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18th May, 1973

TO ALL NO. 1s OF ASSOCIATED COMPANIES

SMOKING & HEALTH

Passive Smoking

In its May issue "The Practitioner" magazine, a U.K. publication largely directed at readership in the medical profession, published the Report on Pipe and Cigar Smoking produced by an Expert Group appointed by "Action on Smoking and Health". One of the members of this Group was Dr. C.M. Fletcher, who was mainly responsible for the authorship of the Royal College of Physicians Report of January 1971.

Enclosed is a copy of the Report in "The Practitioner", in which the section on Pages 649 to 651 entitled "The possible risk to the health of non-smokers from passive smoking" is of particular interest.

In view of the fact that "Action on Smoking and Health" regards itself as the leader of the anti-smoking bodies in the U.K., it is remarkable that on Page 651 the Report reaches the conclusion that "There is no evidence that other people's smoke is dangerous to healthy non-smokers, .....".

This conclusion might usefully be quoted by No. 1s if and when they are faced with criticisms of the health effects of passive smoking.

*G.C. Hargrove*

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