The President of the United States, under authority given him by Congress, has just proclaimed the month of April, 1955, as Cancer Control Month.

This is the month the American Cancer Society conducts its annual crusade for funds to carry on its three-fold program. The American Cancer Society is the only voluntary nation-wide agency fighting cancer through research, service and education.

There is hardly a citizen in our great state of South Carolina who hasn't lost a friend or relative from cancer. We have seen this cruel disease kill many of the finest citizens in our state and throughout the nation. Cancer claimed the lives of 230,000 men, women and children in the United States last year; 1,877 of these died in South Carolina.

Cancer is a menace to our health, our well-being, our economy. What can we do about it? What kind of a defense line can we shape against it?

I urge that every South Carolinian read the life-saving facts about cancer which will be publicized during April. If heeded, these facts can save thousands of lives each year -- perhaps your life and mine.

Your generous contributions are needed to support the American Cancer Society's all-out fight against cancer. Contributions from everybody can make possible the continuation
of research by the 1,000 scientists now working in 1500 laboratories, hospitals and universities throughout the nation seeking cures for cancer. Only through scientific research can we hope to win freedom from cancer.

Since cancer strikes one in four -- men and women in all walks of life, of all ages, and of every race, its daily toll in South Carolina is most distressing.

I know that every citizen in our state this year wants to help fight this dangerous enemy that brings so much suffering and death to so many of our homes. Each of us must support this fight.

I urge you to send a generous contribution today to your local cancer Unit or to the South Carolina Division of the American Cancer Society, 501 Wade Hampton State Office Building, Columbia, South Carolina.