

Dr. HARRISON: We considered it a serious situation last year and we have taken what we think are sufficient steps to prevent a recurrence of that. It will not happen again.

Mr. HARDIE: Were there any cases in the past two years in the Northwest Territories where these parties were called out before the total estimate had been used up?

Dr. HARRISON: In a case like that, the total of the money to leave unexpended is at the discretion of the party chief. If he has X number of dollars, he may leave three or four days early, depending on his own particular brand of conservative approach for getting from the field to Yellowknife and home. Chances are that any individual party will have a little bit of money left when it comes out, simply because they have to be sure they have enough money to get out.

Mr. HARDIE: Were there any instances in the Northwest Territories in 1957 where the field parties came out with amounts left in the fund which could have been used to advantage in that year to finish up a certain job?

Dr. HARRISON: No.

Mr. HARDIE: We are all agreed in this committee that this department is particularly important in the development of natural resources. I would like to ask the minister what he would consider to be the first and primary requirement in the development of a new mining area in Canada.

Mr. COMTOIS: The first thing to do is the mapping and surveys.

Mr. HARDIE: Hear, hear.

Mr. COMTOIS: The topographical work. That is the main thing to be done; and then the geological work. Does that answer the question?

Mr. HARDIE: Very well. I think you should consult with your colleague, the minister of northern affairs and impress that upon him also. I think the Department of Mines and Technical Surveys should be voted a great deal more money in order to do what the minister said is of primary importance in developing a new area.

Mr. NIELSEN: The increase of \$7 million this year must be gratifying to the department, but to me it seems to fall far short of being sufficient to achieve the objectives which are so important in the over-all development of our natural resources.

Dr. BOYER: The increase of \$7 million is mostly on account of increased assistance under the Emergency Gold Mining Assistance Act, and also for the construction of a ship for hydrographic surveys; the rest is distributed throughout the several units of the department.

Mr. STEARNS: Ever since Mr. Nielsen has been speaking about the possible acceleration of the program I have been thinking, if you have about 600 employees now and hope to double that number, have you the building facilities here to take care of twice the number that you have at present?

Dr. BOYER: It could be done, as long as the increase is planned and carried out in a systematic way over a number of years.

Mr. STEARNS: It would not be a question of having to build a new building immediately?

Dr. BOYER: We might eventually need facilities additional to those presently being built. If you increase your staff you have to increase also the laboratory and other facilities.

Mr. STEARNS: But you could go a long way without putting up a building now?