

Will the proposed consolidation of the agencies in a new Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs, which you have heard, place sufficient emphasis upon the medical aspects of the problem of drug abuse as you see it?

Dr. BARTON. I heard convincing testimony this morning for the increased efficiency of combining two departments that had an overlapping concern for enforcement. But I also heard the distinct absence of the very concerns that I express. Research into the causation of the use of drugs is both a medical and a social problem; it requires the combined efforts of medicine and social scientists to work at its solution. And the framework that is most comfortable and accustomed to working inter-professionally is the health, education, and welfare rubric. Similarly, treatment and rehabilitation requires a great deal of experimentation and pilot testing to determine the efficacy of the various treatment methods under way. And here, once again, the National Institute of Mental Health and the National Institutes of Health have the principal resource. And youth, I believe, in the educational field, is not going to be deterred by statements that drugs are illegal. This is a long and complicated process. It involves the students in junior high school, it involves them in senior high school, it involves them in college, it involves the teaching of teachers and the teaching of physicians. And this complicated process, it seems, would be best nourished in other than a punitive framework.

Chairman BLATNIK. You may recall when the further questioning went on, we mentioned the Bureau of the Budget. Just where is the major function or responsibility for the psychiatric and medical and sociological coordinated research and study and educational programs, the cooperation with the universities? In what agency is that now being done? Do you know of any such major agency, doctor?

Dr. BARTON. The National Institute of Mental Health has many programs of research and study in the area of dangerous drugs.

Chairman BLATNIK. What agency of Government is doing the major share of the work now?

Dr. BARTON. It is within HEW, the National Institute of Mental Health.

Chairman BLATNIK. That is under the Public Health Service, is it not?

Dr. BARTON. Yes, sir.

Chairman BLATNIK. What about the National Institutes of Health?

Dr. BARTON. They are also interested in this.

Chairman BLATNIK. The major work now in the Government anywhere would be in the National Institute of Mental Health, which is under Public Health Service in HEW, is that right?

Dr. BARTON. Yes, sir.

Chairman BLATNIK. Would you know or are you familiar with how close it may or may not be working with the Food and Drug Administration, which is a separate setup under HEW which had control of the Bureau of Drug Abuse Control and which does have control of the Bureau of Medicine and the Bureau of Regulatory Compliance, which would be somewhat related, I would think, to the drug field? Would you be familiar with this?

Dr. BARTON. Only in a general way. When a new drug of an experimental nature is under study, it often operates under the NIMH's