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Rep. John E. Fogarty
NIDR Dedication
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National Institute of Dental Research

This is a proud day -- a day of realization long awaited by all of us interested in the progress of dental research. This fine new laboratory building is at once a recognition of the advances which have been made by research in the oral diseases and a challenge to those who will use its facilities. This building stands in a distinguished company here at the National Institutes of Health, and with its dedication this afternoon the National Institute of Dental Research marks a most significant milestone in its relatively short history.

The National Dental Research Act of 1948 authorized the establishment of the Institute and provided, at the same time, funds for the erection of a building to house it. Various complicating factors then set in, with the result that it was not until 1958, ten years later, that final authority to proceed was given. It has been a long wait, but we can console ourselves with the thought that during the intervening years the dental research program has developed and matured so that the design of both the building and its equipment have been suited to its modern needs.

From my vantage point on the appropriations committee of the House of Representatives I have watched the progress of the National Institute of Dental Research with a great deal of interest, and with, if you'll forgive me, a good measure of personal pride, for I have been

actively involved with it and its appropriations ever since the Institute was born, in 1948. I am proud and happy that I have been in a position to play a key role in seeing to it that this Institute and its important programs received the necessary financial support from the Congress, year after year.

Building upon the pioneer work of Dr. Trendley Dean here at NIH the Institute has developed since 1948 sound and productive research programs and has made significant contributions to our current knowledge of oral diseases, adding to our ability to cope with them. However, even though these programs have been productive and have broadened and matured, no final answers have been found as yet, and we may have merely scratched the surface. Of all the avenues leading to the prevention of oral disease the one offering the greatest hope is research within the framework of the biological and medical sciences, so widely represented here at NIH. Within this new building and this great parent research organization the Dental Institute's program of intramural research will have the opportunity to expand and to accelerate its progress into greater and even more rewarding dimensions.

Some idea of the growth of the dental research program can be seen in the Institute's appropriation history, with which I have been happily identified. Ten years ago the total appropriation was somewhat less than two million dollars. In 1956 it was \$2.1 million. The following year, 1957, it jumped to \$6.0 million, and has increased gradually since then to its current, 1961, level of \$15.5 million.

These increasing appropriations for dental research reflect an increasing awareness on the part of the people of the United States, as expressed through their representatives in the Congress, of the need for, and the importance of, dental research. They also are a measure of progress already made and of the promise which is inherent in the programs of research and research support conducted by the Institute.

Although this building which we dedicate today is to be the home of the Institute's intramural research teams, I think it advisable to point out that the intramural research program is only part of the picture. A major portion of the funds appropriated to the Institute are employed to support research in non-federal research institutions - dental schools, medical schools and schools of public health - throughout the country; to provide for fellowships, and to provide for the research training of dentists and dental scientists.

The nation's needs for dental manpower -- both in research and in dental practice are far outstripping the available supply. The future of dentistry is one of great growth and complexity, of increasing prestige and authority, and by the same token, of greater responsibility. The comprehensive health program which President Kennedy outlined in his health message to Congress includes specific recommendations for substantial Federal aid to education, and there are many Congressional proposals which would make Federal funds available for the building of more schools and the training of more dentists. I have again introduced legislation providing for wide-ranging support for dental and medical

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education. I have also proposed legislation which will not only bring us closer to the goal of more adequate supply but will also help us attain higher standards of dental education. One of these is a scholarship bills which will permit dental schools to select applicants of high intellectual promise from an increased number of applicants stimulated to apply by the availability of scholarships. The second of these bills would provide operating grants to schools which would stimulate them and make it possible to provide for expanding enrollments and supply them with necessary funds to improve the quality of their instruction.

There is much to be done both in education and research in dentistry. There are many able and willing hands to attack the job. The Federal government will do its part. The American Dental Association and the Association of American Dental Schools, and other organizations will also be working on various aspects of the problems which face us. Working together we'll move, I'm sure, into a great new era of progress with the help and understanding of the American people.

This new building which we dedicate today may well become the symbol of our entrance into this new era, and I know that for the National Institute of Dental Research it is, indeed, a significant symbol marking a new beginning in its history of growth and achievement in dental research. I offer my sincere congratulations!