

14936 COMPETITIVE PROBLEMS IN THE DRUG INDUSTRY

or tranquilizer. We do not deal with the real problem.

Let me illustrate. Four weeks ago a young man was released from a certain penal institution. While he was there he got under a lot of tension. So the doctor gave him some Valium. As the tension built so did his intake of Valium, legally. He was released, having completed his sentence, with a legal prescription and is using 40-50 mg. of Valium per day. He is "free" from jail, but he cannot function in the "straight" 8-5 society. The 40-50 mg. of Valium does not handle the additional tension so he has added a little alcohol to help out. Now he is in danger of violating the conditions of his release.

What is the problem? Is it tension? Or do we need to dig a little deeper? Then give the individual the coping mechanism to deal with the problem. I have had only 20 minutes with this individual and discovered his tension started when his wife divorced him while in prison. Maybe there was no way to save the marriage, but there is a better way of handling the succeeding emotional problems than a chemical cop out.

I am not sure this legislative body can solve the problem, but I believe unless we are willing to see why we get pushed into using chemical substitutes we will continue to seek chemical solutions to emotional and spiritual problems

Dr. Blum stated in an article in Look magazine, several years ago, in a discussion of various solutions to the drug abuse problem, "If we are looking for a drug to solve the drug problem we will fail. We will never solve the drug problem until we make up our minds what our minds are for."

Now to speak specifically to our experience with the amphet-