

used. This procedure contributes to the cost of the drugs—if I may interject that here. This need for purification and the removal of contaminants adds to the cost.

Senator BAIRD: Can you taste it or smell it?

Dr. HARDMAN: No.

Senator SULLIVAN: You are making the point that they have to obtain the pure drug illicitly and then dilute it and manufacture it in some way?

Dr. HARDMAN: No. If they are smuggling in the drug from Europe generally they are bringing in the relatively pure drug.

Senator SULLIVAN: In liquid form?

Dr. HARDMAN: In a liquid solution at times, but this dissipates quite rapidly. Normally it is brought in in powder form or tablet form. In the United States it is manufactured from lysergic acid, and in the ethylation process the by-products are not removed.

Senator SMITH (*Queens-Shelburne*): Is there some evidence that trafficking in this drug is a profitable racket up to this point?

Dr. HARDMAN: Again I would have to direct that question to Inspector Macauley. I understand the price of a capsule is somewhere in the region of \$5.

The CHAIRMAN: How many "trips" for \$5?

Dr. HARDMAN: This would be one capsule, sir. I would say it would cost about 50 cents to produce this capsule.

The CHAIRMAN: I take it the return "trip" is not guaranteed.

Dr. HARDMAN: No, sir. This is one of the areas that constitutes a hazard.

Senator SMITH (*Queens-Shelburne*): I would like to know whether there is any evidence at all that the kind of people who in the past have been trafficking in narcotics are beginning to be involved in this particular trafficking?

Dr. HARDMAN: I would ask that that question be directed to Inspector Macauley.

Inspector MACAULEY: Yes, this is one of our concerns. We have been concerned about the fact that since 1963, or thereabouts, we know that many of our criminal traffickers are working in this direction. There is evidence that they are interested in the profits that can be made.

Senator CROLL: An ounce of this would be considered a great quantity, would it not?

Inspector MACAULEY: It would be.

Senator CROLL: Well, we all understand an ounce. When diluted what would an ounce cost?

Inspector MACAULEY: This is a question I cannot answer. When we see it, it is in the illicit form.

Senator CROLL: Well, can Dr. Hardman tell me?

Dr. HARDMAN: I would have to calculate that. An ounce is something like 200,000 capsules.

Senator CROLL: Yes.

The CHAIRMAN: At \$5 a piece.

Dr. HARDMAN: I would think that in a pilot plant, if they were starting off from scratch, it would be an ounce for \$50,000. If they were in continuous production they would reduce that price.

Senator CROLL: According to what we hear it would produce a quarter of a million "trips."

Dr. HARDMAN: Yes, that is reasonable.

Senator CROLL: I have seen the suggestion made it would be between \$3 and \$5 a "trip." That is about the finance of it?