

PROBLEMS RELATING TO THE CONTROL OF MARIHUANA

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 1967

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE
OF THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS,
Washington, D.C.

The subcommittee met, pursuant to notice, at 10:05 a.m., in room 2203, Rayburn House Office Building, Hon. J. Edward Roush presiding.

Present: Representatives J. Edward Roush, Benjamin S. Rosenthal, Florence P. Dwyer, and Robert Dole.

Professional staff present: James R. Naughton, W. Donald Gray, and Delphis C. Goldberg, Intergovernmental Relations Subcommittee, and William H. Copenhaver, minority staff, Committee on Government Operations.

Mr. ROUSH. The committee will be in order. Let the record show that a quorum is present.

Mr. Fountain, the chairman of the subcommittee, is a delegate to the United Nations and the business of the United Nations has prevented him from being present today. I am J. Edward Roush, a member of the subcommittee, and I will be presiding today.

I also call your attention to the fact that we have less than an hour. The House goes into session at 11 today, unfortunately.

The purpose of the subcommittee's hearings today and tomorrow is to discuss problems relating to the control of marihuana. These hearings were called at the request of several subcommittee members who were disturbed by recent press accounts of statements on this subject attributed to the Commissioner of Food and Drugs, Dr. James L. Goddard, who is our witness this morning.

After this hearing had been scheduled, Dr. Goddard appeared before two other committees to discuss the same subject. Although these hearings appear to have clarified Dr. Goddard's position somewhat, a number of questions remain unanswered, and in fact, some new questions have been suggested. Moreover, since control of marihuana is not the responsibility of FDA but of the Narcotics Bureau, it seemed advisable to hear from that agency also. Consequently, we have scheduled Commissioner of Narcotics, Henry L. Giordano, as our witness tomorrow.

Dr. Goddard, since the subcommittee members have received an advance copy of your statement and since it is virtually identical to the one you made before the other committees, I think it would save time to incorporate it in the record and if there is no objection, we will