

Dr. RIPLEY. Yes. But it would have to be maintained as a line item separate. Otherwise, it would be lost and it would not appear as a particular sum of money allocated for this program.

Mr. MOSHER. But you do have working relationship with the National Science Foundation where you use some of their money occasionally?

Dr. RIPLEY. We receive money under contract from the National Science Foundation; yes, sir.

Mr. DADDARIO. Dr. Blair, you talk about this money being best placed in the National Science Foundation. Would you give the National Science Foundation the control over the whole program as well?

You see them as a bookkeeper, or as an actual administrator?

Dr. BLAIR. Presently the administration is through the National Academy. I would see it rather difficult to change this without a very radical operation, and I see no particular reason to change it.

You see, the overall direction of the program, the general coordination, is under a national committee with a large number of subcommittees. But out of these subcommittees there has emerged a group of very specific programmatic operations that are now in the planning stage, and this is why I disagreed with Dr. Ripley's rather pessimistic look at where we are now.

Mr. DADDARIO. Let's go into that a minute.

Dr. BLAIR. All right. I will speak to one that is now in the planning stage. This is a watershed study which will involve a large number of scientists working on a watershed in its entirety, using the whole ecosystem approach.

Dr. Frederick Smith from the University of Michigan—I believe he testified at your earlier hearing—is the coordinator of this program. A large number of people will be participating.

The movement of minerals, nutrients, pesticides, everything else in this watershed will be monitored. It will be probably the first real ecosystem study, the study of all of the interrelations, all of the interactions within or among the organisms that live together in a very broad area. This is an exciting sort of thing. It is something we have been talking about for years. It is something that could not be done unless we had the kind of programmatic approach that we are planning under IBP.

Mr. MOSHER. Where does that study stand for the moment?

Dr. BLAIR. There has been a planning conference in which the ground rules have been worked out. There is a committee, a steering committee. There is——

Mr. MOSHER. It is still merely a concept?

Dr. BLAIR. It is a concept. It needs money.

Mr. MOSHER. It lacks money?

Dr. BLAIR. It lacks money, as do all these other programs. This is one kind of thing that can be done under IBP which could not be done otherwise.

Another kind that appeals to me personally, because I am deeply involved in it, is the kind of international study that could not be done without cooperation of the sort—and again on the programmatic basis—that we can get under IBP.