

Mr. ROSENTHAL. Your Department was not the prime mover in recommending to the President that this reorganization plan be submitted?

Dr. LEE. Yes, sir; as a matter of fact we were one of the groups that made this recommendation. It was based on the involvement of organized crime in the trafficking and the need, we felt, and Dr. Goddard shares this view, that in order to effectively deal with that facet of the problem, a more coordinated effort under the primary Federal enforcement agency was necessary. And that was the reason we actually made this proposal.

Now, the proposal has come from other people. Obviously, it was indicated in earlier times relating to narcotics. And there were outside advisors who also advised on this particular problem.

Mr. ROSENTHAL. Who were the outside advisors?

Dr. LEE. I can't tell you because I don't personally know.

Mr. ROSENTHAL. I didn't mean individuals—groups or organizations?

Dr. LEE. In the development of this proposal, a number of people were consulted. The Department of Health, Education, and Welfare was among them. Perhaps, Mr. Hughes could answer that question for you or maybe the information could be supplied.

Mr. ROSENTHAL. Is the drug-abuse problem getting away from us, Dr. Lee?

Dr. LEE. I think the drug-abuse problem is a very major problem. It is a symptom, in a sense, of this deeper problem, what has been generally described as alienation.

As we get new drugs, the problems get more complicated, more difficult. We have felt that the FDA and the Bureau of Drug Abuse Control has done an excellent job of getting on top of the problem.

But I don't think any of us feel yet that we are on top of the problem. But whether it is getting more out of hand or less, perhaps Mr. Finlator can comment on that; but I think we are certainly in a better position than we were 2 years ago.

We have a better understanding of the problem, better mechanisms for dealing with it.

Mr. ROSENTHAL. There are about 10,000 more people using drugs than 2 years ago, though.

Dr. LEE. We don't know that.

Mr. ROSENTHAL. I spoke to some high school kids down from my district and they told me in their high school 40 percent of the kids were taking hooch. I couldn't believe it.

Dr. LEE. I am speaking of the drugs we control. Apparently the use of marihuana has become much more widespread in recent years.

Mr. ROSENTHAL. Then how can you say things are better than they were 2 years ago? They are 10 times worse?

Dr. LEE. I was referring to the drugs covered by the Bureau of Drug Abuse Control, those drugs we have responsibility for.

Marihuana has been a responsibility of the Department of the Treasury, I believe, since 1937, when the Marihuana Tax Act was enacted.

And that is a reflection again, a symptom of the deeper social problem.

Mr. ROSENTHAL. And you think we can help alleviate the problem by having more vigorous enforcement policies?