

Mr. ROGERS. Should we have a provision in the law that if these facilities are used, it must be at the request of the person?

Mr. DIMAS. Well, I would say that we do have present laws for involuntary basis, or a basis in which the crisis could be created so the person could be referred to the service. We do have our present commitment laws which allow us now to take a chronic alcoholic and commit him for his own protection.

Mr. ROGERS. What I was thinking of was if a person agreed to begin a treatment that he must have, and in that voluntary commitment agreed to the conclusion——

Mr. DIMAS. I would say if he does not agree to stay to its conclusion. If he does not, some other measures might be taken.

Mr. ROGERS. Would you give us your thinking on how that might be incorporated in what we are trying to do?

Mr. DIMAS. I think the St. Louis experience shows that nearly 91 percent of these clients accept the treatment and complete the detoxification treatment.

Mr. ROGERS. I would be interested in seeing how many repeats there are.

Mr. DIMAS. I think this afternoon or tomorrow you will be hearing from Dr. Pittman, who is the founder of the United States first detoxification center.

Mr. ROGERS Dr. Carter?

Mr. CARTER. No questions.

Mr. ROGERS. Thank you very much.

The next witness, Mr. Nathan J. Stark, group vice president for operations, Hallmark Cards, Inc., Kansas City, Mo.

#### **STATEMENT OF NATHAN J. STARK, CHAIRMAN, MISSOURI REGIONAL MEDICAL PROGRAM**

Mr. STARK. My operations have nothing to do with medicine.

Mr. ROGERS. I am not so sure. Don't you give get-well cards or something?

Mr. STARK. I have been accused of that.

I am pleased to have this opportunity to be at this hearing on regional medical programs. I am, as you note from the title, a non-expert in the health field.

A businessman interested in health programs is my category. As I listen to all these experts, many of whom I have heard of, and several of whom I have known, I asked myself the question, "What am I doing here?" But perhaps this is the new look in the nonprofessional's view of the health field.

I think that the need for citizen participation has been rather unfamiliar to most of those in many parts of the health field, but I believe it is fast becoming consumer oriented.

My credentials in the health field are as president of the Kansas City General Hospital and Medical Center, and as chairman of the Missouri regional medical program, and it is to this latter role that I wish to address my remarks.

My statement will be restricted to the Missouri program, since this is the one I am most familiar with, and it may be typical, or may be typical of what other programs are.