

CAMPUS CANADA

Munro And Gov't Attempt To Relate To Drugs

OTTAWA (CUP) - The federal government is extending its drug testing facilities to physicians so they can check out a substance and know how to treat a patient, but the users themselves will have to play hit and miss with the drugs they take.

Health and Welfare minister John Munro told a press conference Wed. (Jan 27) physicians will have legal sanction to take what they believe to be an illegal drug to a Food and Drug clinic or to one of the soon-to-be established community clinics to test and analyse street drugs.

The testing would aid the doctor in diagnosis and treatment of the patient. But this doesn't solve the problem with which many drug takers are faced - smoking bad dope or dropping bad chemicals.

Munro stated the government had no plans for setting up clinics at rock festivals where drugs are prevalent, to test their contents for poisonous substances.

The drug research program is spending approximately 70 per cent of its time studying the effects of cannabis (mari-

juana, hashish and related substances).

The interim report of the Le Dain Commission recommended softening of penalties for possession of these substances but the Food and Drug Directorate (FDD) is still doing more research on the subject and the government will not act on the Le Dain suggestion until the FDD completes its research.

The government has a new national program to combat drug abuse which emphasises more facilities for testing drugs and also a greater program to respond to those already taking drugs.

The innovative services program provided grants for drop-in centres and crisis centres which would hopefully be run by "young people".

It also includes "rehabilitative and preventative service, detached street work, indigenous street counselling, information and referral services, as well as residential treatment centres, work activity programs, employment service and other development services related to drug abuse."

There will be two kinds of clinics available for drug testing.

The FDD clinics which already exist in Halifax, Montreal, Toronto, Winnipeg and Vancouver and those which might be located in hospitals where the physicians would have easy access to them. Munro declined to comment on where these new clinics would be located but said there will be an announcement about them soon.

Answering a question about whether a person off the

street in possession of an illegal substance might go into a clinic to have it checked out the minister said, "no, the clinics could not provide controlled testing" for the drugs users.

The government will be spending a total of 4 1/2 million on this program which also includes publishing information containing relevant data about drugs and scientific discoveries about their effects.

Besides the scientific research that will be going on, there will also be "sociological" research which, Mr. Munro said would include a class breakdown of drug users.

But there will be no specific program to deal with the general social conditions many people of all ages find themselves in today, Dr. R.A. Chapman, a member of the Food and Drug Commission said.

U.S. Presses For Water

WASHINGTON (CUPI) - C. B. Rogers Morton, soon to become Richard Nixon's secretary of the interior, thinks that draining Canada's north to supply America's fresh water needs is "an imaginative concept."

Interviewed at a US Senate hearing to confirm his appointment, Morton was questioned about the North American Water and Power Alliance (NAWAPA).

NAWAPA is a plan conceived by American think-tank engineers that would divert water

from the Canadian north that now flows into the Arctic through the natural trough of the Rocky Mountains into America.

The plan was first unveiled about five years ago and has been gaining support in the US ever since. It would destroy all ecological balances that exist in the north.

Utah Democratic senator Frank Moss is a leading voice for the plan.

The Utah senator told the Senate Committee that:

"There are a lot of ramifications. There are international aspects and the Canadians are involved. We cannot answer all the questions. We want to know how much we can pay for that (Canadian) water."

Morton is a Republican congressman from Spiro Agnew's home state of Maryland. He has been picked by Nixon to replace Walter Hickel who was fired last November for having too many disagreements with Nixon's dealings with protest.

NOTICE

The attention of students is drawn to P. vii of the University Calendar (1970-71) where February 15 is shown as the last date for withdrawal from the University or classes without academic penalty.

This means that courses from which a student does not withdraw will remain on his record permanently. Students who are thinking of dropping a course should discuss this with their instructors, Deans and/or advisors. The permission of your Dean or his designate is required before you can withdraw from a course.

Since some students may not be aware now of the courses in which they registered in September the Registrar's Office is shortly mailing out to each student a statement showing the courses in which he or she is presently registered. The statement will also show the student's local address and the address to which marks will be mailed out in May or June.

Students are asked to check these carefully and come in to the Registrar's Office in Fredericton or the Office of the Principal in St. John to discuss any changes and corrections.

Office Hours: Mon. - Fri. 10 am to 4:45 pm.