

lection. You, no doubt, realize that all mental health lands are subject to competitive leasing for oil and gas, and we utilized our selection entitlement in cases where previously withdrawn land which appear valuable for oil and gas development suddenly became available for state selection."

That statement by Mr. Holdsworth ought to dispel any notion that the million acres of land is being held in a single unit and will be used one day as a concentration camp. But I doubt it. I predict that this baseless, incomprehensible allegation will continue to be made year after year, just as common sense has now made it.

Sincerely yours,

E. L. BARTLETT.

Mr. BARTLETT. Mr. President, about 6 years ago the Alaska Psychiatric Institute was dedicated, and on September 26, 1962, I told the Senate of that event and reviewed the background of the Alaska Mental Health Act. Because it tells in detail the history of passage of that measure and because I hope it will lay to rest at long last the fabrications and charges surrounding the bill, I ask unanimous consent that my address to the Senate be made part of the RECORD.

There being no objection, the address was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

NEW HOSPITAL OPENS IN ALASKA

Mr. BARTLETT. Mr. President, Sunday, September 9, was a beautiful day in Anchorage, Alaska. The sky was clear. The sun was warm. The mountains stood out in bold relief. Nature was in an autumnal mood.

On the afternoon of that day the Alaska Psychiatric Institute was dedicated. This is the newest, most modern hospital in the world for the care of the mentally ill. It will begin to receive patients next month. Designed to care for 225 people at the outset, the institute is so planned that it may be expanded.

I traveled almost 9,000 miles in order to be at the dedication ceremony. I flew from Washington, D.C., to Anchorage and back over the weekend only so that I might be present for the dedicatory exercises. For everyone present it was a thrilling occasion. For some few of us it was even more meaningful. For three of us there on that day this was the culmination of an effort which began over a decade ago. For a fourth, this represented attainment of a goal which, for a time, seemed impossibly distant.

Winfred Overholser, M.D., the great psychiatrist who has been superintendent of St. Elizabeths Hospital here in Washington, D.C., for a quarter of a century, was present. Jack Haldeman, M.D., Assistant Surgeon General of the United States was there. I had the good fortune to be present. And Marjorie Shearon, Ph. D., who made such a significant contribution to the passage of the act which made possible the building of the institute, honored us by her presence. It was Dr. Overholser who, in 1949, headed a committee which subsequently reported the need for Alaska mental health legislation. This was a forerunner of the draft bill which became law.

In those days Dr. Haldeman headed up Public Health Service work in Alaska. Then and later he worked hard for passage of adequate mental health legislation.

The Alaska Psychiatric Institute was constructed because the Congress of the United States and the executive branch of the Government saw an imperative need for it and responded to that need generously and helpfully.

The then Territory of Alaska was and had been throughout its existence strangely situated in respect to the treatment of the mentally ill. For reasons not entirely clear,

