

It is indeed a pleasure to join with you today in the dedication of this new cancer research building. It is, moreover, a signal honor to be an active participant in such a significant event and to be asked to bring you some of my thoughts.

To dedicate is to set aside something for a particular purpose for a definite use and service.

In this sense we join with E. R. Squibb and Sons in the dedication of this splendid new facility, equipped as it is with the most modern instrumentation, and staffed with highly skilled men and women for research against cancer -- the most dreaded disease of our times.

Cancer is truly a tremendous burden upon our Nation, in terms of the human suffering and death and economic damage it causes. It is the second leading cause of death in the United States, accounting for some quarter of a million deaths each year. About 450,000 new cases are diagnosed each year, and the 700,000 or so cases under treatment at any given time run up an annual hospital bill estimated at 300 million dollars. The economic burden of cancer on the Nation is said to be 12 billion dollars a year in lost goods and services.

Yet all of America's medical research costs approximately 500 million dollars a year. When we place against this the costs of cancer -- and add heart disease, the crippling and killing neurological disorders, mental illness, and others -- we can see that we are presently

investing far too little in the nationwide research endeavor against serious disease. The needs are so great that for the present time the prime limitation on the extent of our research effort should not be the availability of dollar support for current research, but rather manpower and resources available.

That is why I think this dedication is a significant event. It marks the provision of a new and additional research resource -- designed to satisfy a portion of our resources deficit. Furthermore, and quite apart from the specific use to which this resource will be put, the building stands as a symbol and recognition of the inadequacies of our present resources in relation to the magnitude of our health problems.

E. R. Squibb and Sons are to be commended for their action, representing as it does so well the kind of forward-thinking by industrial partners in America's medical research which is essential to achieving the greatest possible benefits.

Let me develop this thought for a moment. The support of medical research in this country today comes from government, industry, and philanthropy or endowment. I think we would all agree that these sources are, in today's civilization, interdependent rather than independent of each other. None is an island to itself. None walks alone or goes a separate path without need of the other. The people of the

Nation will benefit from the whole, only as industry strengthens its participation, as government expands its appropriate share, and as the other partners in the support of research keep pace with these two developments, for there can be no doubt that the Nation's medical research resources must be expanded.

As you may know, this is not a conclusion I have reached by a few weeks or months of study and consideration. For nearly twenty years now, ever since I began to serve in the U. S. Congress, I have devoted my major attention to health and medical research matters.

For the past ten years I have been privileged to serve as chairman of the House of Representatives appropriations committee which must determine upon and provide the necessary funds for the Federal government's share in aiding American medical science. This is a grave responsibility, as I am sure you are well aware, for the programs for which we provide appropriations and the activities enabled by these funds have had and will continue to have far-reaching consequences not only on medical science but for the people whom both science and we in Congress serve.

I can assure you that in my years as a representative of the people, my whole course of action and determinations and decisions year in and year out have been held up to the basic light of that motivation. I have seen American medical research grow and develop

and become a world leader, and I am proud to have been a participant in -- as well as an observer of -- that growth and of the benefits it has brought.

Because I have followed the progress of medical science so closely and so long, I would like to discuss for a moment or two some of the ways in which the efforts of industry and of government can supplement and complement each other.

Let me say what is self-evident, but perhaps worth stating: that industry has a vital stake in the programs of Federal support of research, in their size, their nature, and their effectiveness. So, also, the official agencies of government have an equal interest in the size and scope of industrial research. Healthy growth of our national effort is only possible if there is sympathetic understanding and sound working relationships on all levels of activity, administrative, and advisory, as well as in the substance of science itself. Happily E. R. Squibb and Sons through the development of this new facility will strengthen these working relations.

This does not imply that close working relations do not already exist between scientists in government laboratories, scientists in universities supported by Federal grants, and scientists in pharmaceutical laboratories. Such relationships and cooperative work are traditional in American science, are extensive, and have been many times most productive. This can, however, grow and develop in pace

with what I, as many others, foresee as a period that will become the brightest era in American medicine and science.

There is another way in which the links between the components of American medical research can be considerably strengthened. I have in mind strengthening the institutions which are the sources of our scientists and wherein a sizeable fraction of medical research is performed. I refer here to the need for funds for educational facilities for medical schools -- for which I have sponsored legislation and which is coming to be more and more recognized. I have also in mind the support of medical education through the National fund so generously supported by industry.

But let me return to the support of research itself, and the opportunity for direct collaborative endeavor, as for example in Cancer Chemotherapy.

The development of industry and government supported programs in this field afford, I think, a heartening example and a challenge for the proper kind of mutually worked out relationships in other fields in the coming months and years.

Dr. J. R. Heller, Director of the National Cancer Institute, reported to my committee in our last hearings that, in these words, "The national voluntary program of cancer chemotherapy research is now in full operation, with each of its phases operating at a high

level of efficiency and effectiveness." He also said that the pharmaceutical, chemical, and allied industries were taking a most active and important part in the program and that the trend was strong toward greater participation. I know that this has continued, and I hope that it will further increase, for certainly this is a research area where partnership can be most rewarding.

I say this because of something which you know as well as I. We cannot afford less than our very best efforts. We must not merely walk; disease runs ahead and apace, and we must - to put it bluntly - progress faster or die.

Cancer is such a racing enemy that it will outstrip us completely unless we devote extraordinary enterprise to its conquest. If the present incidence and mortality rates from cancer should continue, some 40,000,000 persons now living will develop cancer during their lifetime -- and 26,000,000 of them will die from the disease.

The saving of lives requires more knowledge which in turn will make possible prevention, earlier diagnosis, and more effective treatment. Most likely an increased ability to cure will be most effective in the saving of lives. Here, the brightest hope - many hold - lies in finding chemical agents that could reach and destroy, without serious harm to the person, cancer cells in whatever part of the body they may be located. But we must realize progress will be slow and the smallest returns will require enormous effort, as you well know, in chemotherapy research.

It is for these many reasons that I am very happy to join with you in dedicating this new research building in the war against cancer. E. R. Squibb and Sons are to be congratulated most heartily, and I wish great success to the research inquiries which will be carried forward herein.

In closing, let me quote from a remark of many years ago made to the Joint Committee of the House and Senate which considered the original legislation to create a National Cancer Institute. I think it is appropriate to the present moment.

This was by Dr. Clarence Cook Little, Director of the Jackson Memorial Laboratory, Bar Harbor, Maine, who said: "A war was never won by a general advance on all fronts at once. It was won by advancing in the sectors where you can advance, then in another sector, and then consolidating between. That is what research is. The need is here. The opportunity is here."