

**Personality :**

**SHANTILAL C. SHETH**

From this issue we shall off & on publish short accounts of careers of eminent medical luminaries. It is in the fitness of things that we start it with first medical citizen viz, the president of medical council of India, the highest statutory body looking after the standards of medical education in India.—Editor.

Dr. Shantilal C. Sheth, M. D. (Bom), F. R. C. P. (Lond.), Hon. F. A. A. P. (U. S. A.), F. A. Sc., F. C. P. S., F. C. C. P. (U. S. A.), D. C. H. (Eng.), F. A. S. H. A. (U. S. A.) M. R. S. H. (Lond.), J. P.

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Dr. Shantilal C. Sheth, President, Medical Council of India was born on 29th October 1912 at Palitana, former Bombay Presidency. He studied at Harris-High School, Palitana, and passed Bombay University Matriculation securing Sir Mansinhji merit Scholarship. He graduated from Grant Medical College and Sir J. J. Hospital, Bombay, in 1937; held resident appointments in pediatrics, medicine, Surgery etc. and had post-graduate medical education at the above institutions; worked at the Institute of Child Health and the Hospital for sick children, Great Ormond Street, London; North London post-graduate school of Medicine; Institute of Neurology and National Hospital for nervous diseases, London; Institute of Cardiology, Insitute of Chest Disease, London, and Edinburgh-University. visited various medical centres, Universities and Foundations in Europe

U. K. and U. S. A. in 1947 and selected in 1958 as a W. H. O. Fellow; visited also the medical centres and institutions in Japan and far east in 1965 and Europe, America, Mexico in 1968. Dr. S. C. Sheth passed membership of the Royal College of Physicians London, M. R. C. P. (London) at first attempt and is also M. D. of Bombay University.

2. Dr. Sheth soon became the Director Professor of Pediatrics at Topiwala National Medical College and Nair Hospital, Bombay, and consultant Pediatrician at other hospitals. He is the only Pediatrician in India who has the rare distinction of being elected as President, Indian Academy of Pediatrics, Indian Pediatrics Society and Association of Pediatricians of India.

3. Dr. Sheth has been re-elected as President of the Medical Council of India for 5 years and is also elected Chairman of statutory post-graduate committee of Medical Council of India. He is the first President of the Council to hold these responsible posts. He was President of Indian Medical Association (All India) in 1965. He is the only person in India who has held both these high posts apart from distinguished recognition nationally and internationally in the field of medical sciences and medical education. He is the youngest Indian and first Indian Pediatrician to be elected F. R. C. P. (London) in the shortest time and one of the few with the London Fellowship awards in the last 70 years in India.

4. Dr. Sheth was Chairman of the Reception Committee of the Third World Conference on Medical Education in 1965 and he was the Chief National Host for this Conference and was its national Vice-Vice-President. He was the Senior Vice-President of First All Asian Congress Pediatrics in 1961. This is outstanding recognition of his professional career.

5. He is the first Asian to be elected Honorary Fellow by the American Academy of Pediatrics. This is a rare honour as he is one of the chosen few in the world so far to be elected as Hon. Fellow of American Academy of Pediatrics in recognition of his outstanding contribution in the field of Pediatrics and medical profession. He is Hon. consultant Pediatrician of the Armed Forces Medical Services in India, a very high recognition of his services by the Government of India. As President of Indian Medical Association he helped organising civil defence of Bombay in the recent national emergencies and also a member of consultative committee, civil defence.

6. He is the only medical scientist fellow in India who is Fellow of Royal College of Physicians of London, Honorary Fellow of American Academy of Pediatrics and Fellow of Indian Academy of Science (Founded by Sir C. V. Raman) besides being fellow of many learned societies and associations. In 1958 he visited Europe, U. S. A. as a W. H. O. visiting Fellow. He has been invited by various universities and associations for learned lecturership awards. He has served on many important national committees and expert and advisory committees. He is

the Chairman of Dr. B. C. Roy National Award Fund for distinguished medical merit awards and the other national awards of Rs. 50,000/- each for highest distinction to distinguished Politicians, Philosophers and doctor statesmen in India.

7. Dr. Sheth was elected as President of the College of Physicians and surgeons of Bombay, Bombay, for six consecutive terms of office—a rare distinction and as President he awarded Honorary Fellowship of the College (Hon. F. C. P. S.) to the late Prime Minister of India Shri Jawaharlal Nehru in 1956.

8. Dr. Sheth has been a Fellow of the Bombay University for 22 years and has occupied all elected positions and has served on many expert selection and visitors committees and as a fellow at the various universities in India.

9. He is the author of 126 scientific contributions which have been well recognised and have found a place and been quoted in the recent advances series published in U. S. A. He has been selected as a leader of Indian delegation to the world conferences and has been speciall invited at the world conferences in Medicine and Pediatrics in 1942, 1965, and 1968. He represented India at the International Association of Pediatricians.

10. Dr. Sheth is a member of the Rotary Club of Bombay, many social and cultural organisations, educational societies and has been responsible for collection of funds and distribution of charities and establishment of institutions. He is medical consultant for civil defence, life member St. John ambulance association and Justice of Peace Bombay (since 1958)

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