

Surgeon clashes with Health Minister

By THOMAS McCONNELL
AN Australian surgeon, who has been arrested for defacing cigarette advertisements on billboards in Sydney, clashed yesterday with Scottish Health Minister Mr John MacKay during an international conference on health education.

At a Government reception in Edinburgh Castle, Dr Arthur Chesterfield-

Evans of the BUGA-UP group (Billboard Utilising Graffitists Against Unhealthy Promotions) asked the Minister: "How can you talk about importance of health education if you don't do anything about cigarette advertising on Government buildings like railway stations?"

At the conference at Heriot-Watt University, 34-year-old Dr Chesterfield-

Evans, an industrial physician, said: "He was not chuffed."

Dr Chesterfield-Evans is no respecter of authority. He has taken on the government, the law, the cigarette companies, and the advertising industry in Australia, and among those subjected to his spray gun insults has been Princess Margaret.

He is in Edinburgh to

deliver a paper at the conference on Buga-up, its philosophy, and its application to health promotion.

Dr Chesterfield-Evans was arrested when police found him, spray gun in hand, defacing a Winfield cigarette advertisement in Sydney. Although convicted and fined, he was later cleared on appeal.

Dr Chesterfield-Evans criticised Mr MacKay for

making a "very patronising" speech to the delegates attending the conference.

He said: "He told us we were very good little health educators, but don't cause any political rumpus and I'll be your friend. He wanted us to endorse him and applaud politely, which annoyed a lot of us.

"I told the Minister I didn't think he was serious.