

# Teen Marijuana Use Widespread Sladek

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ods other than law enforcement, to steer youths away from drugs in their search for "kicks."

Oakland County has started a Youth Guidance Committee which functions as a counseling service to youths who are in trouble or are referred for other reasons.

Begun in 1959 by Judge Arthur Moore, the program avoids criminal records through court action against juveniles by referring them to a committee of caseworkers.

Edgar Flood, director of the program's preventive division, told The Observer Newspapers that the caseworkers are carefully chosen social science college graduates who work or live in the community. These volunteers are carefully screened and received constant in-service training.

The result of the program, which has handled over 20,000 cases thus far, is clearly evident. Two-thirds of the youths have received no court or criminal record as they might have without such a program.

"Analysis Anonymous," for parents who have discovered what they suspect to be a narcotic in the possession of their child, is a service offered by Farmington and Farmington Township Police.

Any adult may take the suspected drug to the police station and receive a free confidential cursory examination of the substance to determine if it is a narcotic.

Deadman said that "this new program is

designed with the parents in mind. If they turn up something in their daughter's room, they can find out what it is without having to identify themselves."

In their letter written in Jan. 1968, Grabowski of Thurston and Cpl. Gallagher proposed several far reaching recommendations, one of which was education.

"The teaching of the effects of narcotics as well as the legal implications should be implemented in the school curriculum. This is a very serious problem. If some substantial program isn't initiated, it will flare up and may even filter down into the junior highs to become as serious a problem as it is at the high school level," they warned.

Livonia, Redford Union and South Redford schools, as well as most other Observeland school systems, have recently begun extensive drug education programs through assemblies and classroom instruction. Local police, doctors and government officials are often invited to speak to the students.

Many concerned citizens across the country are pushing for national reform of narcotic laws. Police are hampered by the existing legal codes which, in effect, protect the real drug sources while severely punishing youthful dope experimenters.

Through these concerted community efforts in guidance, law enforcement and revision, and education, suburban youths may be dissuaded from turning to the mushrooming fad of narcotics for "kicks."

But the police cannot do it alone.

The first step in combating drug abuse, is a realization by Observeland parents that narcotics can, and in fact are, threatening their children.

## Endorses

## Austin

Hendry R. (Rank) Sladek, the Livonian who is chairman of the Wayne County Republican Party, is giving his personal endorsement to Richard Austin for mayor of the City of Detroit.

Although the Detroit election is non-partisan, Austin has been a Democrat while serving on the Wayne County Board of Auditors.

Sladek, a major Republican figure, said, "Austin has achieved an outstanding record of leadership and competency and his expertise in government financing is well known."

"On top of this, Austin in his campaign has demonstrated he has the best chance to bring the people together and not further divide the community," said Sladek.

He further commented, "In my opinion, Sheriff (Roman) Gribbs' ineffective handling of problems inherited by him over a year ago borders on utter failure."

"In my opinion," Sladek added, "this is nothing but administrative mismanagement and lack of leadership from the sheriff."

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# No Singles, So YR Club Is Disbanded

By TIM RICHARD

Suburban sociology was too much for the Young Republicans. "The YR's have disbanded," said pretty, blonde Mrs. John (Lynn) Siviter of Livonia, who just a couple of months ago had high hopes for reviving a club in the 19th District-Wayne. It wasn't a lack of political interest. It wasn't a lack of Republicans—there were several persons under 35 at last week's Oktoberfest of the Livonia Republican Club, where we bumped into Lynn Siviter.

SHE EXPLAINED.

"YR clubs do best where there are a lot of single people. Troy is a good example."

The Observeland section of suburbia, however, is dominated by married couples, and Mrs. Siviter said: "Couples wouldn't spend any money on politics. You couldn't get them to buy tickets to a dance, or anything."

"It takes single people to make a YR club go. It's not like that in other states, but it's true here in Michigan."

YR CLUBS aren't a lonely hearts gathering spot, by any stretch of the imagination, because successful ones will have a number of married couples.

YRs are organizations of persons from 18 to 36, and they are structurally parallel to the senior party, with their own national and state conventions and district and county setups. They're good outlets for the political energies of young folks so that they don't get into the hair of senior party officials—just like the Jaycees are for the senior clammer of commerce and the Rotary.

Young Democrats have had their problems, too, and Mrs. Siviter pointed out that Democratic National Chairman Fred Harris wants to phase out the YDs.

IT IS THIS writer's observation, after covering politics over half of southern Michigan, that the Democratic hierarchy tends to bring young people into the structure much more quickly than the GOP hierarchy does.

Michigan Democrats have had, for example, a 26-year-old state chairman, a 34-year-old gubernatorial candidate and a 25-year-old State Board of Education candidate. Republicans just don't do things like that.

Speaking of the Jaycees, it may well be that that organization is draining off the young, while-collar, Establishment-activist persons who might ordinarily find their ways into the Young Republicans. It's a truism that Jaycees' positions on political questions are indistinguishable from those of Republican moderates.

BUT GETTING back to Lynn Siviter: She'd still like to get

some kind of young person's group going.

"I'd like to find the chairman of the Young Democrats, get together and start a non-partisan issues club—not a political group."

"We could bring in speakers from both sides. I'd like to get your publisher, Phil Power, to speak."

By MARVIN KEMP

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