

I agree very much with what Mr. Nielsen has said and I think the department should make some effort to advise the residents of the country in which these surveys are made in order to give the people there an equal opportunity to get on the ground in the same way as the larger companies.

Dr. HARRISON: Very good.

The CHAIRMAN: Does any other member wish to follow up that idea as suggested by Mr. Nielsen and Mr. Hardie? If not, please proceed.

Mr. COATES: Mr. Chairman, with regard to the make-up of these survey crews and Mr. Nielsen's suggestions. I would like to ask you first whether the department considers that it needs men with the qualifications of these college students in the department the year round, or whether their main asset to the department is the fact that they are able to go in the field in the summertime.

Dr. HARRISON: Yes—that is, in terms of our field activities, the answer is yes. The fact that they are available only for the summer and are not our responsibility during the rest of the year is of great assistance to us.

Mr. COATES: In addition to that, I would think that this would provide an incentive for students in colleges who are interested in geology to go into this type of work, because they know there is a possibility that they might obtain employment in the summertime and thereby further their education. Is that correct?

Dr. HARRISON: Very much so. It is a double-barrelled development. They gain money with which to put themselves through university and at the same time they gain experience in order to obtain employment afterwards.

Mr. COATES: In item 200 I notice there is an increase of about half a million dollars while in item 201 I notice a decrease of \$117,000. I wonder if the minister or yourself could give us some explanation about this decrease and increase respectively?

Dr. HARRISON: The \$117,000 deduction in capital expenditure in vote 201 is occasioned by the fact that in the current fiscal year we spent large sums of money putting in new laboratory equipment, and outfitting the geological survey building which we expect to occupy some time later in the current calendar year.

The increase in vote 200 is largely occasioned by the increased use of aircraft—almost all of it.

As we move further north a greater percentage of our exploration dollar must be spent for the chartering and use of aircraft. This is where we ran into such bad trouble last year with respect to our field program, by an under-estimation of the amount of flying which we required.

Last year we did not have any major operations with the exception of that at Fort George. This year we have three: Fort George, Coppermine and Pelly. All three of them are expensive in terms of aircraft, and most of that money is required in connection with them.

Mr. AIKEN: I would like to draw your attention to the Hudson bay area. There is a survey party marked there for the Belcher islands. Was there anything done there last year?

Dr. HARRISON: Yes; initial studies were made last year. But when working in the Belcher islands one encounters unusual hazards in the form of ice which last year was abnormally bad in Hudson bay, so that activities there were more limited than they would have been in a normal year.

Mr. AIKEN: Is there any plan for work there once again this year?

Dr. HARRISON: It will be finished this year.

Mr. AIKEN: What type of work is it?