

(The letter referred to follows:)

WHITE, PETTIJOHN & SCHULZ,
PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS,
Russell, Kans., June 10, 1969.

Re Statement of John Adriani, M.D.,
Charity Hospital, New Orleans, La.

SENATOR BOB DOLE,
U.S. Senate,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR BOB: Thank you for the report of the Senate Sub-Committee on Monopoly to which I have referred above.

You have asked for our comments on this statement. I have read the report in its entirety, and if you would like to have my opinion, I feel that as a practical matter it is not worth the paper it is written on. Generic labelling would be impossible for most doctors to carry out. They are already overburdened with all kinds of extra paper work produced by the Federal Government.

I think you know my background as well as anyone. I had my original training in pharmacy and pharmaceutical education and, also, practical training in this regard. I worked for a large pharmaceutical house for three years previous to my entrance into medicine. I cannot, of course, qualify as Mr. Adriani has given, and I am not in a teaching position as one would compare with the Ivory Tower. However, my degree is in the practical method of taking care of patients, and for your information, which was left out of this report, all of the short names for these drugs contain in parenthesis below them on every package, the generic name. If our present system would not supply the doctor with the correct and the easiest way, he could write the generic name, because it is there on the box, on the label and on everything that is present. So, why have the generic name mandatory?

Also, I think you should realize that private industry is doing a considerable amount of research, which the government would not undertake without being, let's say, bureaucracized. Here again we step on the threshold of perfection by a government, which is not only coddling and interfering with private enterprise but subjecting people to unnecessary effort in order to comply with their requests.

Bob, if the government continues to carry out the procedures that they have carried out in the past at any particular rate within the next twenty years there will be no private enterprise. When I mention private enterprise, I mean physicians as well. This man's report is oversimplified, and I would be glad, and think I am capable, to debate him in any particular way that he would care to debate. In the first place, he has had no experience with taking care of patients. He is in an "Ivory Tower" teaching institution. He may be a surgeon but I'll bet that he does not work his own patients up and interview his patients as a private practitioner. He is probably having an intern or resident do all the work, and he runs in and does the surgery and takes all the glory. I am sure this letter will not be adequate to present to your committee, because it is so obviously honest and without prejudice. These men in the high authority in the "Ivory Tower" research portions of our schools have no idea, even at the K.U. Medical Center do they have an idea, about the simple practice of medicine; that is, seeing patients and concern for the patient who only wants to come in for some small thing without waiting three days for an appointment. There are any number of young married couples who are going to physicians in cities, even private practitioners, who cannot see a physician without an appointment. This entails a tremendous amount of money on their part and a tremendous amount of time. We are not taking care of people in the United States. We are just overworking doctors in a maze of bureaucracy and paperwork. I realize that I am just as guilty as anyone for accepting government subsidy in the form of Medicare, but I did not want it in the first place, as you know, nor do I think I have the proper strength and power to resist the taking of such subsidy at the present time. So, therefore, that makes me guilty too.

The question, Bob, is not what Dr. Adriani said, "Should we use generic names"? The question is, "Should we start practicing medicine instead of bureaucracy and 'Ivory Tower' nonsense"?

Sincerely yours,

MILLARD E SCHULZ, M.D.