

## Industry Wants to Know, Dryden Says

# Smoking Research 'Good'

*Times-Dispatch News Bureau*  
 WILLIAMSBURG — A Tobacco Institute official said Wednesday that the tobacco industry has "everything to gain and nothing to lose" from independent research into smoking and health questions.

Franklin B. Dryden, assistant to the president of the institute, said, "if there is something in cigarettes or the smoke that is harmful to humans we want to find out what it is and the sooner the better so it can be removed."

"To date, however, scientists have not been able to demonstrate that any substance as found in smoke is

responsible for human disease," he said.

Dryden said the tobacco industry had appropriated about \$20 million for research by independent scientists. Working with the problems of lung cancer, heart disease and other ills, these scientists have not established a "casual connection between cigarette smoking and human disease," he said.

DRYDEN SPOKE at the 21st annual Tobacco Workers Conference. About 400 persons from this country and Canada are attending the conference.

The "dragon of exorbitant cigarette taxes" may be more harmful to the tobacco industry than health questions,

according to William A. O'Flaherty, another conference speaker. He is executive director of the Tobacco Tax Council.

Tobacco growers and other segments of the cigarette industry are face to face with forces that seek to destroy the industry, O'Flaherty said. "One of the devices, perhaps the most important of all, will be to tax cigarettes at rates which will tend to shrink the market," he said.

The 23 states whose tobacco tax rates were increased in 1965 suffered a decrease in cigarette sales of 4.6 per cent while the 28 states whose rates were not increased that year showed a 2.9 per cent increase, O'Flaherty said.