

have had all the material you wanted, biased or unbiased, by your own companies in this record, but they have declined to come forward. I think that has to be made clear.

I say again—bring in your companies. I will give them dates.

Mr. STETLER. The men I have with me today come from particular companies. They are the qualified experts that you want to hear from.

Senator NELSON. Well, let me give you another example of what I mean.

This is from a speech you made in Montreal, Canada, October 25, 1967:

As you well know, our industry has been under attack from politicians such as Senator Nelson for too many years, and believe me we are getting a little tired of the game. It is also 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 of pharmacies. This in my opinion is unexplainable, and a most reckless type of activity.

Would you like to comment on that?

Mr. STETLER. Yes.

Senator NELSON. Now, you have been under attack by Senator Nelson. Start there, will you?

Mr. STETLER. I did not say I have. I said the industry has. And the industry has. Any casual reading of the transcript of these hearings to date could not be interpreted as anything but an attack on the drug industry.

Also comments that have been made—the speech that was given for you in Wisconsin, on August 25, stated a lot of conclusions with respect to the issues before this committee—conclusions that I think probably should await the outcome of the hearings when all of these people have had a chance to testify.

Now, as far as pharmacy is concerned, certain elements of pharmacy have been active in helping to draft bills like S. 2299 which we happen to honestly think are not only detrimental to the industry, but to medicine, pharmacy, and the public.

Now, there are different feelings in pharmacy on this particular issue, and I think both sides should be heard.

I made those statements. And until all of the elements and all of the interested parties that were invited on May 15 are heard, I think the hearing is not full and complete.

Senator NELSON. Let me quote a statement of yours given before a meeting of the Texas Medical Association in Austin on January 21, 1967, before the hearings ever began.

It might remind you of a little bit of a slight bias in advance.

We are facing a hydra-headed threat from two directions. Senator Gaylord Nelson of Wisconsin, Chairman of the Senate Monopoly Subcommittee of the Small Business Committee has announced he is going to hold drug hearings during the next couple of months. This will undoubtedly mean side trips into the field of prices, profits—as well as industry marketing and promotion. It sounds like an inquisition in the classic mold, which will test our capacity for taking verbal punishment, our ability to absorb ill-founded accusations and bounce back with reason and truth, and our willingness to stay on our feet fighting for what we believe is right and best for the Nation's health care.

You had us all categorized 3 months before the hearings started.

Or was it 5 months?