

(The information supplied is contained in Public Health Service publication No. 1640 (1967), "Alcohol and Alcoholism".)

Dr. GODDARD. We are talking about a very serious health problem, and I consider drug abuse to be a very serious health problem of our Nation as well, and marihuana is one drug that is being abused. The extent of the magnitude of that portion of the problem is known, and estimates range between 400,000 to 3 million people currently using marihuana.

The CHAIRMAN. One further question and then I will stop.

In 1963, the Prettyman commission recommended transfer of jurisdiction over the hard narcotics and over the amphetamines, barbiturates, and LSD to the Justice Department. Do you know if the administration ever took a position on that recommendation and, if so, what it was?

Dr. GODDARD. I do not believe they have ever taken a position on that recommendation. I am familiar with the Prettyman report, but they have not taken a position.

The CHAIRMAN. Mr. Friedel.

Mr. BROWN. Mr. Chairman—

Mr. FRIEDEL. I don't have any questions, but I am very glad we invited Dr. Goddard to this meeting to clear the air. I am glad that you were here to deny that. I think you have been done a lot of injustice.

Dr. GODDARD. Thank you.

Mr. FRIEDEL. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN. Mr. Keith.

Mr. KEITH. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

It is good to see you here to clarify this confusing situation, but I am not surprised that it is confused. It seems to me that you could have given a frank statement of one word to each of the questions contained in this UPI letter and saved yourself a lot of embarrassment, this committee a lot of concern, and reassure the public as to what the true facts were instead of hedging a bit. It seems to me as though you asked for what you got.

The letter you presented here does not give a simple, straightforward answer to a question that could have been answered simply and straightforward. Is that not so?

Dr. GODDARD. I don't believe it is so because I obviously answered the questions that were asked me by the press on this and other occasions, and these are complicated matters. Many of these things cannot be answered by a direct "Yes" or "No."

I would like to offer for the record, Mr. Chairman, a copy of the transcript of the press conference at Minneapolis as well as other press conferences where the question has arisen.

(The document referred to follows:)

TRANSCRIPTION OF WCCO TAPE OF GODDARD PRESS CONFERENCE, OCTOBER 17, 1967,
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA, MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.

Dr. GODDARD. First of all, marijuana is under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Narcotics, U.S. Treasury Department. I've been asked to comment on the subject a number of times and I've tried to make my position clear, that first we need more long term research to detect any possible serious side effects from chronic usage. But, secondly, I feel that the present penalty for personal possession is