

UPI was represented by Miss Judy Vick of the University of Minnesota News Service. She says her notes show that in the Q. & A. with reporters in the auditorium Victor Cohn of the Minneapolis Tribune asked whether marijuana is more dangerous than alcohol. And that you replied "Whether or not marijuana is more dangerous than alcohol is debatable. I don't happen to think it is."

Miss Vick says that Mr. Cohn then asked whether you would mind if your daughter smoked marijuana any more than if she drank a cocktail, and that you replied "No, except in the context of the present law." I take that to be a reference to the fact that marijuana is illegal and alcohol is legal.

Mr. Cohn's recollection is that his question was to the effect "Would you mind if your daughter took marijuana?" His notes have you responding: "We have talked about it at home. I would (that is, would object) in terms of the law today" and "we really don't know what the long-term effects (of marijuana) are." Followed by some comments about distortion of perception following use of marijuana.

So it has become clear to me that UPI erred in attributing to you unqualified statements which in fact were considerably qualified.

I am sorry if UPI has compounded your problems. We are prepared to carry a dispatch acknowledging our error.

In view of the public uncertainty that now exists as to what you do and do not believe, I hope you will sit down with our Louis Cassels so that he can prepare a definitive dispatch. I believe you know Mr. Cassels and his outstanding record for accuracy and fairness. Please let me know.

Several members of Congress have inquired about our original story, and I am taking the liberty of sending them copies of this letter.

Sincerely,

JULIUS FRANDSEN,  
*Vice President and Washington Manager.*

Dr. GODDARD. In his letter Mr. Frandsen says, "So it has become clear to me that UPI erred in attributing to you unqualified statements which in fact were considerably qualified. I am sorry if UPI has compounded your problems. We are prepared to carry a dispatch acknowledging our error."

Senator NELSON. Did they release a dispatch acknowledging their error?

Dr. GODDARD. I didn't request them to do so, Senator, because of the hearings scheduled for yesterday. And I understand they did carry a very comprehensive story on their wire service last night, although I have not seen it as yet.

Senator NELSON. Thank you. Go ahead.

Dr. GODDARD. A very good story, too, I am told.

Mr. Chairman, I think the press recognizes the importance of the problem marihuana presents to society and makes every effort to provide the Nation with the best information available.

My remarks concerning marihuana—in Minneapolis and elsewhere—have always been in response to questions from the press. In every instance, I have made it abundantly clear that marihuana has been and still remains under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Department of the Treasury. It is often erroneously assumed that the Food and Drug Administration, which administers the drug abuse control amendments, has jurisdiction over not only the controlled drugs—the amphetamines, barbiturates, and hallucinogens—but marihuana as well. Our agency has made every effort to clarify the differences wherever possible.