

( D R A F T )

DEPARTMENT OF  
HEALTH, EDUCATION AND WELFARE  
Public Health Service  
National Institutes of Health  
National Cancer Institute  
Bethesda 14, Maryland

FOR RELEASE

September , 1954

*Albert*

Mrs. ~~Mary~~ W. Lasker, who has actively aided the progress of medical research through the Albert and Mary Lasker Foundation, has been appointed a member of the National Advisory Cancer Council, Surgeon General Leonard A. Scheele of the Public Health Service, Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, announced today.

As a member of the National Advisory Cancer Council, Mrs. Lasker will advise and make recommendations to the Surgeon General regarding program activities of the National Cancer Institute. This is one of the seven divisions of the National Institutes of Health, main research arm of the Public Health Service. Mrs. Lasker will serve a 4-year term, beginning October 1, 1954.

The Council, established by Act of Congress in 1937, reviews applications for research projects relating to the study of the cause, prevention, or methods of diagnosis and treatment of cancer. Upon recommendations of the Council, the Surgeon General awards grant-in-aid to scientists and institutions whose projects show promise of making valuable contributions to the knowledge of cancer. Under the law, the Surgeon General cannot make any grants unless they have been recommended for approval by the Council.

Six of the 12 members of the Council are leaders in the field of science, and six are leaders in education and public affairs. In addition, there are

two ex-officio members representing the Veterans Administration and the Department of Defense. The Council meets three times a year at the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Maryland, adjacent to Washington, D. C.

With her husband, the late Albert D. Lasker, Mrs. Lasker established, in 1942, the Albert and Mary Lasker Foundation, which gives <sup>to Lasker</sup> awards through various health agencies for contributions to psychiatric and medical research, <sup>physical</sup> and <sup>and physical rehabilitation and</sup> administration <sup>to medical journalism and</sup>

Mrs. Lasker is a member of the board of the Memorial Center for Cancer and Allied Diseases, New York City. Her wide interest and activities in the field of health and medicine include a 4-year term as a member of the National Advisory Heart Council of the National Institutes of Health. She has also served <sup>S</sup> as a trustee of the Menninger Foundation, Topeka, Kansas, and the Institute for Psychoanalysis, Chicago; <sup>as a member of the board of the American Cancer Society</sup> as a member of the board of ~~directors, the executive committee, and secretary of the National Committee for Mental Hygiene, Group Health Cooperative of New York City, and the Health Insurance Plan of Greater New York; and as a member of the board~~ <sup>an honorary</sup> ~~and executive committee of the Planned Parenthood Federation of America,~~ <sup>of the New York City Board of Hospitals</sup> ~~and the American Cancer Society.~~

Her present civic activities include memberships on the board of the Park Association of New York City <sup>and the Museum of Modern Art</sup> ~~and the board of managers of the New York Botanical Garden.~~

Mrs. Lasker was born in Watertown, Wisconsin, and received an A.B. degree, cum laude, from Radcliffe College. <sup>and honorary degrees from the University of Wisconsin and the University of S. California and Bard College</sup> She lives at 29 Beekman Place, New York City.