

The CHAIRMAN. Dr. Wexler, we will give you a chance to give us a little more factual information about the weather.

Dr. WEXLER. We have had our share of Antarctic weather here. As a matter of fact, that storm we had in mid-February was as severe as any Antarctic storm I have seen. Of course, I have been there only in the summer, so I have no basis for comparison. I thought perhaps you might like to hear a little bit more about the Hague meeting.

I think my notes to Dr. Gould have been distributed but I thought perhaps a brief review might be in order, Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN. Yes, we were going to ask about it anyway.

Dr. WEXLER. Yes, sir.

The countries represented there indicated with 1 or 2 exceptions that they would continue their stations after 1958. One of the countries which was uncertain at the beginning, France, at the very end of the meeting said definitely they would continue their station.

Norway indicated some uncertainty but they seemed rather confident that with the assistance perhaps of Sweden and Denmark, they would continue their stations.

The United Kingdom was still uncertain at the end of the meeting as to whether they would continue their station at Halley Bay.

The Soviet Union indicated they would continue their stations.

Mr. HALE. All of them?

Dr. WEXLER. All of their stations.

At that time they had not reached their final station which was the station at the pole of inaccessibility. They said they would continue to drive as much as they could toward that station and wherever they stopped that would be it. They have since stopped at a point deep in the interior, not at the point they hoped to get to but some intermediate point, which is perhaps 13,000 feet high.

We discussed the various scientific subjects and Dr. Gould mentioned earlier the disciplines have been expanded because they are confined to the Antarctica and as such they can deal with subjects related to the Antarctica more than with respect to the earth as a whole.

It is interesting to note that the Soviet representative, Dr. Somov, who is a well known Arctic scientist, and who spent a year at the Antarctic station, said from the meteorological point of view the network of stations is not adequate.

He proposed setting up another dozen stations. Seven on the coast; 3 between Little America and the foot of the Palmer Peninsula. These would be coastal stations in a portion of Antarctica which has never been penetrated to the coast. Ice conditions are very bad.

Dr. Somov went on to suggest a station for the southwest corner of Weddell Sea, which our expedition last year tried to get to but failed to set up a camp because of unsuitable ice conditions. They went back and set up the Ellsworth Station.

He went on to suggest that if the United Kingdom gave up its Halley Bay Station, called the Royal Society Station, then that should be reoccupied by another nation.

He went on to suggest another station between the United States Wilkes Station on the Knox coast and the French station and another station between Dumont d'Urville and Hallett.

Mr. MACDONALD. That is the Bellinghousen Sea area.