

surgical and treatment services on an elective basis to crew members of Canadian fishing and government vessels. (Canadian seamen obtain their hospital care under the provincial hospital insurance plans.)

Quarantine.—Under the Quarantine Act, all vessels, aircraft and other conveyances and their crew and passengers arriving in Canada from foreign countries are inspected by the quarantine officers to detect and correct conditions that could lead to the entry into Canada of such diseases as smallpox, cholera, plague, yellow fever, typhus and relapsing fever. Fully organized quarantine stations are located at all major seaports and airports.

Immigration.—Under the Immigration Act and the Department of National Health and Welfare Act, the Immigration Medical Service conducts in Canada and other countries the medical examination of all applicants for immigration to Canada and also provides treatment for certain classes of persons after arrival in Canada, including immigrants who become ill en route to their destination or while awaiting employment.

Public Service Health Counselling.—Health counselling is offered through Medical Services units to federal employees throughout the country. This service is primarily diagnostic and advisory only but emergency treatment can also be given.

Civil Aviation Medical Inspection Service.—Air pilots and other air personnel are routinely examined for physical and mental fitness for the performance of their duties.

Regulation of Hygienic Standards.—The Department is responsible for regulating hygienic standards on federal property, interprovincial common carriers, Canadian shipping and aircraft.

Coast Guard Medical Service.—The Department provides a medical service for and in conjunction with the Canadian Coast Guard.

Subsection 6.—Radiation Protection

A comprehensive radiation protection program has been developed in Canada in response to the rapidly increasing use of radioactive materials, X-ray equipment, and nuclear reactors in medicine, industry and research, and to the increasing concern about radiation from atmospheric testing of nuclear weapons, from medical X-ray procedures, and from natural radiation sources.

Because of the need for national controls over dealings with uranium and radioactive by-products, the Federal Government has developed regulatory control procedures for the safe handling and use of all radioactive materials. These are implemented through special advisory committees with close collaboration of federal and provincial health departments. Acting as the principal health adviser under the Atomic Energy Control Regulations, the Department of National Health and Welfare reviews all applications for radioisotope licenses and recommends health and safety conditions.

Members of the Department serve on special advisory committees to the Atomic Energy Control Board to review the siting, design, construction and operation of nuclear reactors and charged-particle accelerators and to make recommendations. Although there is no federal regulatory authority to provide health and safety supervision over the use of X-rays, the Department has established a committee on the development of X-ray safety standards to prepare and recommend uniform standards and procedures throughout Canada. The committee has recommended that the sale of such equipment be subject to federal control and its installation to provincial control. Five provinces (Nova Scotia, Quebec, Ontario, Saskatchewan and Alberta) have enacted specific enabling legislation applicable to X-rays and two (Nova Scotia and Saskatchewan) have issued regulations requiring registration of operators and equipment.