

against the company's wishes, of course, and all that they were trying to say, that aspirin and other things would cause it. But as this man from Mayo says, this is a common denominator in all these cases that they got in the Mayo Clinic, and they had a lot of them in 1952, the common denominator that these patients had taken was Chloromycetin. Not all had taken aspirin or phenobarbital, but all of them had taken Chloromycetin.

So you had to do it the hard way. It has been a hard, uphill battle. And we said from the beginning that we thought many cases of leukemia were caused by the drug—either was actually leukemia or they were signed out as leukemia. As I told you at the beginning, it takes an awfully good hematologist to tell the difference between leukemia and aplastic anemia in the early beginning.

But there is a thought the Chloromycetin also causes leukemia, and I think there have been some published articles on that.

Mr. GORDON. In a recent issue of the New England Journal of Medicine there is an article by Dr. William Dameshek on this subject.

Dr. WATKINS. And I think once you prove that causing some forms of leukemia you are going to prove your statistics down to what it should be, that is all we want: honesty. If we had had an honest opinion in the beginning, the drug would have either been off the market or limited to hospitals. I honestly believe that the public would not have stood for this. But they had to really fight against a lot of opposition and money, because they really put the money around to the universities.

Senator LONG. Doctor, I am going to have to leave to go over to the Senate Chamber. And before I leave, I want to thank you for the testimony you have given here, and also to express my gratitude to Senator Gaylord Nelson for his efforts to investigate this matter, and the related matters involved.

I was once chairman of this subcommittee. When I became chairman of the Committee on Finance, Senator Nelson indicated to me that he thought he had the time and would like to devote his effort to investigate the whole subject matter, and where abuses existed, to try to do something about it.

I told him that at the time when he ran for reelection, he was not likely to get a single campaign contribution, and it would probably assure him of a well-financed opponent on behalf of this \$4 billion industry.

But he has persevered, and I believe he is rendering a good service to the country as, for example, this matter and other disclosures that have been made in regard to abuses in the drug area.

After some disclosures I and others made in earlier years, we insisted that there be prosecution for conspiracy with regard to the tetracycline use by certain companies; that is, a price-fixing deal. And the Justice Department finally mustered the initiative to go ahead and prosecuted the cases. And they were found guilty.

And in this particular area, I am most impressed by what you said about this. And I hope that we can obtain effective action on this. And perhaps one way or another they can do something about it. And it may be to require that they put a label on that bottle and say in the opinion of many doctors, that this drug has been known to cause death. That is what you are saying, as I understand it.