

The U.S.P. have been doing a good service since 1840 or whenever it was founded. They keep updating their standards. If you look at the U.S.P. that was written 10 years ago and the one that is in use today, in the section relating to the testing of drugs, you will note they have sophisticated methods listed for testing. If it is found out that there is such a thing as generic equivalency that is being talked about they will adopt methods to indicate it. When I read some of these articles about generic equivalency they remind me of some of psychiatrist's treatises—they do not mean a thing. I have yet to see specific instances where there is any well-defined evidence clinically on generic equivalency.

And if it should come to pass that there is, the U.S.P. will include it and they will rewrite their standards. They are not backward. They are an active group.

Senator Long. Doctor, here is something that happened to me, and I am sure it happens to many others. In fact, I suppose, there are many people who think that they are being done a favor.

My dentist is a good friend of mine, a man whom I respect—you perhaps know him, but I am not going to identify him. But this is a good illustration of what happens. I have a tooth he is fearful might abscess. But he is trying to save it for me. And he succeeds in saving it, so that tooth remains in my mouth a couple of years longer than it would have if he hadn't done such a skillful job of saving it. However, he says: "An abscess might develop. And this could hit you some night when you are overseas at a conference or something of the sort. If that should happen you should have some drugs to help you. I am going to give you two things. One, Darvon to keep the pain under control. And two, Panalba. The Panalba will kill the bacteria, and that will keep that infection under control until you can get back to me or to someone who can help you."

He states that, "The Darvon and Panalba will hold you for about 24 hours. This will help you in the event that this flares up into a painful abscess."

Now the question is—why did he prescribe Panalba? He has a whole drawer full of free samples of Panalba. He hands me some, and says, "just put that in your bag. In case it is not enough I will give you some more." He has been given these as free samples.

So I take the medicine with me. From time to time if it appears to me that the tooth is beginning to act up, I take the Darvon and the Panalba.

Incidentally, this committee has brought to light some facts that I wasn't aware of. And that is that Panalba is a substitute for tetracycline, it is tetracycline with something else in it. So they put something in the tetracycline that I didn't need, that could be harmful to me. The details about the Panalba can be better provided by this committee, because I wasn't here to hear the testimony, but I understand that Panalba was determined by the National Academy of Science to be ineffective.

But here I am loading myself up with Darvon and Panalba because the man left all the free samples. If the dentist had just written down tetracycline and I could have bought all I wanted for 5 cents a capsule—and the six capsules wouldn't have cost me a dollar—if it had been for sale on a competitive basis I would have had all I needed