Your July 14 letter continues with a request for the names of AMA personnel who have either gone to, or come from, industry in the last 10 years. We presume that by the generic term "industry," what is meant is the pharmaceutical industry.

As of July 1, 1969, 957 men and women were working for the AMA. We maintain no records which will help us identify in all cases the before and after experience of these employees.

It is understandable that in some categories of association activities, the pharmaceutical industry and the American Medical Association will draw upon the same supply of manpower. Similarly, in these same areas, the Food and Drug Administration may also compete for qualified personnel. For example, the pharmaceutical manufacturers, the Food and Drug Administration and the AMA constitute the principal sources of drug information, and it is within their facilities that the evaluation of drugs and drug information is carried out as a continuing function. Since formal programs for education and training in drug evaluation do not now exist, a person interested in a career of evaluation of drug information must go to one or the other of these three principal activities to learn the methodology of drug evaluation and to develop his skills.

Finally, with respect to your seventh question, you requested comments on the concern expressed by many authorities to your subcommittee, to the effect that the FDA has neither the funds nor the personnel, to adequately perform its proper role, in assuring that drugs approved for marketing, are both efficacious and safe. You also asked for comments on any steps, the AMA officially has taken to solve this problem, or suggestions for cooperating or assisting the FDA in carrying out its statutory responsibilities.

The AMA is aware of statements made that the FDA is hampered by lack of funds, and adequate numbers of qualified personnel to discharge effectively its statutory responsibilities. The testimony by Commissioner Goddard and Commissioner Ley before congressional committees has referred to some of the problems faced by the Agency in particular areas of its activities. The AMA does not believe, however, that sufficient information concerning the nature and extent of the apparent deficiencies, has been made available to assess accurately the dimension of the problem, or to propose solutions of practical value.

In view of your request, consideration might be given to a thorough review of the entire range of the FDA's activities, policies and practices by a specially appointed commission of nongovernmental experts, representative of those scientific and professional organizations who may be concerned directly. From such a review and study, the extent and nature of the problems confronting the agency, could be identified and specific solutions proposed. The AMA would cooperate in all stages of such a review.

In regard to the drug evaluation activities of the FDA, the AMA Council and Department of Drugs, have a continuing interest and experience in conducting such evaluations. Copies of the drug monographs prepared in conjunction with the drug evaluations of the AMA, are submitted to the FDA and published by the AMA for physicians.

Representatives of the FDA are invited to attend and participate in the meetings of the Council on Drugs when the Council has matters of mutual interest under consideration. At its most recent meet-