

Dr. HARRISON: We made a bad guess as to the amount of money it would cost to operate our field party, and just ran short of money.

Mr. NIELSEN: I see. Do you expect that you will run into that same difficulty this year?

Dr. HARRISON: No, not again.

Mr. NIELSEN: How long do you expect your party will be staying in the Yukon this year?

Dr. HARRISON: Whatever the field party chiefs consider a reasonable length of time to conduct their operations.

Mr. NIELSEN: Is that usually to the end of the season?

Dr. HARRISON: The end of the season is not necessarily the climatic season. As I said earlier, we engage a considerable number of students from the universities. The universities are tending to have the new semester start each year a little earlier than in the previous year. The result is that most of the students have to leave the field about the tenth or twelfth of September in order to get back to the university in time for the beginning of the winter year.

Mr. NIELSEN: If the university students were not employed, and if your geological time in the Yukon were not restricted by the length of time which these university students could stay there, how much would it cost, in addition to what you are paying now, or have you any idea of that?

Dr. HARRISON: I do not know. If we could not use university students, who are seasonal employees, and relatively inexpensive, it would increase the cost of equivalent service. We have, on occasions where relatively small amounts of territory still needed to be investigated, kept parties in the field. That is, the party chief and various continuing employees of the survey have stayed there and carried on the work.

This however is not as efficient as the other way. It still gets the work done and in some instances, in northern British Columbia for example, the party stayed in the field until October 11, I think it was. But the weather did get pretty miserable then.

Mr. NIELSEN: I am asking you that question because we recognize the great need for accelerating the geological mapping and geological survey of all parts of the north. It seems to me that full advantage should be taken of the season, short as it is, in the north. You have only two and a half or three months at the very outside within which you can go out and do any real efficient work. I suggest therefore that if your program is limited or is restricted by the curricula of university students, then perhaps another look should be taken at the utilization of these students, relative to the importance of having this program completed.

Dr. HARRISON: I agree with you. However, I would like to point out, again, that if we were to base our operations on the total force of the geological survey, without the addition of student help, we would either have greatly to curtail the operation of survey, or we would have to ask for a great deal more money for equipment to do the work.

Mr. NIELSEN: Perhaps the latter is the answer, then.

Mr. COATES: On that point—

Mr. NIELSEN: If I might be permitted to finish this; I wished to pursue one other line of thought, and that is in connection with the types of surveys we are doing there. As is generally known, natural resources in all phases of development are the responsibility of the federal government, north of the 60th parallel.