

Louisiana Contemplates Death Penalty for Selling Narcotics

By UNITED PRESS
The State of Louisiana is contemplating death in the electric chair for an adult convicted of selling narcotics to any boy or girl under 21.

It marks the extreme to which authorities in some areas are ready to go to combat one of the most vicious criminal pursuits in the United States, a traffic which wrecks human lives by the thousands and breeds more crime.

A federal attorney told a recent hearing in New York City, itself branded the nation's capital for the narcotics trade, that outstanding jobs of combating the narcotics racket had been accomplished in Louisiana and Ohio and in the cities of Baltimore, Seattle and Honolulu.

No Parole in Louisiana
The United Press queried its bureau in those places to find out how it was done. Here is the report:

Louisiana already has a law, passed in 1956, providing imprisonment of not less than 30 nor more than 99 years for selling

dope to juveniles. And more important—there can be no parole, probation or suspension of sentence.

A legislative committee headed by State Rep. Richard Bertrand is to consider new legislation changing the maximum penalty to death. There already are penalties of up to 50 years for selling narcotics to other adults and Gov. Earl Long has refused to reduce the sentence of any narcotics offender.

Get Tough Law
Ohio's Gov. C. William O'Neill wrote his state's "get tough" law in 1955 when he was attorney general. Before that Northeast Ohio had been pin-pointed as the narcotics distribution center of the Midwest. There were an estimated 15,000 addicts in Ohio alone spending \$75 million a year for narcotics and costing the state \$375 million when they turned to crime to buy the drugs.

The new laws provide prison terms of 30 years to life for selling narcotics to minors and a minimum of 10 years for any

first offense. Second offenders cannot receive probation. Ohio takes into account the record of narcotics convictions in other states.

At the end of the first year, narcotics violations were reduced by about 700 per cent. In Baltimore, Capt. Joseph Carroll, head of the city narcotics squad, attributes success to excellent cooperation from the Federal Narcotics Bureau and the state courts which convicted 141 out of 144 arrested last year.

His squad needs no arrest warrant. It is even an offense to be caught with a syringe if there is a past record. Bail is very high and cases are heard quickly so defendants are "not left out on the streets three and four months to get money to defend themselves."

Relentless Pressure
Seattle attributes its success largely to the relentless pressure that is kept on narcotics peddlers and users plus tough state laws. Sgt. Wendell Paust, head of the police narcotics detail, says one important factor is that the city

Court Records

DISTRICT COURT
Glenn Stewart Paxson, violation of basic rule, \$15.
John Frank Harder, failure to stop at traffic light, \$6.
Glenn Elviss Cave, violation of basic rule, \$15.
William George Harrison, Modoc orchards, drunk on a public highway, \$30.
Joe Everett Robertson, failure to stop at traffic sign, \$10.
Richard L. Wheeler, overwidth, \$15.
Elmer Smith, Grants Pass, drunk on a public highway, \$24.
Wilma May Atteberry, no operator's license, \$5.
Wayne Willard White, overheight, \$25.
Larry Clifford Arant, switched vehicle tabs, \$25.
Charles Herbert Elmore, truck speeding, \$15.
Oval James Dawson, violation of basic rule, \$15.
George Leon Flonx, driving without lights, \$15.
George Leroy Asher, obstructing vision, \$6.
William Stilwell, Klamath Falls, drunk on a public highway, forfeited, \$30.

CIRCUIT COURT
Susan F. Jackson vs. John B. Jackson, divorce decree.
Betty Jean Holman vs. Robert Earl Holman, divorce decree.
Dorrough, divorce decree.

MARRIAGE LICENSE APPLICATIONS
Paul Weert Worth, route 2, box 2026, Medford and Beverly Diane Ellis, 209 Tripp st., Medford.
Edgar Worth Coulson, Scotts Mills and Alice M. Roberts, route 1, Central Point.
Michael James Kaiser, route 1, box 982, Eagle Point and Patricia Ann Goode, box 384, Shady Cove.
Burton Lloyd Clifford, San Bernardino Calif., and Eleanor Celia Martin, 829 Bennett st., Medford.
Carl Wayne Perdue, box 254, Talent and Wanda Louise Oden, 77 Granite st., Ashland.

has no problem obtaining informers about who is selling narcotics. "People hate narcotics peddlers and don't hesitate to inform." There is also excellent cooperation from federal authorities, particularly customs inspectors.

Palm-becked Honolulu was once the gateway for the illicit drug traffic from the Orient and there was an estimated 2,000 addicts in the Territory of Hawaii in the year 1924. As late as 1952 more than 109 persons were charged with narcotics crimes.

Last year there were exactly two arrests—one an ex-convict Hawaiian carrying marijuana cigarettes and the other a Chinese carrying heroin strapped to his leg and believed bound for the mainland.

The anti-narcotics campaign really hit stride in 1951 when the Territorial Legislature slammed through a 20-year-jail sentence for selling to minors. Then a stronger congressional law against narcotics in 1954 gave federal judges another weapon and they cracked down harshly.

As Albel S. Fraga, chief of the narcotics division says: "Hawaii has taken the monkey from its back."

Stamps Would Make Soldiers Happy

San Diego, Calif. — You can help make a wounded serviceman's Christmas a happy one.

All it takes is some postage stamps, United States or foreign. But do not send any common one, two or three-cent U.S. although commemoratives are fine.

There are many wounded collectors at San Diego Naval hospital, and doctors there say there is no better way to help speed recovery of wounded or ill men than to get them interested in postage stamps.

And some of the doctors are collectors, too. After the patients have taken what they want from the stamps the public sends them, the doctors are allowed to pick over the remainders.

The Red Cross sponsors the stamp-collecting program at San Diego Naval hospital, where thousands of servicemen are treated each year, but the heart and mind of the stamp club which has been formed there is a retired University of Pennsylvania professor J. L. Zerbe.

Zerbe devotes several hours each week to instructing patients about stamps and showing them how to mount them in albums. His work, of course, is strictly a labor of love. But with all his great knowledge of stamps, Zerbe is not a collector.

The men at the hospital are always asking for more stamps, and of course they can use hinges, tongs, albums and catalogues as well. Stamps and philatelic material can be sent to the following address: Naval Hospital Stamp Club, Building 7, U.S. Naval Hospital, San Diego 34, Calif.

Cambridge, Mass. — Reginald H. Johnson of Cambridge hasn't missed a Harvard-Yale football game in 67 years. A lawyer, graduated from Harvard in 1895.

Hoffa Acquittal Held Possible

New York — The federal wiretap conspiracy trial of James R. Hoffa was expected to go to the jury today with indications the fiery little teamsters official may be acquitted.

In its summation to the jury Tuesday the government admitted its star witness may have been in error when he placed Hoffa at the Detroit teamsters headquarters July 9, 1953.

The defense had presented a string of witnesses who testified that Hoffa was in Seattle, attending a teamsters convention

and banquet from July 6 to July 10.

A strong point in the government's case, before the defense rebuttal, was the testimony of Rudolph Doellicke. He told the jury Hoffa was in Detroit July 9 to receive instructions on the use of wiretap equipment Hoffa had ordered installed.

Hoffa, president-elect of the giant Teamsters union, along with Owen Brennan, president of the Detroit Local 337 and Bernard Spindel, a professional wiretapper, are on trial in fed-

eral court charged with illegally tapping the telephones of the Detroit office of the Teamsters union.

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TEASES ROYALTY—Three year old Princess Lalla Amina teases her serious-faced father, King Mohammed V of Morocco, at a reception in the monarch's honor in New York. The reception was tendered by Dr. Ahmed Latak, chief of the Moroccan UN delegation. At left is Princess Lalla Aisha, 27, the King's oldest daughter.

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