

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA,
Minneapolis, Minn., October 24, 1967.

Dr. JAMES L. GODDARD,
Commissioner of Food and Drugs,
Food and Drug Administration,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR DR. GODDARD: This is to express our appreciation for your presentation of the third annual Alan K. Ruvelson lectureship on the relationships of government and business sponsored by the school of business administration, the college of medical sciences, and the law school.

Your thoughtful lecture and subsequent dialog with the audience met fully our expectations of academic quality. In order to optimize the educational value of your address, we plan to publish the full text and make it available to a wider audience.

I am concerned, however, that the press conference which followed may have led to some misinterpretation of your remarks concerning marihuana. With reference to the latter, I understood you to say:

- (1) Marihuana, like alcohol, can be dangerous.
- (2) The present law regarding marihuana should be modified to give emphasis to the sellers and purveyors rather than the users.
- (3) You would counsel your children and others not to use marihuana in view of present law and the uncertainties regarding its possible long-term effects.
- (4) Research should be, and is being, undertaken regarding the effects of marihuana.

In view of the foregoing, I do not understand some of the comments attributed to persons not present. And, what puzzles me even more, is why reliance is placed upon secondhand and even thirdhand sources when you can be asked directly to state your views. The motives of the commentators, under these circumstances, leave me baffled.

Again, please accept our thanks for your participation on our campus. We hope the occasion will present itself for another visit before too long.

Sincerely yours,

GEORGE SELTZER,
Associate Dean for Academic Affairs.

Dr. GODDARD. And I think the presence of a science writer, Mr. Victor Cohn, his understanding, and he was present throughout the entire thing, was reported in the Pink Sheet, and clearly indicates I never made such an unqualified statement.

Mr. ROUSH. Could we see this?

Dr. GODDARD. Yes, certainly.

(The material referred to follows:)

FDC REPORTS

OCTOBER, 23, 1967.

GODDARD MISQUOTED IN STORIES SAYING HE WOULD NO MORE OBJECT TO HIS DAUGHTER SMOKING MARIHUANA THAN TO HER DRINKING COCKTAILS, TOP SCIENCE WRITER SAYS

FDA Commissioner Goddard was misquoted in news stories reporting that he said he would not object any more to his college daughter smoking marihuana than he would to her drinking a cocktail, one of the Nation's leading science writers said October 20.

Minneapolis Tribune Reporter Victor Cohn said "most of the stories I've seen misrepresented his—Goddard's—statements" at the University of Minnesota October 17. Both Cohn—a former president of the National Association of Science Writers—and the FDA chief flatly told "The Pink Sheet" that Goddard had not made the statement about his daughter.

Congressional demands for Goddard's resignation were touched off by the alleged statement about his daughter, and by statements he did make after a speech at the University of Minnesota on the relationships between business and government. The office of Health, Education, and Welfare Secretary Gardner was studying a transcript of some of Goddard's remarks at Minneapolis.