Representative John E. Fagerty  
Chairman of the House Appropriation Committee  
for the Dept. of Health, Education and Welfare  

Dear Sir:

Recent press releases indicate that the Honorable Richard L. Newberger has been able to intensify research on Cancer by The Department of Public Health. Cancer being in such an epidemic stage that it is likely to strike anyone of us from infancy to old age.

This "all out" search for a chemical cure for Cancer is encouraging in its way, but I feel another "all out" attack should be made in eliminating Cancer by publicizing the known causes of Cancer. It is not enough to find a chemical cure, it is far more important to prevent Cancer from getting started.

The booklet entitled "Environmental Cancer", by W. C. Hueper, M. D. of The National Cancer Institute, Bethesda; and published and sold by the U. S. Government Printing Office states on page 10, that in 1934 it was discovered and proven workers in the Asbestos industry developed lung Cancer. I can recall hearing in 1928 that Asbestos caused Cancer, yet even today there is constant advertising of several brands of Milk of Magnesia, which according to Webster's dictionary Magnesia is Asbestos. We also have another product Citrate of Magnesia, likewise some of our indigestion tablets used to alkalize the stomach are made of Asbestos. This Milk of Magnesia is highly recommended on Television advertising, radio, magazines and newspapers as a very desirable laxative for infants, children and adults.

Year after year we hear of children developing many types of Cancer and Leukemia. How long will it take before the public is informed that they may be condemning their children to an early death when they use forms of Asbestos?

Page 17 of the booklet by Dr. Hueper states, "Known Carcinogenic agents should be eliminated from industrial, civilian or military use whenever practical and possible," this should include medicine.
Why with the hundreds of millions of dollars appropriated by Congress to The Department of Public Health is the public kept in ignorance? and why aren't such Cancer causing agents removed from the market? doesn't the Congress owe it to the American people to give them adequate protection?

I am only citing one example here, but I can think of a number of other chemicals which have been known to cause Cancer as far back as 1775. It is difficult to understand why we cry for a cure when we are allowing the chemicals to be advertised as a remedy for even infants, thereby blighting their lives and the lives of their families. You are in a position to be of invaluable service to the present and future generations and I sincerely hope you are in a position to have this investigated.

I would appreciate your viewpoint on this subject.

Sincerely yours,

Frederick E. Teal

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