

There is in the works now in cooperation with the Health Department a broader experimental use of the rehabilitation of narcotics addicts.

Mr. GUDE. Do the precincts where this problem is the greatest work with the Health Department in this effort?

Chief LAYTON. Our narcotics law enforcement is supervised and coordinated largely by the headquarters squad. We do make use of members of the various precincts, but it is all coordinated with the headquarters squad. This is a specialized enforcement. We need, I think, to have this centralized coordination.

Mr. GUDE. Then whoever is head of this squad in your central headquarters works with the Health Department in coordinating this new program?

Chief LAYTON. Yes.

Mr. GUDE. If we had this legislation, then, there could be no one person who could compel if police authorities felt they did not want to cooperate or work with the Health Department, then they could go their own way, as I see it. Now, as the Police Commissioner established by this bill would not be under the control of the same authorities as the Health Department, would that be true?

Chief LAYTON. Well, I would expect that whoever was the head of a law enforcement agency or group of agencies would still be amenable to the law. If the law provided for certain kinds of treatment then that individual, whoever he would be, would be amenable to the dictates of the law.

Mr. GUDE. If the law so stated or if you put the administration of this aspect of the Health Department under Congress, then it would be easy to coordinate. Thank you very much.

The CHAIRMAN. Mr. Walker?

Mr. WALKER. Mr. Chairman, there is one good thing about being a junior Member of this committee, as well as of any other; by the time it reaches this Member, why, it has been thoroughly aired and most issues have already been adequately taken care of. So I don't have any questions, but I do have an observation or two.

CIVIL DISTURBANCES

If memory serves me correctly, I have heard testimony before this committee that the Department was, and was not, both sides as a matter of fact, surprised and not surprised about the so-called riots that we had back there in April. I can't understand how anyone in Washington reading the news media and the many remarks and speeches having been made prior to the April riots, that anyone could have been surprised, because I have heard testimony before this committee that they were not surprised and, as a matter of fact, they had the troops alerted and trained. There was some confusion, as a matter of fact, as to when and how soon they called on them. Then I have heard and read many statements and remarks about how happy and pleased everyone was because they had showed so much restraint.

So I won't belabor the subject. I have just been sitting here listening to all these remarks with some interest. I was also interested in the remarks made by Attorney Margolius, I believe was his name, last week.