

PENNSYLVANIA, February 16, 1968.

Senator GAYLORD NELSON,  
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR NELSON: I have just read in the Time magazine of February 16, 1968, the article on the hearings before the Senate Monopoly Subcommittee, of which you are the chairman, about the drug Chloromycetin.

I had an adverse reaction from the patent drug Chloromycetin.

June 1965 I had four abscessed teeth. I was running a temperature of 101°-104°. I went to a local physician, was given a prescription for Chloromycetin 250 mg. of 4 hrs. On June 14, 1965, I had all of my lower teeth extracted by Dr. ———.

I was taken from Dr. ——— office to Binghamton, N.Y. and was admitted to their I.C.U. I was under the care of Drs. ———. Lab work, sternal punctures was done, white count was 600 diagnosis, complete blood dyscrasia caused by the drug Chloromycetin.

I received 42 transfusions—whole blood, packed cells, extra refined plasma with extra platelets.

I have been ill since June 1965 and continue under the physician's care. I reported this adverse reaction to the drug Chloromycetin to Dr. James L. Goddard, Comm. of N.F.D.A. They sent an investigator from their regional office, ———, Pa., to my home.

I gave Mr. Chine (investigator) my statement, also signed depositions for him to have access to all of my hospital records, name and addresses of the attending physicians. Mr. Chin told me that he would send the report of his findings to the N.F.D.A., Washington, D.C., that I would hear from them. I never heard from them. After six months, I wrote to the N.F.D.A. I received a reply from Laurence H. Stern, also two pamphlets about Chloromycetin.

I hope that this letter is not ignored by you. Suggestions—(1) Physicians should warn patients of adverse reaction from this drug; (2) Druggist should be compelled to put the name of the drug on the label when prescriptions are filled, also to give patient the leaflet issued by Parke-Davis Drug Co. with each prescription for Chloromycetin; (3) News media to be used to bring to the attention of the public the adverse reaction of this drug.

Respectfully,

NAME WITHHELD.

NEW YORK, N.Y., February 10, 1968.

Sen. GAYLORD NELSON,  
Chairman, Senate Subcommittee on Drugs,  
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR NELSON: I am vitally interested in the current investigation carried on by the Senate Subcommittee on Drugs with particular reference to the drug Chloromycetin manufactured solely by Parke, Davis and Company.

As Chairman of this Committee, you may be interested in some of the background leading to the death of my sister, ———, at age 44 years. Marion took the drug, chloromycetin, in connection with a minor ailment while in Europe (Spain) during a vacation in October, 1966. I enclose copies of correspondence from my file on the matter.

Your investigation indicates grave concern that doctors are not aware of the possible consequences after a drug such as chloromycetin is administered to a patient. This too, has been the concern of ———'s family. The sole purpose of our contact with Parke Davis after her death was to attempt to prevent the same tragedy to another family. We are advised by those physicians attending my sister before her death, that aplastic anemia which ultimately caused her death was most probably brought on by the drug chloromycetin.

Can you imagine our frustration as we read the Parke Davis pronouncement Anacin could have been the cause of death? Then, the frustration compounded by the last paragraph of their correspondence of September 19, 1967 stating positively that physicians are universally aware of the possible fatal results of the drug chloromycetin; finally, that Parke Davis would not contact the doctor in Spain about the administration of the drug for fear he would think them critical of him.

Needless to say, we are *not* convinced doctors are universally aware of the potential fatal effects of chloromycetin. Furthermore, my sister was able to pur-