
U.K. Medicos Prepare Shock Report on Cigarettes

By "Highlander"
"Tobacco's" Correspondent in London

I can now give you advance information on the "shocker" report on cigarettes and lung cancer which is to be issued by the Royal College of Physicians here on March 7th. It's pretty hot.

First, it recommends the government to make a sharp increase in the price of cigarettes, by taxation, and to cut the price of tobaccos and cigars, which they believe cause less ill-health.

Smokers of cigarettes are advised to throw away the butt when the cigarette is only half smoked. Filters, say the medicos, could be made more ef-

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5% Acreage Increase Expected for Flue-cured

HENDERSON, N. C.—An order by the United States Department of Agriculture increasing flue-cured tobacco acreage in 1962 by five per cent was expected momentarily over the weekend. Rep. Harold D. Cooley (D-N.C.), chairman of the House Agriculture Committee, indicated such affirmative action as a result of an agreement for the government to subsidize in part the sale of about 150 million pounds of tobacco held by the Stabilization Corporation from the crops of 1955 and 1956.

But there were indications here that many growers do not look with enthusiasm upon the proposed increase. They were represented as being of the opinion, that, even with sale of the

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Free Report on Cuba . . .

Sen. Smathers Calls for Tighter Cuban Embargo

By "Tobacco's" Special Correspondent

Senator George Smathers (D.-Fla.) has called on Secretary of State Dean Rusk to block the import of cigars from any nation which buys tobacco from Cuba.

In a letter to Mr. Rusk, Mr. Smathers said there are indications that some nations are planning to buy from Cuba, manufacture cigars and sell them to the United States. He did not name the countries.

Mr. Smathers said that if the United States bought the cigars, it would constitute a "back door evasion of the American embargo on goods and prod-

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eyield in that proportion.

In Washington, Mr. Cooley said that "current data on the tobacco supply situation which I have received and carefully considered indicates an increase of approximately five per cent in the flue-cured tobacco acreage allotments would seem to be warranted this year." He urged Secretary of Agriculture Orville Freeman to proclaim the increase. He asked Secretary Freeman "to take into consideration all the implications involved and to reach a decision at the earliest practicable date, bearing in mind the deadline fixed by law within which action must be taken."

Opinion reported from Washington at the weekend indicated the virtual certainty of the five per cent acreage increase. If allowed, it would be the first in some four or five years. In recent years, except for the last three, the trend was toward curtailment.

Stabilization now holds some 360 million pounds of tobacco from crops from 1955 to 1961, inclusive. As of February 1, approximately 120 million pounds, or about one-third of the total, was of the 1955-56 crops, valued as of the "discount" types.

Flue-cured tobacco is produced under a program of acreage allotments and marketing quotas. The program has repeatedly been approved overwhelmingly by farmers voting in referendums at three-year intervals.

A six per cent increase in burley tobacco acreage has been granted for 1961 on top of a similar increase that was in effect for the 1960 crop.—HAD.

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"discounted" varieties of the two old crops, any acreage increase might well be delayed until 1963.

The Agriculture Department last fall revised the same acreage of flue-cured tobacco was assigned in 1961. After that announcement, the department cannot order the law reduce the allotments, though it can, by acting on or before March 1, increase quotas.

Growers are mindful that pre-arrangement of land for the 1962 crop is already carried out in many instances. Any increase now would necessitate doing that work over again.

So far as can be learned, however, the tobacco trade would welcome the increased acreage and hence a larger