

Dr. ANNIS. We are going to assist you in your efforts to zero in on those who unwisely use an admittedly double-edged sword as it pertains to particular drugs. We are not in disagreement on this.

Senator NELSON. Actually there is a very, very brief reference in the AMA News.

Dr. ANNIS. You mean we said something about it.

Senator NELSON. Yes, we expose everything here.

On August 26, 1968, there is a very, very brief reference in an article on chloramphenicol with brief reference to this in which it said that, as you may recall, chloramphenicol was decertified and then, after examination and study, put back on the market, and those that did not meet the Chloromycetin blood level-time spectrum were required to meet it. This is about that.

It says that the Food and Drug Administration, as expected, announces that it will resume certification of chloramphenicol sodium succinate.

The National Research Council reported to the FDA, according to this, that the drug is effective only for the limited applications, and it lists them.

So there was that—

Dr. ANNIS. When was this published?

Senator NELSON. August 26.

Dr. ANNIS. This is even before it appeared in the Register?

Senator NELSON. Of course, there was publicity to the effect—

Mr. HARRISON. Which publication is that?

Senator NELSON. This is the AMA News.

Mr. HARRISON. Which is a publication that goes to every physician in the country.

Dr. ANNIS. Whether he is a member of the AMA or not.

Senator NELSON. This demonstrates my point that it did appear.

Dr. ANNIS. A few minutes ago you were being counseled that we did not have it.

Senator NELSON. Correct.

Dr. ANNIS. That was in August. That is when I was on vacation with my kids, up in camp in Michigan, enjoying fishing.

Senator NELSON. The National Academy of Sciences/National Research Council reported to the FDA that the drug is effective only for the limited indications in the drug's new labeling. It does not say what it is. It does not say what the National Academy of Sciences said about it. If that is all that is in here, the point I am making, I think, is still valid, considering what is going on in the drug misuse around the country, considering all the publicity about it, and considering that the AMA News and JAMA take a lot of advertising from the company. It would seem to me that those magazines ought to have a big headline to emphasize the fact that the National Academy says it is not the drug of choice for anything. This is my point.

Dr. ANNIS. Senator, when we discussed this particular drug with its limited use, and its side effects which—Dr. Dameshek indicated this—side effects and bad reactions are rare, but it is when they occur that they are so serious. We admit this. In this context, maybe we should have put it in the front page of the journal. But if we talk to the National Safety Council, they think we ought to put the over-use of alcohol and "Don't drive when you are drinking" on the front