

difference in the present situation. As the Commission believes that close control exercised by patents has made it possible to maintain prices of certain drugs at levels higher than would have obtained otherwise and that such patent control has produced no benefits to the public of Canada which would outweigh the disadvantages of the monopoly, the Commission recommends that patents with respect to drugs be abolished. In the opinion of the Commission this is the only effective remedy to reduce the price of drugs in Canada.

7. The retail pharmacists' practice of coding prescriptions to indicate the price charged or quoted should be abandoned and consideration should be given by pharmaceutical associations to removing from their rules any provisions in any way related to the practice.

3. In the opinion of the Commission, the following changes should be made in the Food and Drug Regulations:

(a) All premises in which drugs are manufactured should be subject to inspection by the Food and Drug Directorate.

(b) Requirements in connection with new drug submissions should be extended to include detailed reports of the tests made to establish therapeutic effectiveness of the drug as well as the general safety of reports of tests to establish the safety of the drug. Such a change would make mandatory a joint evaluation of toxicity and

(c) The Food and Drug Directorate should be given the duty of inspecting and analyzing samples from a sufficient large number of batches of every prescription drug manufactured in Canada or imported from outside to make reasonably certain that it meets minimum standards of purity and therapeutic efficacy.

(d) All labels, advertisements or other descriptive material relating to single drugs and official compounds should be required to carry the proper name prominently and in type at least as large as that used for the brand name. A study should be made to ascertain if and to what extent a smaller requirement would be feasible in respect of compound official drugs.

4. Consideration should be given to the advisability of bringing under the supervision of the Food and Drug Directorate all advertising and promotional activities related to drugs, including the distribution of samples and the content of advertising literature.

5. Consideration should be given to the establishment under the auspices of the federal government of an authoritative publication giving all necessary particulars concerning new drugs.

6. The copyright license provision of the Patent Act with respect to drugs has been stated infrequently and in the opinion of the Commission cannot be relied upon to achieve the purpose intended by Parliament of ensuring that medicines should be available to the public at the lowest possible price consistent with living to the inventor due reward for the research leading to the invention. The Commission has considered whether such an objective would be assured if company licenses under section 41(3) of the Patent Act were made available and has concluded that such a change would make no appreciable