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\$82,000 IS GRANTED TO STUDY SMOKING

Tobacco Research Unit Picks
Scientists to Investigate
Possible Cancer Link

OCHSNER RIDICULES STEP

Surgeon Declares 'Massive
Proof' of Cigarette's Role
in Disease Already Exists

Its first research grants, totalling \$82,000 for six investigations, were announced yesterday by the Tobacco Industry Research Committee.

But, Dr. Alton Ochsner, former president of the American Cancer Society, said there was already "massive proof" that cigarette smoking caused lung cancer.

A former president of the American College of Surgeons and now Professor of Surgery at Tulane University, Dr. Ochsner urged Federal legislation to bring tobacco "within the purview of regulation that now protects consumers of alcoholic beverages and drugs." His statements were in a new book, "Smoking and Cancer."

On the other hand, the committee insisted "there is still no medical evidence of a cause and effect relationship between smoking and lung cancer." Holding that the book drew "sweeping conclusions" from "inconclusive data," the committee said it was "just another propaganda device in the anti-tobacco crusade which the author has been carrying on for years."

First Recipients Named

Formed last Jan. 3 by fourteen companies and associations with headquarters in the Empire State Building, the industry group named the first recipients of grants from an initial \$500,000 research fund as follows:

Dr. Paul D. Saltman, University of Southern California, to study the enzymatic mechanism for dark fixation of carbon dioxide by tobacco.

Dr. A. Clark Griffin, University of Texas, to explore the effect of exposure to cigarette smoke on the induction of cancer by chemical compounds.

Dr. David E. Mann Jr., Temple University, Philadelphia, to investigate the effect of tobacco smoke and residues on skin tumors in mice.

Dr. E. L. Freeland, Mount Zion Hospital, San Francisco, to study the effect of tobacco extracts on tumor-causing agents and to examine sulphhydryl compounds as counters to possible tumorous effects of tobacco extracts in mice.

Dr. H. B. Haag and Dr. Paul S. Larson, Medical College of Virginia, Richmond, to prepare a book on "the biologic aspects of tobacco and its smoke."

Dr. Hans T. Clarke, Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons, to study white blood cells.

Dr. Clarence Cook Little, chairman of a nine member scientific advisory board, said the committee would make no attempt to influence a study once started. While other applications are pending, he added, the board itself will originate ideas for possible additional investigators.

Program Is Ridiculed

Dr. Ochsner labeled the committee's program "a tapeworm research into the 'physical and chemical composition of tobacco,' when an enormous literature already exists on this and similar subjects of its prospective investigation."

He charged the industry sought "to postpone a day of reckoning for the irresponsible advertising and sale of its products," and called on the committee to deal with the problem of reducing dangers from smoking.

In a foreword, Dr. Ewarts A. Graham, professor emeritus of surgery, Washington University, St. Louis, asked: "Isn't it time that the official guardian of the people's health, the United States Public Health Service, at least make a statement of warning?"

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