

TABLE II

		Diagnosis		Efficiency in detecting valid positives
		Subnormal (SN+SSN)	Not Subnormal	
WAIS	<80	80% of 1	8.9-0.8	8.9 $\frac{0.8}{8.9} = .09$
		=0.8	=8.1	
I.Q.	>79	20% of 1	91.1-0.2	91.1
		=0.2	=90.9	
		1	99	100

## REFERENCES

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## CONTROL OF HALLUCINOGENIC DRUGS

DEAR SIR,

We have read that England is considering a law providing criminal penalties for unauthorized possession of the drug LSD-25.

Last year the United States Congress passed a law providing penalties for the manufacture, sale, or distribution of LSD. The law, however, specifically avoided criminal penalties for the possession of LSD intended only for personal use. The material may be seized in such cases, but the possessor cannot be prosecuted.

On May 26, 1966 Senator Robert Kennedy held hearings on the control of LSD. At these hearings, James L. Goddard, M.D., Commissioner of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, who is the person responsible for enforcing the present U.S. law,

strongly opposed laws providing criminal penalties for possession of LSD for personal use. Speaking officially for the Food and Drug Administration, he argued (1) that such laws would deter persons from seeking medical help when they needed it after having taken LSD; (2) that such laws would define thousands of university students as criminals; and (3) that better overall control of LSD could be obtained by seeking out the manufacturers and sellers, rather than the more numerous and decentralized users. Similar testimony was given by Stanley F. Yolles, M.D., Director of the National Institute of Mental Health, and by Hon. Philip R. Lee, M.D., Assistant Secretary for Health and Scientific Affairs. Dr. Yolles emphasized that typical users of LSD are university students, who use it once or twice, and then never again, and that no purpose would be served by sending them to prison.

These hearings illustrate the evolving attitude of the United States Government toward the control of the psychedelic chemicals. Manufacture and sale are prohibited by criminal law, but the user is handled on a voluntary medical basis. The laws exist to protect the potential user, not to punish him.

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P.S. A relevant passage from the transcript of the hearings is enclosed.

[This transcript is available for anyone who cares to ask for it. Eds.]