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DR. JOSEPH D. B. KING

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Dr. Laurence Kolb
6645 Thirty-second Street N.W.
Washington 15, D. C.

Dear Dr. Kolb:

I have recently erupted with a letter to the Baltimore Evening Sun deploring the jailing of narcotic addicts. I was pleased to find my letter was followed by an editorial in the Morning Sun and the writer told me that their policy has been to try to have this matter kept in medical channels.

I promptly had a note from Mr. Anslinger, enclosing the series of Comments from an Advisory Committee to the Federal Bureau of Narcotics. This Committee has apparently taken it upon itself to denounce a joint recommendation of the American Bar and American Medical Associations.

I have read the report of the Council on Mental Health to the American Medical Association, that came out in three sections in the spring of 1957. Also, I was aware that this Committee had appeared before some Senate committee, but I did not know that the American Bar Association had joined the A.M.A. in this point of view. Can you enlighten me as to where, if anywhere, this testimony was published. Mr. Anslinger sent me only the one side of the question, and I have written to him that there is a great deal more to the problem than how to enforce current laws, which seems to be his chief predisposition.

My interest is due to the fact that I am on the Board of Correction of Maryland and find that there are approximately two hundred miserable wretches in our penal institutions for one form or other of narcotic violation, including possession of a few marijuana cigarettes. At least we are no longer chaining the lunatics, but that is about all one can say.

I hope you are very well. I still recall with pleasure your visit to speak to the Baltimore Medical Society.

With kindest regards.

Yours truly,

John T. King

John T. King, M.D.

JTK/msb