

# Exorbitant Costs Hit By Surgeon Head

CHICAGO, Oct. 9.—(AP)—The new head of the American College of Surgeons said tonight the college must end fee splitting, ghost surgery and the charging of exorbitant fees.

Dr. Fred W. Rankin, of Lexington, Ky., spoke after a ceremony at which he was installed as president of the college and 1100 new fellows were inducted.

"Let us admit," Dr. Rankin said, "that there are still men in our profession who practice division of fees, who do ghost surgery, who perform unnecessary operations, and who charge exorbitant fees for their services."

The responsibility of the College of Surgeons, he said, is "to make every effort to end these practices," which have been condemned by the American Medical Association and by numerous state medical groups.

Dr. Rankin said that "in many respects surgeons carry the heaviest responsibilities of all physicians, if only because of the harm they can do."

For that reason, he said, and because the field of medical knowledge is too broad for any one man to master it, specialization is necessary.