

committee in time for these hearings. However, this was not possible in view of the advanced date of the hearings and instead we have distributed a docket, the contents of which provide a good cross-section of our main activities during 1958. Time has not permitted a translation of some of the items in the docket.

As you can see from the contents of the docket, we covered a lot of ground in 1958 both in our field work and in our laboratories. The mineral industry in particular will benefit from this work, and to a varying degree various other segments of the Canadian economy will benefit as well.

Turning now to the coming fiscal year, we are asking for an amount of approximately \$36,066,000 to cover our anticipated expenditures during the year. These will include payments estimated at \$11.5 million under the Emergency Gold Mining Assistance Act. As you know this act was amended at the last session of parliament to allow for a 25-per cent increase in payments to those gold mining companies receiving cost aid under the act.

The expenditures will also include an amount of \$1,074,400 for Administrative Services which is comprised of \$697,300 for departmental administration, \$281,800 for the work of our Mineral Resources Division, a unit of head office, and \$95,400 for administration of the Explosives Act.

For the work of our Surveys and Mapping Branch an amount of approximately \$11.8 million has been placed in the estimates.

In this work we intend this year to make a start on a research project in the Polar Basin. The project stems from the decision reached at Geneva recently to the effect that the resources of the continental shelves belong to the adjacent nation. The right of ownership of these resources places on the countries concerned the responsibility for developing them. The region in question extends for about 1,500 miles along the northern rims of the Arctic Islands and for distances up to 200 miles northward into the Arctic. Our work this year will be reconnaissance in nature to obtain a rough idea of the general characteristics of the shelf, the equipment needed for such a project, the best type of transportation and so on. It will be carried out in the 300-mile area centred on Isachsen and Ellef Ringnes Island and extending 100 miles out to sea.

An amount of \$567,800 has been placed in the estimates for this project. The team of experts will leave for the area about March 1.

To reinforce the fleet of the Canadian hydrographic service, it is planned to start work this year on the construction of a ship the C.G.S. "Hudson" that will cost an estimated seven million dollars. She will be designed not only for hydrographic surveying but for all types of oceanographic research, including submarine geology.

We are also constructing two new tidal stations in the Arctic. One of these is at Alert on the northeastern tip of Ellesmere island, and will be used largely for long-term research on studies in changes in sea level. The other is at the mouth of the Mackenzie river and is needed in connection with present and future development in the area.

Our field work this year for the establishment of survey control for mapping will include a start on the revision of topographic maps of portions of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick; the continuation of surveys required for the study of the power possibilities of the Yukon river basin; and the extension of survey control for large blocks of detailed and reconnaissance mapping in Quebec and Labrador.

An amount of \$1,900,000 appears in our estimates to meet the requirements for aerial photography, which work is done under contract to the companies concerned. We have been faced with a considerable increase in