

Dr. ROWE. Optics, Incorporated.

Mr. SISK. Optics, Incorporated?

Dr. ROWE. They manufacture frames. That is the only manufacturer that is a member of our group.

Mr. SISK. Is that the only manufacturer that your Association represents?

Dr. ROWE. The only manufacturer, yes.

Mr. SISK. What about dispensing companies?

Could you have for the record a list of those companies, or does the materials you submitted list the dispensing companies you represent?

Dr. ROWE. No. I can tell you the names of some of them.

Mr. SISK. If you will, to save time, supply those for the record.

Dr. ROWE. Certainly, I will.

(The information requested was not furnished.)

Mr. SISK. Do you have any questions, Mr. Gude?

Mr. GUDE. No questions.

Mr. SISK. Mr. Jacobs?

Mr. JACOBS. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I take it from your testimony, both prepared and oral, that you do not think that there is any conflict in interest where a corporation such as a department store hires an optometrist for the purpose of that optometrist serving the public when at the same time that corporation is in the business of selling glasses?

Is that your general statement?

Dr. ROWE. At one time I was Director of Operations of the company that I now work for. I directed the operations of the offices. I can assure you that there was no conflict of interest. He is given complete authority in the eye examination. He determines what to prescribe for the patient and is not in any way influenced in the results otherwise. As a matter of fact, our research program continues to place additional instrumentation in the offices of these people, to acquire the necessary training in the use of these new instruments, so that they can perform a better examination. We have those programs going on at the present time. We are conducting research into the effectiveness and the feasibility of various types of instrumentation which has not yet been proven scientifically to accomplish what they purport to accomplish. We want to know how they work. There are some electronic instrumentations, one of which claims to be an accurate screening device for screening out glaucoma, that is, potential glaucoma. We are not satisfied that they actually do this. We are conducting research programs. We have placed these instruments out in the field. We have 15 of these instruments, approximately, out—as a matter of fact we have 17. We have 12 electronic; we have four what we call “applanation”, and we have one applanation-electronic combination. We are comparing the results of these, from the standpoint of how effective they are in screening potential glaucoma patients, because when we find that this instrument communicates the possibility of glaucoma, we refer this to a physician for verification of the information that comes back from the instrument. A number of referrals have been made. A number of examinations have been made, and we are attempting to determine the effectiveness and the veracity of these instruments.