Senator NELSON. Please go ahead.

Dr. FELDMANN. Furthermore, we have viewed our responsibility as being more than serving simply as an information pipeline to the profession. As that component of the health care community having the greatest immediate training, experience, knowledge, and interest in drug quality, and in the factors which cumulatively go into a quality pharmaceutical product, pharmacy—through the Association—has conducted a comprehensive spectrum of ongoing activities designed to foster and require quality attributes relating to drug efficacy and safety.

These activities include: sponsoring meetings and symposia, primarily through the APhA Academy of Pharmaceutical Sciences, at which scientific papers and reports are presented describing new test procedures and methodology; the publication of the APhA's "Journal of Pharmaceutical Sciences", which serves as the primary vehicle for communicating the latest such research on a worldwide basis among scientists; the cosponsorship—with the AMA and the USPC—of the Drug Standards Laboratory, which is housed in the APhA building and which conducts laboratory studies designed to develop and evaluate new drug testing procedures; the revision and publication program of "The National Formulary," an official compendium recognized under Federal and State laws as providing standards and specifications for drugs and for their dosage forms; and the establishment of a bioavailability project whereby, in an efficient and coordinated manner, such information might be compiled, evaluated, and made available relative to competing drug product formulations.

Moreover, the association has lent its endorsement, cooperation, and strenuous support to efforts and activities of other groups engaged in comparable efforts to foster the reliability of marketed drug products.

To mention but two examples: The association has collaborated with efforts of the California Pharmaceutical Association in supporting the so-called Crown bill and regulations for its implementation. This is what Dr. Apple referred to just a few moments ago in response to one of your questions about requiring the name of the actual manufacturer or fabricator on the product label.

This is an important piece of information to assist practitioners in making quality judgments relative to that article.

And the association endorsed and cooperated with the Food and Drug Administration and the U.S. Pharmacopeia in a type of grassroots national drug surveillance program designed to provide a broad network for the purpose of identifying and reporting to responsible agencies drug product defects detected at the pharmacy practitioner level.

FDA Commissioner Schmidt's statement yesterday mentioned, as a single example of this, the fact that a pharmacist in the course of his practice noted the problem with respect to the novelty container used for nitroglycerin tablets.

Senator NELSON. Is that the plastic container case?