

of its fraud implications, "My friend Charlie Wiggins (R-Cal) wants to put a guillotine at each polling place."

*Will Carter Opposition Drop
Investigation of Cover-Up?*

Despite the setbacks dealt to the Administration over the registration bill, indications are that the Carter opposition has dropped its call for an investigation into the Justice Department cover-up of internal agency opposition to the bill, which could lead to a Watergating of the Carter Administration.

In hearings held before the Senate Rules Committee, Senators Griffin (R-Mich), and Allen (D-Ala) had requested that the Senate Judiciary Committee take up the question of the Justice Department's suppression of three memos and the subsequent cover-up that took place with the knowledge of the White House.

At those same hearings, testimony given by Jeffrey Steinberg of the U.S. Labor Party and Col. Thomas McCrary, chairman of the National Committee for Honest and Fair Elections, detailed how the cover-up was geared to prevent any investigation into the vote fraud in last November's election.

Interviews with the staffs of the bill's leading opponents have shown they are hesitant to pursue the line of attack begun in the Senate Rules Committee. One top aide to a Republican Senator claimed that if either Bell or Mondale were questioned on their role in the cover-up, they would "plead ignorance of the law." Such statements support the fact that the opposition to the Carter Administration may easily be profiled by the White House to settle for the simple defeat of the bill while keeping the lid on investigations which would lead to impeachment.

Nation Says 'No' To Carter Drug Policy

On May 21, Illinois became the 12th state to reject a bill decriminalizing marijuana since the inauguration of Jimmy Carter, who is the first President in history to go on record in support of removing criminal penalties for the possession and use of dangerous drugs.

Carter demonstrated his determination to create a nation of drug addicts with his appointment of Dr. Peter Bourne, a self-professed supporter of *decriminalizing heroin and cocaine*, to head the White House Office of Drug Abuse Policy.

Subsequently, state after state has refused to accept the policy of drug proliferation, after considering the medical evidence that shows marijuana to be a harmful hallucinogenic drug with damaging effects on brain and cellular functions.

Despite this national mandate, the Drug Abuse Policy Office now headed by Bourne and employing members of the Wall-Street funded pot lobby, the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws (NORML), is determined to enact a policy of drug proliferation — first marijuana, and then cocaine and heroin as soon as it becomes "politically feasible," according to Dr. Bourne.

But in the last three months, despite major U.S. media, pothead Bourne's pipe dreams about the "political feasibility" of legalized, government-dispensed heroin and other schemes to drug the American population have met with stiff, multi-partisan opposition. This resistance was catalyzed in large part by the U.S. Labor Party and by the nationwide circulation of the party's special report, "Bust the Drug Ring in the White House," which details the medical evidence on the mind-killing effects of marijuana which has been ignored by most of the press.

New York: The American Way

On the night of May 16, following a five-hour debate in the New York State Assembly, a bill to decriminalize possession and "casual" transfers of up to 1.25 ounces of marijuana was defeated by a surprise cross-party

alliance of Republicans, democrats, and Conservatives. The defeat of the bill shocked Carter-allied political observers, including New York's Governor Hugh Carey, who planned to use New York as a major milestone to pressure other states to accept decriminalization.

Two months before the scheduled vote on the New York bill, the *New York Times* and other major media began a concerted campaign to ensure its passage, quoting such experts as Carter himself to exemplify the "changed attitude" in the nation regarding pot smoking. Based on this calculated media barrage, members of the Senate and Assembly polled by the Labor Party in early April considered decriminalization a foregone conclusion based on its "constituent support."

In reality, outside of the *New York Times* and the very vocal, well financed NORML, no such support existed. Instead, within three weeks, defeat of the decriminalization bill became the most insistently expressed demand of the New York electorate. The New York State Black Caucus, previously considered a solid block of support by the Carter pro-pot forces, refused to bind its members to voting for decriminalization. On April 20 a Queens, New York Assemblyman invited four prominent New York physicians with extensive knowledge of the dangers of drug use to hold a press conference exposing the real dangers of marijuana, and kick off the battle to defeat the pot bill. The press conference included Dr. Gabriel Nahas of Columbia University, Dr. Henry Brill, former president of the American Medical Association, Dr. Robert Baird of New York, and Dr. Ned Rosinsky of the U.S. Labor Party.

While largely blacked out by statewide media, this opening foray against drugs brought into action the forces to defeat the bill. On May 9 the New York Conservative Party held a press conference with the Veterans of Foreign Wars and other groups, including county Medical Associations, Elks Clubs, and Knights of Columbus. Any representative who indicated he was "horse trading" a vote for dope in exchange for another measure he wanted enacted was pinpointed by the U.S.

Labor Party and allied groups for constituency pressure. With this activity ensuring defeat in the State Senate, the surprise upset in the State Assembly finally killed the bill.

Who's Pushing Pot

New York is now seen as the precedent for defeating the decriminalization of marijuana rather than a model for the "state-by-state" mandate envisioned by Carter and Bourne, and this has enraged leading Carterite supporters like Governor Carey. On May 23 Carey held a press conference demanding that the pot bill be voted out of committee again and that legislators "have the guts" to pass the bill this year. Democrat Carey provoked shocked disbelief among his own party leaders when he promised to "defend the vote (for the pro-pot bill) in any part of the state, any assemblyman who votes for this bill," virtually ordering the Democrats to pass the bill as a bloc. Even Rep. Stanley Steingut, the Democrat Majority Leader in the State Assembly, refused, saying,

"I would not use the power of my position for something like this."

At the same time, Rockefeller-controlled Conservative William F. Buckley, Jr., an Advisory Board member of NORML, transmitted orders to legalize pot in a nationally syndicated column berating the New York Conservative Party for their strong political opposition to the bill. Buckley coyly boasted that he himself indulges in pot on his yacht, "outside the 12 mile limit."

Plans for the Future

Bourne has stacked his White House policy office with prominent members of NORML who promote the decriminalization of every mind-killing drug available. With the failure of the "state-by-state" decriminalization strategy, Carter and Bourne are expected to throw their weight behind two versions of federal decriminalization — bills currently pending before the Senate and House of Representatives, and a version buried in the Kennedy-McClellan revision of the U.S. Criminal Codes.

Pot Decriminalization: Where The Fight Stands

As of January, 1977, the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws (NORML) boasted the support of the Carter Administration for state decriminalization bills in nearly 30 State Legislatures. In the last three months, since the U.S. Labor Party mobilized forces against drug proliferation and began to publicize the destructive effects of marijuana, only one state — Mississippi — has passed decriminalization.

Since May 1, the U.S. Labor Party has circulated 20,000 copies of a special report, "Bust the Drug Ring in the White House," pinning the pro-pot movement at its center — 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue. This campaign has coalesced a fighting force against dope, with the following results:

Decriminalization Defeated:

Connecticut, Hawaii, Iowa, Louisiana, Missouri, New Hampshire, New Jersey, Pennsylvania.

Three of NORML's "target states" for 1977 killed the bills after pitched political battles:

***Maryland, March 17. Following testimony by the U.S. Labor Party's Dr. Ned Rosinsky, the only medical expert to appear before the legislature, the bill was killed in committee. A compromise measure to have decriminalization put on a state wide referendum was crushed in a floor vote with only six supporters.

***New York, May 16. A cross-party coalition rebuffed pro-pot Governor Carey and defeated the bill in the State Assembly by a vote of 72-70. The State Senate is solidly opposed to the bill.

***Illinois, May 21. Decriminalization was abandoned by the bill's sponsors in favor of lessening the status from a misdemeanor to a petty offense. Even this failed to pass with opponents declaring "Any decrease in penalties would encourage marijuana users."

Decriminalization Pending:

***Kansas. In April the bill was thrown back to committee for the fifth time in two years.

***Michigan. A decriminalization bill is expected to be defeated this week. Sponsors of marijuana decriminalization have also introduced a bill for a state hospital-dispensed, "heroin addiction" program.

***Washington. A decriminalization bill is still in committee. The session ends in early June.

***Wisconsin and Massachusetts. No attempt to bring the bills out of committee since hearings were held in early April where the U.S. Labor Party testified.

***Florida. Decriminalization passed the State Senate by one vote. House of Representatives' version to legalize and tax marijuana has no chance of passing.

Decriminalized States: "Don't Drink the Water"

California, Maine, Oregon, Alaska, Colorado, Mississippi, Ohio.

***Minnesota enacted a modified version, allowing the "first and second offense" as a simple citation and dismissal with subsequent criminal penalties.

***South Dakota startled the Carterites by being the first state to repeal decriminalization in April, after learning that a 35 percent increase in pot use occurred in Oregon among the age group of 18-25.

Pot-Luck?

After a four-month delay, on May 25, the Senate unanimously confirmed Jimmy Carter's appointee Peter Bourne, the man who has said that "drugs are just like TV," as the head of the Office of Drug Abuse Policy. The vote was taken by voice vote.