Filipinos in Science. . .

Where are they?

WB Eugenio Padua, PM

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At a recent meeting of the Boswell Club a participant pointed out that 100 percent of the Nobel Prize winners in Science (Physics, Chemistry, Physiology and Medicine) were born, brought up or educated in milk-drinking and meatcating nations outside of the tropics — or within the land areas around the world bound by Latitudes 30°-60° North and South of the Equator, especially from areas bound by Latitudes 42°-56°.

"Proximity to the Equator," he said, "seems to be poison as far as chances of winning the Nobel Prize is concerned.

According to him, in tropical oilrich Kuwait there is now a "massive airconditioning program" and he recommended for the Philippines a systematic exploitation of airconditioning in all its ramifications especially in school house designs. Further, that school classes be shifted to nighttime or early morning hours "to avail of the cold during learning periods." Outling from a report of the Food

Automy from a report of the Pool Technology Department of the Mas-achusetts Institute of Technology, be said that the human brain practically reaches full development during the first three years of a child's life and any malnutrition at this stage can cause irreparable damage to the natural development of a child's intellect and result in partial or total mental relardation.

We have looked up Kuwait and have found that it is now "virtually a paternalistic welfare state where health services are free to all residents, including visitors, and facilities are plentiful and excellent; education is free from kindergarten to university, including transportation, books, stationery, school uniforms and hot lunches; top-ranking students may study abroad at government expense."

The Philippines falls within the very large area in which there have been no Nobel Prize winners, or even nominees. So do Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailaud, Laos. Vietnam and Cambodia on this side of Asia. So do all other countries in Asia and Africa, except, Japan. China, India and South Africa. In fact, of the 117 members of the United Nations Organization, only 26 countries have produced Nobel Prize winners in science.

For 66 years (up to 1966) there have been 265 awardees, of whom eight were women. They were, by nationality of birth, as follows:

- 54 native-horn Americans, besides 24 other American citizens who were foreign-born;
- 52 native-born Germans, not including one former Hungarian but including 10 former Germans who became citizens of other countries:
- 45 native-born Britishers, not including five other British subjects who were foreign-born but including one former British:
- 18 native-born French, not including four other French

who were foreign-born but including two former French; 12 native-born Russians, including three Russian-born but no longer Russian citizens when they won:

14 native-born Italians, not including one Italian citizen who was foreign-born but including two former Italians;

11 native-born Danes;

9 native-born Austrians, not including one other Austrian who was Hungarian-born but including five originally Austrian-born;

9 native-born Dutchmen; 7 native-born Hungarians.

cluding six citizens of other countries but originally Hungarian-born;

7 native-born Swedes, not including one Swedish subject who was a former German:

6 native-born Swiss, not including four Swiss citizens who were originally foreign-born but including three originally Swiss-born;

3 native-born Poles who were no longer Polish citizens when they won:

2 native-born Australians: 2 Belgians: 2 Japanese: 2 Czecks (including 1 American citizen): 2 Chinese (both American citizens);

I native-born Canadian; 1 Argentine: 1 Portuguese: 1 Finn: 1 Indian: 1 South African (American citizen): 1 Brazilian (British subject).

The first awardees (in 1901) were a German in Physiology and Medicine, a Dutchman in Chemistry, and another German in Physics.

In Chemistry, in Physics and in Physiology and Medicine, the prizes first won by native-born Americans were in 1914, 1923 and 1933, respectively. It was in 1907 when an American citizen (born German) first won a Nobel Prize (Physics). In 1912 another naturalized American citizen (born French), Dr Alexis Carrel (an agnostic who finally believed in the miraculous cures at Lourdes after actually seeing them), won the Nobel Prize in Physiology and Medicine.

From 1901 to 1966 the Englishspeaking peoples ranked No. 1; Germanic, No. 2; Romance, No. 3; Slavic, No. 4; Scandinavian, No. 5. Of the 265 awardees, 260 were

of the white race, and five were Orientals (one Indian, two Japanese, two Chinese). None of the 265 were born and/or educated in the tropics! Of the total 78 American winners.

24 were originally foreign-born five German, four Austrian, three Hungarian, two Freuch, two Italian, two Chinese, one Spaniard, one Czech, one South African, one Russian, one Swiss, one Britisher).

No American scientist has ever gone over to any other country. Billions of dollars a year are being set aside in the U.S. for research in the exploitation of previous scientific breakthroughs and in the expansion of the storehouse of fundamental knowledge of science and technology. All aspects of research taken together are the mightiest force in the U.S. economy and have become an inseparable part of it.

After the Fall of the Roman Empire in the fifth century there was a barren period of almost eight centuries for Science until versions of the Greek scientific works were translated into Latin from the Arabic in the 13th and 14th centuries.

Islamic Science, which flourished between 850 and 1200, left "a deep impress on the Latin world in alchemy, mathematics, astronomy and

came mostly from Moorish Spain.

By 1550, the world's scientific heritage had been fully recovered. But alas the descendants of the

originators, as well as those of the early inheritors, seem to have lost the genius of their ancestors! The Greeks and the Arabs of today are no better than the present-day Filipinos. Does this prove the truth of the statement that Science may be regarded as a mood in which we consider our world" and that "no man is always in the same mood, and no man of science remains permanently in the scientific mood?"

Perhaps climate has had something to do with the slow progress of peoples in the tropics but there is ample evidence to show that their mental apacity is not hopelessly inferior to that of peoples in the temperate zones.

Maybe it can be said that, like the present-day Greeks and Arabs, we simply are not at this time in a scientific mood, because of our economic and social underdevelopment but not because of our proximity to the Equa-IOT

It would be an impossibility for us, for the next hundred years perhaps, to set aside billions for scientific and technological research and development and it would be nonsense to beat our breasts and say we could equal the United States and the few other advanced countries in these fields. What we must do quickly is to avail ourselves of their already available scientific and technological knowledge and discoveries under the "time-binding process" and thus push our own economic and social development without very costly experimentation.

ing, let us admonish them as brothers and not as enemies. Forbearance and humbleness drive away hatred and endears one to another. also teaches us to be compassionate, share with the misfortunes of others and to extend a helping hand to a fallen brother. Let this kind of love as taught by Masonry and as practiced by Masons be felt by non-masons. Let us be bound by a strong bond that gives the kind of love and affection needed by all, a love that is reciprocated by an equal love, a true love that is unselfish and unifying. Let us learn a lesson from the lowly dog who loves its master and is faithful till death. Let the same hold true to human beings. Love begets love.

Masonry teaches us to be charitable even to our enemies, for charity is the greatest of all virtues and the bond of perfectness. Charity emanates from a pure heart; when given, it relieves the distressed of his burden and a new ray of hone springs forth and shines on his life. Water is sweet when given to the thirsty, bread is life when given to the hungry. Not all Masons are rich, nay, some could hardly make both ends meet, but they can afford to be charitable just the same. All Masons know that to get butter one has to churn.

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