

Decriminalization favored

The U.S. government's number one drug abuse official has reversed his position on marijuana and come out in favor of decriminalization.

Robert DuPont, director of the National Institute on Drug Abuse and head of the White House Special Action Office on

Drug Abuse Prevention, says in a speech delivered in Washington, D.C. Friday evening that he now favors decriminalization of the marijuana laws.

Addressing a marijuana conference sponsored by the National Organization for Reform of Marijuana Laws

(NORML), DuPont urged that research into the effects of marijuana be continued, and that efforts be made to discourage persons from using the drug. However, in a major change of federal policy, DuPont also cites the rising incidents of marijuana arrests and the social stigma attached to persons convicted of marijuana possession, and says that the social consequences outweigh the limited benefits of the present laws.

DuPont cites in particular the new Oregon marijuana law which reduced possession of small amounts to a civil, rather than criminal, penalty. He implies that the Oregon law may be a good model for the rest of the nation.

DuPont also cited the recent remarks of Attorney General William Saxbe, who said this week that he, too, favors a change in the marijuana laws.

Police more harm than good

Los Angeles (ENS) - The former head of the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration, Donald Santarelli, has called for a "new consensus of priorities" in law enforcement in which arrests for simple possession of marijuana would be at the very bottom.

Santarelli - once considered a heavy law-and-order man in the Nixon Administration - says he chiefly opposes enforcement. He said that a recent \$25 million study by LEAA revealed that teenagers do not report 80 percent of the crimes they witness because they have no confidence in the criminal justice system.

Santarelli says much of that lack of confidence results from rigorous enforcement of victimless crimes, such as marijuana possession.

In an essay appearing in the Los Angeles Time, Santarelli argues that "medical science is still not certain that moderate use of marijuana is harmful." He says that by continuing to enforce the simple possession laws, the police may be causing "more harm than good."

He argued the same position before an audience of the International Narcotic Enforcement Officers' Association last month. He says that audience gave him a "mixed" reception - with some supporting the idea and others opposed.

His resignation from the LEAA became effective the day after the speech.

**10 MINUTES
OF YOUR TIME
COULD SAVE
A FRIEND'S LIFE.**



In the time it takes to drive your friend home, you could save his life.

If your friend's been drinking too much, he shouldn't be driving.

The automobile crash is the number one cause of death of people your age. And the ironic thing is that the drunk drivers responsible for killing young people are most often other young people.

Take ten minutes. Or twenty. Or an hour. Drive your friend home. That's all. If you can't do that, call a cab. Or let him sleep on your couch.

We're not asking you to be a doctor or a cop. Just a friend.

**IF YOU LET A FRIEND DRIVE DRUNK,
YOU'RE NO FRIEND.**

ATTENTION~

ALL NON-ACADEMIC EMPLOYEES OF THE U. of A.!

HERE'S A NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION THAT WILL BE KEPT.

We resolve to get
the Non-Academic staff
of the University of Alberta
a better deal
in the coming year
because you deserve it!

Join up with us,
let us
be your bargaining agent,
and you'll get
the best deal possible.

YOU DESERVE A BETTER DEAL AND SOMETHING WILL BE DONE!



Civil Service Association of Alberta

**74-75
STUDENT
DIRECTORIES**

**Now Available
from SUB Info Desk**

9 - 4

Students must present U of A ID