

SURGEONS' NEW PRESIDENT RAPS GREED OF YOUNG

BY ROY GIBBONS
Dishonesty and greed were
charged to younger surgeons by
Dr. Fred W.
Rankin of Lex-
ington, Ky.,
new president
of the Ameri-
can College of
Surgeons, in a
talk here last
night.



Dr. Rankin, a
past president
of the Ameri-
can Medical as-
sociation and
his inauguration as president of
the college in Medinah temple,
600 N. Wabash av.
Among his listeners were 1,178
surgeons who were accepted into
the "younger, post-war genera-
tion" of surgeons. He termed
such avarice "logical prag-
matism," and held older mem-
bers of the profession responsible
for tolerating its acceptance in
necessary operations, exorbitant
fees, and "ghost surgery," un-
performed by a surgeon hired by
a patient's physician, who later
pretends to have done the job
himself.

Raps Elders for Tolerance

"There are some in our midst,"
said Dr. Rankin, "who do not
recognize their obligations or
courage to live by them. They
fall into the twin pitfalls of
avarice and ill gotten gains. They
are justified in what they are
doing."

Blames Post-War Group

"It is regrettable that, for the
most part, the men who are so
conducting themselves are the
younger, post-war generation.
But that does not relieve us who
are older of blame for what is
happening."
"We are aware of surgical
practices which violate profes-
sional principles and the prin-
ciples of simple morality. Yet
there is ample evidence that
large segments of the profes-
sion either blindly ignore what is
happening, or contend that it is
happening in their communities
or argue that it is only of small
consequence in the over-all sur-
gical picture."

Asserts Number Is Small

Dr. Rankin said it is fortunate
that only a small number of sur-
geons is guilty of such prac-
tices, "but even one malefactor
reflects directly and unfavorably
upon us all."
In clarification of a plan an-
nounced Thursday by the college
to have surgeons submit to a
financial audit of their incomes,
a spokesman said the college
merely being suggested to local
surgical groups who may wish to
adopt it to stamp out fee split-
ting, and will not be a requisite
to membership in the college on
national level.