

Minyard Plans Program for Dope Addicts

Dr. Frank Minyard said today if he is elected Orleans Parish coroner, he will introduce a methadone program at Parish Prison.

"The medical aspects of the prison are not under the jurisdiction of the coroner under the present setup," Dr. Minyard told an audience at the Press Club of New Orleans. He spoke to the weekly Newsmaker luncheon, sponsored by the New Orleans chapter of Sigma Delta Chi, journalistic society.

DR. MINYARD SAID most persons in Parish Prison are there because they committed a crime to get money for marijuana or other drugs.

He said a methadone program at the prison would greatly decrease the addict rate.

Dr. Minyard said the House of Detention is under the coroner's jurisdiction and a doctor is there every day for sick call.

"Most of the people in the House of Detention also are addicts," Dr. Minyard said, "and I will also hope to bring the methadone program there."

The 39-year-old gynecologist stressed a program of preventive medicine which he said he would inaugurate as coroner.

DR. MINYARD said he would work to develop educational courses to be taught on the junior high and the senior high school levels to inform students of the evils of narcotics abuse.

He also advocated the establishment of a central receiving area at Charity Hospital where accident victims could be treated quickly.

Dr. Minyard said, as coroner, he would work to reduce the number of traffic fatalities in the city by getting other doctors to identify alcoholics or persons suffering from central nervous illnesses who are drivers.