

We welcome you to this committee this afternoon and certainly appreciate your taking a little time out of your busy schedule for this purpose.

Here comes the traveler that came very near breaking the record. As a matter of fact, Mr. Hale, of Maine, would have broken the record of the oldest man who ever traveled from one Pole to the other had it not been for a certain Englishman, I believe, who had beaten him to it.

Mr. HALE. Sir Hubert Wilkins.

The CHAIRMAN. Sir Hubert was with us while we were down there.

On January 13 of this year I wrote Dr. Bronk, President of the National Academy of Sciences, asking him to assist the committee in our legislative responsibilities by appointing a committee under the Academy: (1) To evaluate the United States participation in the International Geophysical Year program; (2) to assess the studies under the respective disciplines and the need for the continuation of the work already undertaken; and (3) outline the operation and the budget for the work deemed appropriate to be continued.

I might say, Dr. Gould, out of our experience in Antarctica during which Admiral Dufek told us of some of your problems and how necessary it was for a decision to be made and to be made then, that pursuing the suggestion he made, we did undertake to contact the appropriate source, and in this case it was the President of the United States, in which we proposed to him some of the same problems and questions, that appropriate action be taken to bring about some definitive decisions in order that they could know just what to expect.

We are very pleased with the fact that we did get immediate response and a decision was made.

Of course, you know what that decision is to arrange for a program to carry on this scientific work in the Antarctic beyond December 31 of this year.

Before we proceed further to get from you some of the suggestions we might have and some information regarding the program, I would like to recognize the presence here today of a gentleman whom I have known for some years and who is rendering an outstanding job as president of the University of Arkansas in my own State, Dr. Caldwell.

Dr. Caldwell, we are glad to have you come by and I do not know of a more appropriate time for you to visit this committee than now when we have these distinguished educators and scientists with us. We appreciate your being here. Of course, we know you have a busy schedule, too, and you can feel free to go on whenever you feel compelled to do so.

Now I suppose the better approach to this session this afternoon, Mr. Joyce, would probably be to conduct this in a sort of panel-like manner. As I understand, each of you have a particular phase of this program that you might like to explain.

I believe that Dr. Wexler and Dr. Gould have been at an international meeting at The Hague since the first of the year. Of course, we would be interested in knowing about the results of that meeting, too. So, with this brief explanation and word of sincere greetings to you here, we shall be glad to have you advise us of any information you have along the line I have suggested and the objective that we are seeking.