HATFIELD. I didn't quite catch where the phrase "political opportunists" was referred to.

Dr. APPLE. That came earlier in the speech, sir.

It goes on to say :

For those who have chosen this latter course based on honest personal calculations or beliefs I have no criticism, but those who, based on cold political calculations, have decided they can improve their personal or professional position by throwing an industry, another profession or a segment of their own profession, to the Congressional wolves in my opinion deserve our collective condemnation.

Senator HATFIELD. Those are very interesting statements but I don't quite follow the use of, in your testimony, the words "political opportunists."

Mr. STEEVES. I think that particular statement, Senator, was our interpretation of those two passages.

Senator HATFIELD. So you are really not then quoting directly, this phrase from any testimony?

Dr. APPLE. It is based on——

Senator HATFIELD. This is an interpretation of your association or your group on what was said?