

Senator Bob Bartlett Given Warm Welcome in Senate After Illness

When Senator E. L. "Bob" Bartlett came back to his senatorial duties last month after his illness of the inflammation of the heart lining, his colleagues in the Senate warmly welcomed him.

Acknowledging his return, Sen. Mike Mansfield, D-Mont., said:

"Mr. President, it is noteworthy at this time to state to the Senate that we have with us again the distinguished Senator from Alaska, the Honorable E. L. "Bob" Bartlett."

Mansfield's statement was followed by applause.

Sen. Thomas Kuchel, R-Calif., said, "Mr. President, I wish to make this welcome nonpartisan, and say to the distinguished senior Senator from Alaska: All of your friends in the U.S. Senate, Democrats and Republicans, thank God that you are recovered and have returned to the Senate. On this occasion

we all join in offering every good wish..."

Sen. Robert C. Byrd, D-W. Virginia, "Mr. President, I wish to take a moment to express my pleasure in seeing our delightful, pleasant, and congenial friend, the senior Senator from Alaska..."

"...He is an effective member of the Appropriations Committee. He is an effective Senator. Bob Bartlett is a man who approaches his duties at all times with the interest of the country at heart. He is a man who impresses those who serve with him as a warm and friendly individual.

"The Scriptures say: A man that hath friends must show himself friendly.

"Bob Bartlett has many friends. Perhaps it is because he shows himself friendly. Even more so, it may be because others respect him for his patriotism

and the diligence to which I have referred and for his great mind—but even more than that, his great heart..."

Sen. B. Everett Jordan, D-N.C., "...Of course, I was greatly distressed when he had the slight heart attack—I hope it was slight—and I followed his recovery all the time, when he was in the hospital and at home convalescing. I am delighted to welcome him today to the Halls of the Senate."

Sen. Albert Gore, D-Tenn., "Mr. President, ordinarily this would be an occasion of unmixed rejoicing. However, the Senator from Alaska looks so well and so vigorous that we can expect more from him—such as the distinguished Senator from North Carolina had just cited—in terms of more persuasion, undue industry, more study, and more work.

"Such competition, there—

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Bartlett . . .

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fore, will make the rest of us feel ill at ease. So this is not entirely an unmixed blessing..."

Sen. Byrd, "...Mr. President, I know that Mrs. Bartlett is perhaps more grateful than anyone else for his return to good health. We must express our thanks to her, too, for the good attention and care she has given to her husband during his convalescence."

Sen. Stephen M. Young, D-Ohio, "...I must say that my wife, Bethine, and I have enjoyed a treasured and intimate friendship with Bob Bartlett and his wife, Vide. I need not say we were terribly alarmed when Senator Bartlett was first stricken, and we followed his recovery with mounting pleasure and relief. I add my welcome to Senator Bartlett on his return."

Sen. Ernest Gruening, D-Alaska, "Mr. President, the week of February 19 is starting in a particularly auspicious manner here in the Senate Chamber.

"My colleague from Alaska who has been my warm and close associate for many years is back with us, and those of us here with him can attest to the fact that he looks wonderfully well.

"That first alarm of a heart attack proved incorrect, thank heavens. As a man with a medical background, I can understand the nature of the illness. While it was a heart involvement, it produced no permanent damage.

"Bob, welcome back to many, many more fruitful and productive years in the Senate of the United States."