

HOOVER PLEDGES 'IMPARTIAL' F.B.I.

Says Agency Will Not Bend
to Pressure Groups

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CHICAGO, Nov. 24—J. Edgar Hoover, director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, pledged tonight that pressure groups would not be permitted to use the F.B.I. to "attain their selfish aims."

Mr. Hoover's address at the annual award dinner of the Stritch School of Medicine of Loyola University was his first public speech since a news conference last week at which he described the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., the integration leader, as "the most notorious liar in the country."

The F.B.I. chief made no mention tonight of civil rights or of Mr. King, who had accused the F.B.I. of foot-dragging in civil rights cases. But he asserted that as long as he was head of the agency it would maintain its impartiality "despite the hostile opinion of its detractors."

"It is a great misfortune," he said in his prepared text, "that the zealots or pressure groups always think with their emotions, seldom with reason. They have no compunction in carping, lying and exaggerating with the fiercest passion. They cry liberty when they really mean license."

"Justice has nothing to do with expediency. It has nothing to do with temporary standards. We cannot, and will not, permit the F.B.I. to be used to superimpose the aims of those who would sacrifice the very foundations on which our Government rests."

"The F.B.I. will continue to be objective in its investigations and will stay within the bounds of its authorized jurisdiction regardless of pressure groups which seek to use the F.B.I. to attain their own selfish aims to the detriment of the people as a whole."

Mr. Hoover said that a breakdown in national morality, evidenced by an increase in crime five times faster than the growth of the population, threatened to "render us impotent as a people and as a nation."

"Even more ominous," he said, "is the fact that this terrifying spiral of crime has come about through a growing wave of youthful criminality across the nation."

"We mollycoddle young criminals and release unreformed hoodlums to prey anew on society. The bleeding hearts, particularly among the judges, are so concerned for young criminals that they become indifferent to the rights of law-abiding citizens."

"We must have judges with courage and a high sense of their duty to protect the public and to adequately penalize criminals if we are to stop the spread of serious and dangerous crimes against society. We must adopt a most realistic attitude toward this critical problem. We have tried the lenient approach and it has failed."