
Eloge: Will Lissner, 1908-2000

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described the illicit market for vital pricey post-operative drugs that many transplant patients have come to rely on when their insurance provider refuses to pay for them. According to Lagnado, a sophisticated communication system identifies where unused caches of expensive life-saving drugs are kept and how they can be accessed when needed. A zealous group of crusaders takes charge of moving the donated drug compounds to the needy users on time and on a regular basis so that scores of transplant patients can live to see another day. The existing system works by harnessing the last remaining pills in the bottle after their legitimate owner has no more need for them. Those few pills are covertly mobilized and made available to others in need. Since the middlemen are crusaders and not profit-making entrepreneurs, the price that the "buyers" pay is not expressed in money. This apparent combination of market mechanisms with exhortation and crusading zeal may be an example of how Thorne's pleas for exhortation can be meshed in a functional way with certain important aspects of the market mechanism, as expertly explained by Barnett and Kaserman. I suspect that this is not the last word on the subject and that the *AJES* can look forward to future contributions on this same subject—perhaps in response to our Cussen-Block editorial planned for the July issue, in which these authors call for a complete free market in drug compounds and the legalization of all trading.

This issue concludes with book notes on two stimulating recent contributions.

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Our Founding Editor died on Saturday night, March 25th, after a long bout with double pneumonia and a long lifetime of interest in ideas, world politics, and social science. Will started this *American Journal of Economics and Sociology* in 1941 while he worked full-time as a *New York Times* reporter. His interest in the journal never waned and he shared information and offered kind advice to its current editor as recently as December 14, 1999. He was a great editor who labored zealously on behalf of the *AJES*. His contributions will be remembered in subsequent numbers of this journal, as they were in the obituary that appeared in the *New York Times* on March 29, 2000 subtitled "Times Reporter Who Specialized in Economics."