

11910 COMPETITIVE PROBLEMS IN THE DRUG INDUSTRY

- by conducting national sampling and analysis programs of carefully selected medically important drugs.
- by conducting targeted sampling and analysis of particular products as a result of factory inspections.
- operating adverse reaction and defective product reporting systems which include, among other sources, information provided by physicians, pharmacists, and other health professionals.

When firms do not meet their responsibilities, the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FD&C Act) provides us with authority to take certain measures to bring about correction and/or to remove offending products from the market.

Our quality assurance programs for drugs are aimed at providing optimal assurance of drug quality to all physicians and consumers. These programs employ a major portion of our field manpower available for drug work and range in approach from continuing surveys of the manufacturing practices of selected drug firms, to certification of specific products or plant inspection and analyses involving specific products with identified problems.

We believe that the impact of our quality assurance programs on the drug industry has made that industry one of the most quality-control conscious industries in the country. This has resulted in a drug supply for this Nation that is of the highest quality in the world.