

Other:

Member of Board of Directors, Easter Seal Society for Crippled Children and Adults.

Chairman of Montgomery County Business and Industry Campaign, Easter Seal Society.

Senator NELSON. Nobody questions the importance, the great significance of research-oriented companies in the drug industry. I assume it is also true that a company that is not research-oriented may meet all of the same production standards as any research-oriented company. Is that correct?

Mr. BLAZEY. I think that is possible.

Senator NELSON. I forgot to ask Dr. Van Riper—I notice in a report of the FDA before 1964 Geigy had contracted-out for the production of its entire line of drugs. One of the contractors was Strong Cobb Arner. I notice that Strong Cobb Arner produce drugs for a number of companies. And I notice that either Grays or Peoples—one of those two chains—has advertised that they are putting in a full line of Strong Cobb Arner's generic drugs.

They also stated in their ad that the average cost of these drugs would be 50 percent or more below the average prescription cost for a trade name drug.

Is there any doubt in your mind, for example, about the quality of the generic drugs produced by this company?

Dr. VAN RIPER. I might say, Mr. Chairman, that Strong Cobb Arner no longer manufacture for Geigy. They did up to 1964.

Senator NELSON. I think this was 1964. But it said, "still employ these contractors but will eliminate them entirely in 1 year's time." That was dated 1964. But this report states that at one period contract manufacturers produced Geigy's entire line of drugs.

Dr. VAN RIPER. That is right, sir.

Senator NELSON. There wasn't any doubt in your mind about the quality of the drugs that Geigy got from Strong Cobb Arner, or any of the other generic producers, was there?

Dr. VAN RIPER. There was none, sir. But we maintained one of our personnel constantly in the production plant of Strong Cobb Arner.

Senator NELSON. Did you find any difficulty in getting quality products from them?

Dr. VAN RIPER. Not as far as I know.

Senator NELSON. The point I wanted to make is that certainly it ought to be clear that a company may produce high quality drugs under proper quality control without being in the research field, or without producing trade name drugs. Is that not correct?

Mr. CUTLER. I think it is correct, Mr. Chairman. Strong Cobb Arner is a PMA member, and we are not trying to suggest in any way it does not have excellent quality controls and produce good quality drugs. It so happens that you need scientists to achieve good quality control, and the companies that have scientists, most of them like to do research. So, the two do tend to go hand in hand.

Senator NELSON. Okay.

Do you have anything else?

Mr. CUTLER. No, sir.

Senator NELSON. At this time, I have an article that I will ask be put in the record at this point, by Dr. Mark J. Brauer and Dr. Wil-