

drain was largely a personal factor. Brain wastage was a far greater problem than brain drain. Only 5 percent of the people of Singapore are able to get adequate training.

DR. RAMON R. ANGELES (Philippines) said brain drain was a big problem in his country, a very high percentage of professionals migrating to U.S.A. He attributed much of the problem to the giving of wrong type of training to local people, the graduates not being fitted to work locally. The Martial Law has introduced a new educational system and forces graduates to work in rural areas of the country.

DR. PRIMITIVO D. CHUA (Philippines)

Our country continues to suffer the migration of professionals (particularly physicians, nurses and other medical auxiliaries) to the advanced countries like U.S.A., Canada, and Europe, not necessarily for professional advancement and training but more for economic reasons, i.e., because of better pay, good living conditions and to attain a status symbol. No legislation has been enacted to limit this exodus of professionals because our government believes in freedom of movement in the pursuit of man's happiness. However, with the imposition of Martial Law, certain restrictions on foreign travels and employments abroad will be forthcoming. It is believed that one of the solutions to discourage the migration of physicians to foreign countries is to offer good Training and Residency Programs for GP's and other Specialists. The Department of Health is now upgrading Medical Services by requiring government physicians to undertake a well-balanced training program for Municipal Health Officers and Hospitals Directors. Other incentives as increased pay and other fringe benefits are being offered. Medicare will also enable physicians to participate and have more paying patients.

DR. H.E. MONINTJA (Indonesia) said that the situation in his country was changing rapidly. Many graduates now want to stay put or return to Indonesia. The latter, however, are not orientated to local conditions.

SIR GEOFFREY NEWMAN-MORRIS (Australia) summed up the points raised in the discussions by saying that there was brain drain from:

- (1) Donor countries to recipient countries,
- (2) Government medical service to private practice,
- (3) Rural areas to urban areas and
- (4) Interdisciplinary exchanges.

It was necessary therefore there should be:

- (1) Adequate conditions of service in donor countries,
- (2) Government subsidies for overseas study,
- (3) Migration restrictions and
- (4) Overproduction.

He proposed the following resolution which was accepted with general consent.

The C.M.A.A.O. is of the opinion that there are three significant factors in controlling the loss of trained medical personnel to other countries:

- (1) The conditions of practice in their own country must provide, (a) proper facilities for practice, (b) job satisfaction and (c) proper financial remuneration.
- (2) The provision of first class postgraduate training in their own countries.
- (3) The provision of Government subsidies for postgraduate training in other countries to selected persons with an undertaking to return.

Other activities for C.M.A.A.O. delegates

SYMPOSIUM ON MEDICAL EDUCATION

The C.M.A.A.O. Delegates and Observers had the opportunity to take part in the symposium on

medical education organised in conjunction with the Annual General Meeting of the Malaysian Medical Association.

MMA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

They also attended the opening session of the Annual General Meeting of the Malaysian Medical Association when Datuk Dr. R. P. Pillay, the Director of the General Hospital, Kuala Lumpur was installed as President of MMA for 1973-74 by the out-going President Dr. T. Sachithanandan.

M.M.A. HOUSE

They also witnessed the Prime Minister Y.A.B. Tun Abdul Razak declare open the MMA House. This is a 6-storey building sited on 26,800 sq. ft of land opposite the General Hospital, Kuala Lumpur costing three-quarters of a million dollars.

SOCIAL PROGRAMME

They also had the opportunity of attending the Informal Dinner and meet the members of the Malaysian Medical Association socially at the Dewan Tunku

Abdul Rahman on Friday, 6th April, 1973 and at the Formal Dinner and Dance at Hilton Hotel on Saturday 7th April, 1973.

Arrangements had been made for golf and sight-seeing including a whole-day trip for the wives of C.M.A.A.O. delegates in conjunction with the wives and children of MMA members to the Genting Highlands. Arrangements had also been made for visits to shopping centres and places of interest in and around Kuala Lumpur. A visit to the Suria Batek Factory in Klang and a Fashion Show by "Love Boutique" at the Weld Supermarket at Kuala Lumpur were among the other items of interest organised by Dr. Joan La Brooy and her Committee for the ladies.

Datuk Dr. Keshmahinder Singh the Chairman and the members of his Organising Committee were accorded a hearty vote of thanks by our guests.



M.M.A. FORMAL DINNER

Officials of C.M.A.A.O. sharing a joke with Tun Abdul Razak, the Prime Minister.

(L-R) Dr. Ramon R. Angeles, Professor A. A. Sandosham, Dr. H. Kumagai, Dr. Peter Lee, Dr. R.C. Montes, Prime Minister and Datuk Dr. R.P. Pillay.