

and drastically amended to keep the repeaters from committing new crimes. These are essential steps to make our streets and our homes safe for law-abiding citizens. In some states, judges hand down stiffer sentences for killing game out of season than some D.C. judges give criminals in cases where guns are used. It is time to stop making excuses for criminals and to recognize crime for what is is, a plague of destruction that knows no barrier of race, color, or creed or financial status. From 1960 to 1966, 335 policemen in our Nation were killed, 322 died by guns in the hands of criminals. 242 Metropolitan Policemen have been assaulted this year in the District as compared to 193 combined assaults on Metropolitan and Park Police last year. Nation-wide last year, guns were used in more than 125,000 assaults, rapes and robberies.

The House wisely rejected the licensing and registration amendments which would have penalized law-abiding citizens. The amendment offered by Congressman McClory, for instance, called, in one section, for "imprisonment not to exceed two years, or a fine not to exceed \$2000, or both." Another section called for "imprisonment not to exceed 5 years or a fine not to exceed \$10,000 or both." These were aimed at the law-abiding citizens.

The D.C. City Council under Chairman John W. Hechinger, who sold guns in the Hechinger's stores for many years has adopted gun registration and licensing provisions which were rejected by the House of Representatives. The D. C. City Council's new gun regulations provide penalties for failure to comply of \$300 or 10 days in jail, or both. Is it realistic to expect such minor offenses to deter criminals from killing another policeman, from committing another rape or another robbery or another assault? The Washington Post, which, generally favors the criminal and gives major headlines to everyone who attacks police, either verbally or by guns, and feels that it is white people and white policemen, and society in general and not the criminally-inclined individuals; who are responsible for crime, was predictably enthusiastic in its support of the farcial gun control regulations backed by Mr. Hechinger and adopted at his insistence by the D.C. City Council.

We hope this Committee will take action against the Hechinger gun control regulations now that the House of Representatives has decisively rejected the McClory amendment by a vote of 168 to 89, in view of the fact that the McClory amendment and Mr. Hechinger's gun control regulations are aimed at the law-abiding citizen rather than the criminal. As the House of Representatives pointed out, criminals ignore such weak-kneed laws. The Supreme Court in the case of *Haynes* against the United States has encouraged criminals to ignore the Hechinger-McClory approach by ordering that the defendant be released. The famous, or infamous opinion, depending on how you look at it, and whether you are a criminal or a law-abiding citizen, was written by Justice Harlan and it declared "we hold that a proper claim of the constitutional privilege against self-incrimination provides a full defense to prosecutions either for failure to register a firearm under section 5841 or for possession of a unregistered firearm under section 5851."

A sound constitutional basis does not exist for the D.C. Gun Control Regulations which Mr. Hechinger insisted on pushing through the