

do not have the scientific personnel to set the standards and enforce the law in any way; is that not correct?

Dr. TAUSSIG. I think that is the great thing. The drug importing nations are on the whole the developing nations. The small nations do not begin to have the facilities to inspect the drugs to see what they are getting or to set the standards for what they want.

Senator NELSON. I think I can guess from your testimony what you would say, but let me put the question specifically. Do you see any reason why the laws of our own country under the Food and Drug Act should not set standards as high for the exportation of drugs to other countries as for the distribution and consumption of drugs in this country?

Dr. TAUSSIG. I see no reason; I think it is a disgrace that we do not. I think we should not sell drugs to foreign countries that we would not permit to be sold in our own country. Now that is all the developing nations are asking, that they could be assured that they were of the same quality that is required in the exporting country.

Senator NELSON. I want to say to you that the Chair agrees with you 100 percent that it is a disgrace that our law will permit us to sell drugs in the international trade to foreign countries that are not equipped to protect themselves of a quality not considered to be adequate for consumption in this country. The committee certainly appreciates that you have called this to our attention and the committee will address itself to that problem with some appropriate legislation if that seems to be the best way to deal with it.

Dr. TAUSSIG. Thank you. I think that the rest of my testimony shows that the World Health Organization is not a police force, that they cannot dictate to our country what we can sell elsewhere. They can only hope to recommend, and it certainly has not come forcefully home to our country that we are selling drugs to foreign countries, not observing the same standards for export that we require in this country. There is some feeling that the smaller countries should set their own standards, but I think that practically it is impossible, and that the testimony at the World Health Assembly showed that most countries thought it was asking more than could reasonably be expected from a small emerging country.

Senator NELSON. The Chair would simply state that the Chair agrees with you that this country has a moral obligation to distribute in international trade drugs of equivalent quality to those we distribute in our own domestic market.

Dr. TAUSSIG. That is right.

Senator HATFIELD. Dr. Taussig, what kind of a position does this kind of situation put the American representative on the World Health Organization in?

Dr. TAUSSIG. Well, I think that everyone felt that it was an important thing. Dr. Blood said that the U.S. Government would be glad to help other countries in testing their drugs or to help in setting up an international committee and that they were glad to put their consultative technical assistance and their training facilities to use by the World Health Organization and to help any countries that they could. They did not feel that it was perhaps a problem to legislate.

Senator HATFIELD. Do you not think that puts us in a rather hypocritical posture though, if we are out trying to assist other countries