

Verbatim Remarks
National Advisory Heart Council
June 14-16, 1954

MRS. LASKER: I am very anxious that the recommendations of the Committee on Arteriosclerosis be considered seriously and that a mechanism be provided whereby more of our funds are put into this problem. It is the main cause of death. Between 500,000 and 600,000 ^{in the United States} die a year, and it seems to me there are leads which, if put together and expanded, may make some solution to this disease, ~~and~~. I would like to suggest that there be a committee of people both from the Council and Study Sections and from outside, if necessary, ~~like~~ some biochemists ^{endocrinologists} and other people that the staff would think were suitable. I am thinking of possibly Pincus of Worcester and C. H. ^{Lee of U. of California} ~~Lee~~ who are ~~endocrine~~ chemists--to meet with the people who are already getting our grants like Katz, Steiner, Kendall, Mann, Eder and Barr, ^{and others} who have shown that estrogens have some effect on arteriosclerosis in man, or at least that they make ^{favorable} blood changes, ~~and~~ Dr. Katz has some evidence of this, ~~and~~ that some energetic program with ^{substantial funds must} ~~money~~ be pursued in this particular field.

It seems to me there are leads here that were never here before, and it is one of the greatest things any human could do to solve this problem. ^{beings}

I think the talk of Dr. Wilkins was inspiring because it shows there were a number of drugs for ^{the control of} high blood pressure, ~~and~~ with more study and more evaluation of these drugs ^{and others} ~~that~~ probably something

very satisfactory for high blood pressure can be found. I am very proud that we are supporting the work of Dr. Wilkins and *and others in this field.* Dr. Freis [^] for that matter.

I am also very anxious that something more be done in the field of cerebral vascular disease. There was a conference this year ^{held at Princeton} and there are many possible leads, especially some work recorded by Dr. Foley and ^{McEwan} and Dr. Wright in treatment of cerebral arteriosclerosis when one had diagnosed thrombosis, ^{with anti-Compounds} ~~in~~ that case, and ~~it~~ ^{it} seems to me, from the number of people disabled by this disease, ^{who are} ~~and also~~ in mental health ^{hospitals, ~~and~~ who be} people can't ^{disorientation and that} afford to keep ~~them~~ at home because of loss of memory, [^] it is part of the Council's duty to do something about it, ^{by especially encouraging research workers in this field.}

Another thing that I am very pleased about is that the Institute staff itself has prepared what has been considered by lay men who have seen it a superb reporting, in very simple words and in very simple sentences, on the work of the various grantees of the ^{National Institute} heart, ^{its} ~~itself~~, and on the intramural work, and I find that members of the Council by some chance haven't received it yet. It has been sent to the members of the National Heart Committee, many of whom are lay men and to some of the people in Congress who were interested, and they have been thrilled to find that they could ^{understand what has been} find something ^{accomplished} ~~out~~ without reading many long complicated pages and paragraphs. This was reproduced by information given to us by the Institute staff by the National Heart Committee.

DR. WATT: I think the record should show that this represents, first, the work of Mr. Lea Martin in reporting (What Progress Against Heart Disease 1953), what progress in actual work. We provided with just a piece of paper--looks something like this (indicating). The next time we saw it, it looked like this (indicating). I think Mrs. Lasker is entirely too modest when she gives us the credit that somewhere along the line someone had a very fine idea to put this into this form and also to provide for what it took to get it in this form.

Thank Dr. Watt,
MRS. LASKER: I also want to thank Dr. White for his generous words and agree with him about what he says.