



National Film Board

*Indonesian trainee discusses a diagnosis in the Royal Victoria Hospital's Radiology Department in Montreal.*

A most important feature of technical cooperation under the Colombo Plan is that, because it involves an exchange of persons, there are many mutual advantages to the participating countries. Canada has shared in these advantages in several ways. For example, Canadians learn to use their skills in other environments and on new problems, thereby enriching their own professional as well as personal experience. Secondly, aid provides further opportunity to demonstrate Canadian goods and services in important areas of the world. In many cases, Asian trainees have added considerably to Canadian knowledge in the very subjects they came here to study: post-graduate students carrying out important research work in producing their theses, particularly in the fields of agriculture and medicine, have made their valuable work available to Canadian universities and research organizations. While working in Canada on their training programmes, Asians have also brought new ideas and working methods to their Canadian colleagues.

In short, the Colombo Plan technical assistance programme has proved to be a vehicle for the pooling of ideas and skills of persons from widely differing environments and cultural backgrounds. Throughout Canada, at many universities, business and government institutions, students and professional men and women from South-East Asia are pursuing their studies and at the same time bringing Canadians into direct contact with their outlook as people, and their particular knowledge and skills. At the same time, Canadians in South-East Asia are bringing similar contact with Canada to the people with whom they are working.