

the Senate committee investigating this *might* impose restrictions on the prescription of it.

After seeing the horrible results of the administration of this drug, this should be screamed from the housetops to every doctor and parent in the land. How can a condition of this sort exist? Are we not protected from these lethal drugs by our supposedly thorough F.D.A.? Are not doctors definitely warned about the possible death-dealing effects of this drug?

After witnessing this terrible tragedy happen to a laughing, healthy youngster because she was given a supposed cure for a cold bug, which in turn caused her death, I cannot remain silent. Her parents have been urged to see the doctor, etc. This will not bring the child back. But definite action in preventing recurrences of this to other children (or adults) is, without a doubt, mandatory.

Without your knowledge of our seemingly ponderous government machinery, what can be done?

I am sending copies of this letter and article to the several parties noted below, with the hope that public exposure of this situation might generate positive action and perhaps some poor, unsuspecting patient will be given a more concrete safeguard than the chance reading of an article "tucked away on the back page of a newspaper."

Thank you.

Sincerely,

NAME WITHHELD.

WISCONSIN, February 8, 1968.

Hon. Senator GAYLORD NELSON,
U.S. Senate,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR NELSON: May I commend you on your interest in and work on the use of the drug chloromycetin (chloramphenicol).

As a father, who lost a lovely seven year old daughter in a dreadful death due to a doctor's repeated prescription of chloromycetin for trivial infections without observing the precautions spelled out by Parke, Davis & Co., I do appreciate your concern.

A matter which still troubles as greatly is that this doctor who was aware of the precautions advised me after Ann's death that he wouldn't adopt them in the future because the "odds" were such that he wouldn't see another case in his lifetime.

As you point out it is inconscionable that physicians in some foreign lands don't know of these dangers. How much worse to know and ignore them!

Again, I hope your efforts are successful in correcting a terrible situation.

Sincerely,

NAME WITHHELD.

ATTORNEY AT LAW,
Washington, February 8, 1968.

Hon. GAYLORD NELSON,
U.S. Senate, Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR NELSON: I read with great interest reference to your subcommittee on drugs in Drew Pearson's article of February 6, 1968. I represent the parents of a deceased three year old child whose action for the loss of the child is pending in the Superior Court of the State of Washington in and for the county of Adams, at ———, Washington. The child, ———, repeatedly received prescriptions from a doctor for Chloromycetin in treatment of upper respiratory infections. On two occasions the prescriptions were refilled by the local drug-gist without so much as a telephone call to the doctor—at least according to the doctor. Even after ——— showed petechiae and widespread, strange ecchymotic areas on her body, her doctor continued to prescribe Chloromycetin. He made no blood test to determine whether she was sustaining any diminishment in any of the components of the blood.

——— died a painful death in June, 1966. The hematologist who tried to save her gave the opinion that her aplastic anemia from which she died was induced by the use of Chloromycetin.

The doctor's insurance company has taken the position that the rate of deaths from aplastic anemia is no greater now than it was before the advent of Chloro-