

# DENENBERG'S DILEMMA

By Monroe Schneier, D.C.

Regarding Dr. Denenberg's changes against the Chiropractic Profession, allow me to make the following observations:

1. The hearings in Philadelphia on September 27, 1972 concerned themselves particularly with the question of chiropractic inclusion in Blue Shield.

2. Denenberg, who acted as judge, jury, prosecuting attorney, and executioner, started the hearings with a clearly biased pre-



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sentation against the Chiropractic Profession. His condemnation was worthy of the highest paid lobbyist for the A.M.A., not for a public official.

3. His press releases about the Chiropractic Profession were drawn up before the hearings, although they are dated Sept. 27, 1:00 p.m.

4. The television cameras at his hearing started to roll only when Dr. Stephen Barrett, an Allentown psychiatrist and a lobbyist for the Lehigh Valley Committee against Health Fraud Incorporated, began to speak. Barrett has admitted feeding his medical propaganda to Denenberg.

5. Denenberg cloaked this discredited material in the veil of scientific proof. The United States Senate, which knows all about these cynical reports and how they were produced and by whom, has completely discounted them by voting twice to include the Chiropractic Profession into the Medicare Program since the time these medically produced reports were issued. Chiropractic is now included in Medicaid, Workman's Compensation and all other Health and Accident Insurance coverage.

6. Denenberg claims that he

has not read any material about chiropractic which counters this medical propaganda except the Chiropractic White Papers which he said did not impress him. Nothing can impress a biased mind which has already been made up. Truly unbiased data, written mostly by medical researchers, was presented to Denenberg more than a year ago by this writer at Denenberg's request. He failed to mention this material at all and it is doubtful if he has even read it.

This entire matter finds its historical equivalent in Nazi Germany in 1932 when the Nazi presented a "Scientific Study" which "proved" that the Jews were an "inferior and dangerous" people who should be exterminated. Since the Jews did not produce satisfactory evidence to the Nazis to counter the charge, they were exterminated in Concentration camps and gas chambers. The Nazis were a very intellectual, cultured, and scientific people too — just like Dr. Denenberg and Dr. Barrett.

The question of the validity of chiropractic was never a question to be decided upon by Dr. Denenberg. This is not a matter for his department and he is certainly not qualified or equipped to make judgment on matters of this nature. He is or should be an Insurance Commissioner and was not appointed to be the chief inquisitor to pass on the validity of a licensed profession of the Healing Arts.

Dr. Denenberg has many good ideas and programs to benefit the consumer. If he had confined himself to the matter of needs and costs, if any, for the inclusion of chiropractic into the Blue Shield Program he would have remained an honorable man and worthy of respect. By mouthing this discredited medical propaganda in the field where he has no qualifications he has lost the respect of fair minded people throughout the Commonwealth and indeed throughout the Nation.

As Insurance Commissioner, he has demonstrated total irresponsibility. Under these circumstances Dr. Denenberg should make public retraction and apologize to the 13 hundred licensed Doctors of Chiropractic in this Commonwealth and to the million or so consumers who avail themselves of chiropractic services.

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