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#### PSYCHOLOGIST HOLD OUT HOPE TO DRUG ADDICTS

New York, May 26. "The time is more than over-ripe for a new approach to the problem of drug addiction," Dr Arnold Bernstein, Clinical Psychologist, told a meeting held tonight at the McBurney Branch of the YMCA under the auspices of the National Advisory Council on Narcotics. He expressed the belief that addiction could be controlled if properly treated.

"The addict," he said, "first requires medical treatment. The medical withdrawal from the drug must be followed immediately by psychological treatment and vocational rehabilitation. The first six months after withdrawal are the critical ones. But medical treatment without the psychological follow-up has proven quite fruitless."

Likening the present attitude toward drug addicts to those held over a century ago towards the insane Dr Bernstein pointed out that, "One hundred years ago the insane were treated like criminals and bound in chains. Like the insane, the drug addict is a sick person needing medical and psychological care. Drug addiction is a medical problem not a law enforcement problem."

Present at the meeting was Danay Carlson, founder of Narcotics Anonymous Inc., who supported Dr. Bernstein's declaration that with sufficient funds and modern scientific know-how, the apparently hopeless state existing with regard to the problem of addiction could be reversed. Addiction would soon yield to treatment like the other diseases that medicine has brought under control.

The National Advisory Council on Narcotics is devoted to the scientific solution of the narcotic problem. It sponsors Narcotics Anonymous Inc., which consists of groups of former addicts trying to help each other to help themselves eradicate the drug habit. NACON seeks \$50,000 in funds this year to carry on its program of public education and social service to addicts.