

are all intelligent people, we believe. So that "does he read them?" I do not know. Does he bother with them? I do not know.

Senator NELSON. Does he see them is, I suppose, another question, since, unless it is an injectible, the package insert goes to the drugstore and the doctor does not see it at all, does he?

Dr. DAMESHEK. That is right. That may be. I had not thought of that. Yes, Senator. It is a possibility he may not even see it.

Mr. GORDON. Most important of all, as you stated, he does not pay any attention to it.

Dr. DAMESHEK. Now, look, do not lead me into this "does not even pay any attention to it." I do not know. I will not read his mind if you will excuse me on that. I cannot say.

Now, you wanted me to read about the British thing, is that right?

Senator NELSON. Yes.

Dr. DAMESHEK. In the British statement—yes; it is, Parke, Davis & Co., Hounslow, London, England—I can see here no statement about such a warning. There is certainly no warning here, and then there is a statement about side reactions and toxicity, and this is what it reads:

"Patients on treatment may complain of dry mouth and less often of nausea, diarrhea, or vomiting, although these are seldom sufficiently severe to justify withdrawal of the drug. Drug sensitivity reactions are also sometimes encountered. Cases of optic and peripheral neuritis have been reported in patients receiving high total dosage during prolonged therapy. While the incidence of blood dyscrasias associated with systemic Chloromycetin therapy is rare, cases of serious disorders including aplastic anemia have been reported. As with certain other drugs, adequate blood studies should be made when the patient receives prolonged or intermittent therapy."

Senator NELSON. Do you consider this as good a warning as the one used in this country, and is it adequate, in your judgment, as a warning?

Dr. DAMESHEK. Well, I have not gone over the data for drug sensitivity reactions due to chloramphenicol or drug reactions from chloramphenicol in England. I do not know if it has been adequate. I would say this is much less adequate than the American warning. And what is more, it takes up in a previous statement the idea that Chloromycetin is effective in a number of clinical conditions and lists a great many, which is true, but the side reactions and the toxicity are not dilated upon, shall we say.

Senator NELSON. Does it say in there that it should not be used for minor infections? I do not recall.

Dr. DAMESHEK. No.

Senator NELSON. It does not caution against that?

Dr. DAMESHEK. No.

Senator NELSON. Did you respond to my question: Would you consider that an adequate precautionary notice? Or maybe you have not had a chance to study it long enough.

Dr. DAMESHEK. Well, to my way of thinking, it is inadequate.

Senator NELSON. It is inadequate?

Dr. DAMESHEK. Inadequate.

(The material previously referred to follows:)