

The latter was confirmed by autopsy, and cause of death was confirmed as "Chloromycetal Intoxication."

I brought the foregoing to Parke-Davis' attention; guilt was admitted, and blame was placed at the door of the doctor. I then asked Parke-Davis to show me brochures and sales techniques that brought to the medical profession proper information concerning the pros and cons in the use of the drug. In other words, I conceded that the drug certainly had great value in the treatment of spinal meningitis, nephritis, nephrosis, typhoid, etc., but I wanted to see that said drug was not oversold as a cure-all, but was used only for major problems. This information was denied me.

My next logical step was to call on the U.S. Pure Food and Drug Administration in Detroit. I was informed at that time that Chloromycetin had been withdrawn from the market sometime earlier than 1955, as a result of a rash of complaints resulting from its use. The Government had checked the drug for a year, while no sales were allowed, but had been unable to pinpoint a real connection between aplastic anemia and Chloromycetin. To me this was a typical conclusion of our unbelievable bureaucracy.

Perhaps, at this point, you may be wondering why I am writing you about something that happened in 1955. I will tell you why.

Mrs. Lenox and I were desolate at the death of our child. The only reason we were able to continue without undue rancor was that we hoped, by bringing our situation to the attention of Parke-Davis plus the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, that future mistakes of this sort would be obviated. Thirteen years later I see that not only has the situation not been corrected, but that there is actually an increase in this sort of thing.

Sincerely,

HARRY LENOX, Jr.,
Detroit, Mich.

P.S.—If you wish to read this letter in future sub-committee hearings, you have my full permission to do so.

FEBRUARY 8, 1968.

DEAR DR. DAMESHEK: Upon reading an article in the Daily News, Wed., Feb. 7th, I have some information which may be of some help.

About 5 years ago our little boy took sick. Our Doctor at that time kept saying what he had was a virus, cold, sore throat, and kept giving him the drug chloromycetin as an antibiotic.

Finally when the child appeared after many months with black and blue marks on his body, the Dr. finally took a blood count.

We then found out the dreadful news that our boy had leukemia.

He lasted 8 months after this. I for one think that there was some connection with this drug that brought on Leukemia on our child.

If there are any further questions you may wish to ask me please feel free to contact me.

I hope you continue your research in this field and maybe soon we can find a cure or some sort of vaccine.

I remain,

NAME WITHHELD.

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Chairman, the subcommittee has some articles on this subject which I ask be put into the record.¹

Senator NELSON. They will be put in the record. Materials submitted by the witnesses in the course of their testimony or at a later date will also be accepted for the record.

Our next witness is Dr. William R. Best. Dr. Best is with the Veterans' Administration. The committee is very pleased to have you here today. As I said to Dr. Dameshek, we would be happy to have you elaborate on any of the points you make if you feel it would be helpful to an understanding of your statement or if it would be enlightening for the record. So, you may proceed to present your statement as you please.

¹ See appendix I, p. 2653, *infra*.