

paper on thromboembolic disease as an example. He also accused the AMA of suppressing information by refusing to publish papers on patients developing strokes and cervical cancer.

Senator NELSON. On the oral contraceptive?

Dr. CONNELL. Right.

Senator NELSON. I guess I shall have to look into the record.

Dr. CONNELL. This is my recollection.

Senator NELSON. Suppressed by whom?

Dr. CONNELL. The individuals doing the work, Committees reviewing the results, pharmaceutical companies, and editors of medical publications.

Senator NELSON. If you remember, would you give us the names of whoever it was?

Dr. CONNELL. Of course.

Senator NELSON. I would like to check it.

Dr. CONNELL. I would be happy to do this.¹

In the interests of time, and at the risk of beating a horse that perhaps should be dead, I would like to mention without further comment the problems of obtaining adequate and reliable data, the difficulties in evaluation of side effects, the relationship between dosage variations and results in both animals and humans, the total inadequacy of most studies to date—all of these and many other critical and vital topics have been brought to your attention.

I do not excuse our present lack of knowledge, but only point out that our areas of ignorance are known, are deplored, and are currently receiving all the attention that time and money at the moment will permit us to give.

Senator NELSON. I did not understand that sentence. You say you only point out that "our areas of ignorance are known, deplored, and currently receiving all the attention that time and money will permit us to give."

You are not saying, are you, that we do not need additional research?

Dr. CONNELL. What I am saying is that the funds we have available are insufficient to do the job properly. Within the confines of our present capability, we are doing the best we can, but we need a great deal of additional help in order to do the job more adequately. We acknowledge the inadequacy of many of our studies, the paucity of numbers. We have not done as much as we could have, because we have not had the support to do it.

Senator NELSON. The meaning that you intend to convey there is that with the limited money you have, all that can be done is being done. Is that what you are saying?

Dr. CONNELL. I think we are attempting to do, with limited funds, as much as possible. We all accept the fact that we could do a great deal better and we are not satisfied at all with what we have been able to accomplish to date.

Senator NELSON. And if there were substantially increased amounts of research funds in this field, it could be usefully used now?

¹ This information was not supplied by Dr. Connell.