

——— Mother—none of us—seek liability from your Company. It is our sincere hope that something can be done to prevent the recurrence of the tragedy to another. We feel strongly the utter lack of professional responsibility on the part of the doctor. Is it possible the man did not understand the potential effects or had insufficient advice concerning the drug from the company? Is it impractical to suggest that those to whom chloromycetin is available for administration should indicate, in writing, that they understand all of the undesirable effects the drug may produce in the human body during therapy, and after? If blood studies which are recommended during treatment could prevent a fatality, shouldn't they be mandated instead of merely recommended? Should the drug be withdrawn from a foreign market where the people entrusted with its administration may not be as professionally responsible as American doctors?

It is difficult to be objective and not allow emotions to be a part of this letter, since experiencing the tragedy of ———'s death. Her Mother, her sister and I, however, feel a compelling responsibility to write to you, the drug manufacturer to express our concern that other deaths may occur needlessly if a more responsible attitude is not taken by the maker of the drug, and the medical profession entrusted with its administration.

I will be pleased to receive a reply.

Very truly yours,

NAME WITHHELD.

Senator NELSON. This morning our witness is Dr. William C. Hewson, who is both a physician and a lawyer from Philadelphia.

Dr. Hewson, the committee appreciates your taking the time to come here and give your testimony today. I have read it and it is a very valuable contribution to the hearing record.

STATEMENT OF DR. WILLIAM C. HEWSON, PHYSICIAN AND LAWYER, PHILADELPHIA, PA.

Dr. HEWSON. Thank you, Senator.

Senator NELSON. You may proceed to present your testimony in any way you see fit. You may read it, and at any place in your statement where you feel it will be valuable for the record to extemporize and elaborate on any statement you make, the Committee will appreciate having your extended remarks. I assume you have no objection in the event that some questions occur to us during the course of your presentation.

Dr. HEWSON. Thank you, sir.

My name is William C. Hewson and I am a physician and a lawyer from Philadelphia. I attended undergraduate school at Temple University in Philadelphia and graduated from the Temple University School of Medicine in 1954. Following a year of internship at the U.S. Naval Hospital, Bethesda, Md., I served for 2 years in the Navy, following which I took a 1-year residency in the general practice of medicine. From 1958 to 1964, I was a general practitioner of medicine in West Chester, Pa., a borough of about 25,000 inhabitants, located about 25 miles west of Philadelphia and 20 miles north of Wilmington, Del. In 1964 I left the private practice of medicine to attend the law school of the University of Pennsylvania, from which I graduated in 1967. I am now associated with the Philadelphia law firm of Beasley, Albert, Hewson & Casey. That is the end of the credentials, sir.

Senator NELSON. Go ahead.

Dr. HEWSON. The marked overuse and misuse of the antibiotic drug, chloramphenicol (Chloromycetin), is now too well documented to be