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this damn thing every week for the
Fanoclasts, Apa L (when he remembers
to mail it), and as a rider for free
with Andy Porter's SF WEEKLY.

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A fanzine shd not mean, but be.

STILES FOR TAFF!

LAST WEEK, I was interrupted between
typing the first and second stencil,
and as a consequence the clear
lucidity of my argument suffered. Since I wrote it, I have come across
an article on the subject which I wd like to take the rather unusual
step (for FIRST DRAFT) of partially reprinting here, for those of you
out there who may really not know what the facts of this particular
matter are. (As a matter of fact, I had intended to talk about LSD this
issue -- there are some notable lies and misrepresentations of it float-
ing around -- but I guess I'll have to hold off on that for another
week. Gee, gang, I've found a new Topic!)

I am perhaps taking a slight liberty in abstracting the following item,
as it is copyright in the Underground Press Syndicate, and was originally
published in the Berkeley BARB. However, I'm not printing the whole
thing -- I don't have room -- and I doubt that Dr Schoenfeld wd object
to amateur reprinting of a portion of it. The article is in Dr Eugene
Schoenfeld's regular column for the UPS, HIPpocrates, and this particular
one stems from the case of the grade school principal in Nicasio, Calif,
who recently admitted she'd been smoking marijuana, with beneficial, not
harmful results, for the past 18 years.

"...Mrs. Brennan was fired because she admitted to having broken the
law enacted to protect you and me from the alleged harmful effects of
marijuana. Ideally, laws are based on reason and the most complete in-
formation available bearing on the issue at hand. With this in mind,
I would like to present some medical facts pertaining to marijuana.

According to the most widely used pharmacology reference work, Goodman
& Gilman's PHARMACOLOGICAL BASIS OF THERAPEUTICS, 3rd Edition: 'There
are no lasting ill effects from the acute use of marijuana and no
fatalities have ever been recorded.'

Not that bad reactions to marijuana are completely unknown. Emotionally
unstable individuals may freak out after using the drug even in small
quantities. Diabetics may be more susceptible to insulin reactions.
Rarely, there are allergic reactions to marijuana. But in normal peo-
ple there are no known harmful medical effects resulting from its use
(and the first recorded medical reference to marijuana was in the
herbal of the Chinese Emperor Shen Nung more than 4600 years ago).

What about its behavioral effects? Many law enforcement officials
claim marijuana use leads to violent acts of crime. But according to
Goodman and Gilman 'violent or aggressive behavior however, is infre-
quent.' Could the same be said of alcohol?

It has also been claimed that long term use of marijuana causes perman-
ent (and presumably undesirable) changes in ther personality. A physi-
cian from Greece (that land of free thought) was invited to the U.S.A.
recently to give his views of chronic marijuana use. Typical of his

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((Schoenfeld, continued))

statements was one in which he claimed he could spot a chronic marijuana user 2 blocks away by his walk.

Imagine then Mrs. Brennan using her newfound and unwelcome leisure time to vacation in Athens. While strolling through Constitution Square she is seized by the Greek police who have spotted the characteristic marijuana walk. Back to reality.

'The influence of marijuana on intellectual functions and on emotional reactions and general personality structure was studied by Halpern (1944) who concluded that basic personality structure is not changed and that thoughts or emotions totally alien to the individual are not aroused by the drug.' (Goodman and Gilman, again.)

The lack of evidence showing marijuana to be harmful or addicting may have a tendency to cause impairment of judgement in some who have a large stake in maintaining the present laws. I recently appeared on a radio program with an attorney and a narcotics agent to discuss the marijuana issue.

The agent, who directs operations over a large area of California, said, 'If I had a 17 year old daughter, I'd rather see her on heroin than marijuana.'

Grasping at straws aptly describes the most recent argument advanced by marijuanaphobes. They admit that marijuana is not physically harmful or addicting but say that its use leads to 'psychological dependence.' One develops 'psychological dependence' toward many things -- art, music, automobiles, vacations, friends, etc.

To quote Goodman and Gilman for the last time, 'An overwhelming pre-occupation with the continued use of marijuana is an extreme rarity.'

MEDICAL LETTER is a periodical noted for its objective judgement of drugs. Its September 22, 1967 issue dealt, in part, with marijuana:

'There is no evidence that it has any physiological or emotional effect which directly lead to more serious drug abuse, but its use may facilitate contact with persons or groups using more dangerous drugs.'

Which is another way of saying that the millions of Americans who use marijuana must obtain the drug from dealers who very well may be handling and promoting truly dangerous drugs. The present marijuana laws have not only created a whole new 'criminal' class of otherwise productive citizens, but they encourage disrespect for the law.

Mrs. Brennan confessed to a drug habit more serious than her use of marijuana in her now-famous affidavit. She said she could hardly wait until breaks between classes so that she could smoke a cigarette or two. Cigarettes are addictive, cause lung cancer and emphysema and contribute to the development of heart disease and peptic ulcers. I hope Mrs. Brennan can someday kick this vicious habit."

-- Eugene Schoenfeld, MD,
Berkeley BARB, UPS

Ok, in case I didn't make a good case last week for the extent to which the TIMES, the Establishment, the adult world, or whatever you wish to describe the Enemies of the Hippies as, are constantly and shamelessly lying, the above will serve to clear the air and pin down just exactly why the kids today are rejecting what the adult world tells them -- because they can, for instance, read Dr Schoenfeld and see for themselves that they have been lied to. I'm not advising everybody reading this to go freak out right away with LSD, I'm just asking that we look at reality, not at lies. ☐☐ Hoping you are the sane... -- dg