

make their facilities and assistance available to countries lacking the necessary technical and financial resources.

In pursuance of this programme during 1960, Canada made separate administrative arrangements with Ghana, Pakistan and Burma for the Canadian authorities to receive and analyse samples collected by the authorities of those countries. The programme of scientific radio-active analysis comes under the responsibility of the Radiation Protection Division of the Department of National Health and Welfare, and is now expected to get under way at an early date at its full initial analysis capacity of six hundred samples a year.

In view of this active Canadian interest in promoting international co-operative research on the effects of atomic radiation, it was particularly gratifying for the Canadian Government to take note of the constructive and encouraging activities of the United Nations Scientific Committee outlined in the Progress Report it submitted to the fifteenth session of the General Assembly. Canada therefore again took the initiative in co-sponsoring a resolution unanimously adopted in the Special Political Committee on December 15, 1960, requesting the Scientific Committee to pursue its important work.

Peaceful Uses of Outer Space

On December 12, 1959 a resolution unanimously adopted at the fourteenth session of the General Assembly established a new Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space to pursue the task previously undertaken by the 20-member *Ad Hoc* Committee. The agreement between East and West reflected in that resolution had been reached after long negotiations had successfully resolved the question of the composition of the Committee. The U.S.S.R. which had previously refused to participate in the work of the 20-member *Ad Hoc* Committee had agreed with the USA on a 24-member Committee comprising twelve Western Countries (including Canada), seven members of the Soviet bloc, and five other countries (India, the United Arab Republic, Sweden, Austria and Lebanon), which would serve during 1960-61.

The new 24-member Committee was to review the area of international cooperation relating to the peaceful uses of outer space and give consideration to the legal problems arising out of the exploration of outer space. However, the most immediate task assigned to the Committee was to give effect to a decision of the General Assembly also embodied in the same resolution to convene in 1960 or 1961, under United Nations auspices, an international conference of interested member states and Specialized Agencies.

Unfortunately, difficulties have arisen in the course of preliminary negotiations concerning the organization and procedures of work of the