

STAFF NEWS



May 1971



A 25TH ANNIVERSARY AND A CRISIS passed into the Fund's history during the first week of May. A tremendous inflow of capital into Germany on the Tuesday and Wednesday caused foreign exchange markets to be closed in that country and in Austria, Belgium, the Netherlands and Switzerland. The Executive Board held the first of four meetings on the emergency Wednesday. Observance of the 25th Anniversary of the first meeting of the Executive Directors had been scheduled for Thursday, May 6; on that occasion, the Managing Director noted the coincidence as

an indication of how much remained to be done by way of international monetary cooperation. Two more special meetings of the Board followed on Friday, and on Sunday the 9th, the Board was consulted by Germany and the Netherlands on arrangements to permit their foreign exchange rates to "float", and by Austria regarding a revaluation.

The anniversary observance had been planned as a 6:00-8:00 p.m. reception in the 12th floor court. It was attended by present Executive Directors, by staff members whose service dated from 1946 or 1947, and by a number of staff officials and their wives. Also invited were some of the first-recruited staff officials who have since retired. These included Edward M. Bernstein, former Director of Research and Roman L. Horne, former Secretary of the Fund.



Acknowledging in his brief remarks the seriousness of current developments, Mr. Schweitzer nevertheless took satisfaction in the development of the Fund over the years, and in the contributions made by Board and staff to its work thus far. He said he was especially pleased with efforts that had been made by the Fund on behalf of



developing countries. Mr. Schweitzer was a member of the Fund's First Executive Board, as Alternate Executive Director from October 1947 to July 1948. He was not, however, at that first May 6, 1946 Board meeting as was Mr. Jan V. Mladek, Director of the Central Banking Service and Executive Director from 1946 to 1948, who contributed to the reception some of his recollections of the Fund's first days. A picture was

distributed showing one of the Board's first meetings under the chairmanship of Mr. Camille Gutt, of Belgium, who is living in retirement in southern France. Among others who served on that first Board are Mr. Ahmed Zaki Saad, of the U.A.R., who continued until last year; Mr. Louis Rasminsky, Governor of the Bank of Canada, and Mr. Jean de Largentaye, now retired, of France.

CONFLICTING REPORTS ON THE FOREIGN EXCHANGE CRISIS,

and on the measures to be used in dealing with it, continued through Friday the 7th and all during the next two days. A 20-hour meeting of Ministers of the Common Market countries began in Brussels on Saturday morning and continued until after 6:00 a. m. the following day. During this period the European Department of the Fund was busy preparing the background information that would be needed for a consultation of the Executive Board on Sunday. But it was not until early Sunday morning here that the results of the Common Market meeting could be learned. Definite word of the German measures that would go into effect with the re-opening of the markets Monday were received later on the Sunday morning, and those of Belgium, the Netherlands and Austria after that. It was not, in fact, until late Sunday afternoon that sufficient information had been received on which to schedule a meeting of Executive Directors to begin at 6:00 p. m. Shortly after 9:30, the Directors adjourned with agreement on the decisions required in the cases of Austria, Germany and the Netherlands, and on the announcements to be made to the press.



THE PICTURES WITH THIS STORY show some highlights of the commemorative reception. On page 1, top: Mr. Schweitzer addressing the guests; bottom left and right: the four staff members who had already celebrated their twenty-fifth anniversary with the Fund before the Board's own silver anniversary. They

New Members of Fund Staff



Mr. Douglas E. Chennell
U.K. - SEC



Mr. Bun Phor Eap
Cambodia - OED



Mrs. Nita Gupta
India - TRE



Mr. Brian Jensen
Peru - WHD



Mrs. Mirja Laurila
Finland - SEC



Mr. Emmanuel D. Ledan
Haiti - SEC



Miss Linda Lessner
U.S. - ADM



Miss Irina Monter
U.S. - CBS



Mr. Amr F. Moustapha
U.A.R. - RES



Mr. Gerardo Noe
Peru - YPP



Mr. William Parmena
Tanzania - YPP



Miss Vanda T. Ryba
Brazil - INST



Miss Pamela Saylor
U.S. - SEC



Miss Sue K. Shin
U.S. - BUR



Miss Marie-Jose Sylla
Haiti - WHD



Mrs. Malika Talwar
India - SEC



Mr. Savak S. Tarapore
India - RES

are, left, Mr. Phillip Thorson and Mr. Walter H. Windsor, and right, Mrs. Helen G. Burrows and Miss Irene Schweitzer. All four date their appointment back to April 1946. Page 2 pictures show, top, a view of the reception; center, Mr. J. V. Mladek addressing the attendance; bottom, Mr. and Mrs. Roman L. Horne. He was also among the first appointees of April 1946, and served the Fund for many years as Secretary until his retirement in December 1966.

THE FUND'S EXECUTIVE BOARD MET FOR THE FIRST TIME on May 6, 1946 at 11:00 a.m. in the Washington Hotel where a small committee room had been set aside for its use. Some hotel rooms had been temporarily converted to offices for the twelve Executive Directors. The Temporary Chairman Harry Dexter White said in his opening statement: "We must proceed very carefully and not be discouraged because accomplishment does not keep pace with our desire. Our chief function is to counsel, guide and help." Mr. Camille Gutt of Belgium, the Fund's first Managing Director, warned during the meeting in his acceptance speech: "One thing will be of paramount importance: mutual goodwill and understanding. This is more important in itself than all the texts of Bretton Woods and Savannah, because without that nothing can be done."

A BICYCLE RICKSHAW RIDE MAY SEEM PRETTY EXCITING to tourists but Joan Pugh was more than happy when her Washington car arrived in Djakarta where she has been working with the Fund's technical assistance mission since November 1969. In her first months there she had to use one of the eighty thousand rickshaws or bet-



jaks that mill about in the traffic-clogged streets of the Indonesian capital. And though she's smiling in our picture, she's still unenthusiastic about it and others in the Fund office there agree fervently! Bruce and Glen Smith even report that "one local issue with which we identify particularly is Mayor Ali Sadikin's campaign to remove the bet-jacks from the street and enforce some order in Djakarta's wild traffic."

But there's more to Indonesia than that. There are the three thousand islands - Bali among them - the luxuriant vegetation, the climbing rice fields along the mountainsides, the fragrant tea plantations, and the more than one hundred and twenty million Indonesians populating the island

empire.

For several years the Fund has maintained its largest technical assistance mission abroad in the capital of Indonesia with a staff of five, headed by Joachim Ahrensdoerf, and an office in the Bank Indonesia shown in our picture. The others are Rasheed O. Khalid, Kunio Saito, Bruce Smith and secretary Joan Pugh. And they form a close-knit community, in and out of the office where they work a six-day week. Bruce's wife Glen reports "we visit each others homes, share furniture, dishes and servants when entertaining and generally live on a much closer personal basis than is usual at headquarters."

In reporting to STAFF NEWS - not about their often hard work but their daily life - all of them had very kind words for the Bank Indonesia, for Djakarta and for the Indonesians as a people. They enjoy their life in Djakarta, which has its advantages and drawbacks as everywhere, and generally feel well adjusted. The Bruce Smiths live in a large and pleasant house. "It's rented," they write, "from a real Javanese princess and has an authentic haunted tree which no Javanese will harm for fear of a mysterious and terrible reprisal." Mystery also surrounds Joan Pugh's favorite beach. It's a marvelous beach well worth the four-hour drive to get there, she says. And she continues: "Samudra beach according to the Indonesians, is where the Queen of the Sea dwells and the story goes that if you wear something green going into the sea, you will be taken by the Queen. I never got up enough courage to dispute the story and wear my new green swimsuit!" Our picture shows Samudra beach with two banana vendors walking along the surf.



The Saitos are also very happy about their house, which is owned by the Bank Indonesia. It's very comfortable and any repairs are quickly done by the Bank's own staff. The Khalids' house needed some renovations when they arrived two years ago. Among other things, the shower facilities consisted of a bucket of cold water that you



poured over yourself. Rasheed developed into something of a contractor and his wife Myrna reports that she found his nerves slightly frazzled when she arrived sometime after he had gotten there. They're now quite happy, though, and, as Myrna puts it, "Now that our assignment has almost come to an end, we can look back and say there have been lots of adjustments but not without a lot of rewards." One of the rewards for Myrna was Indonesia's paradisiacal nature.

"Coming from the prairies of

Saskatchewan where you must get on your knees and beg - aside from the usual things - to get a plant to grow, I was absolutely overwhelmed by Indonesia's vegetation. During the rainy season you believe you see plants growing by the second."

All families like to go out to the mountains south of Djakarta where the Bank Indonesia has put a bungalow at their disposal and where they can exchange the capital's oppressive heat for the cool mountain air at 2,000 feet altitude, even if it means battling the bullock cart traffic for two hours.

And then, naturally, there are the Indonesians themselves! A popular group are the door-to-door salesmen.

"Compared to them," Myrna Khalid says, "the Fuller Brush man and Avon lady are quite unprofessional." She describes them beautifully. "There's the Tukang-ikan. He sells fish for your aquarium. There are about ten fish in each plastic bag. If you're lucky, you won't get the ones that eat each other - but if he's lucky, you will because he'll be back soon to sell you some more. Then there's the Tukang who sells plants and his brother who sells fertilizer. The Tukangs are very specialized; there's a Tukang for bananas, one for shoe repairs, one for brooms, one for vegetables, one for veal, etc., etc. They all beat a path to your door under the motto: "Don't call us ... we'll come to you."



For Myrna, the most tantalizing salesman is the Tukang antique who is prosperous enough to bring his wares on a motorcycle. He mostly sells antique porcelain from the Sung dynasty onward which has been dug up from graves in Sumatra, Sulawesi and other islands. In our picture, Glen Smith buys vegetables from the Tukang Sajuran.

Joan Pugh misses department stores, but Katarine Saito has become quite a "pasar" or public market expert. She was until then little used to bargaining which the Indonesians have developed into a fine art. Her own acquired expertise is



impressively demonstrated by the following guidance: "If you begin by asking the seller how much he wants, you must divide by three, four or even five and offer this price. His reaction is revealing. If he gives you a sad, knowing smile, shaking his head, you know that you may have offered too little. However, if his reactions are more extreme, noisy, and demonstrative, then you're probably nearer the mark." She gives a good example: "Once a seller of tropical fish came to our house, and on hearing my offer for a plastic bag of fish he proceeded to jump in and out of the fish pond,

shaking his fists above his head, and shouting "Bank-root, bank-root!" He eventually agreed to my price."

Servants are another favorite subject. Domestic help is abundantly available to the point where it may get out of hand. As one of the families writes, "For example, you may hire a cook, who may have a son who wants to work as a house servant. The son has a wife who wants to be the washwoman and so on until you have mortgaged your life to a retinue of servants. While this may be creating employment, you are nevertheless expected to look after their general welfare and so you have another family on your hands. On the other hand, they give you loyalty and service that make life more pleasant." Myrna Khalid uses the free time she gets this way for conversation groups with Indonesian ladies. "From them I learned about the jamoe (special herbs) used by almost every Javanese woman to stay young and slim. With great success, I must say!" The Khalids attended the wedding of their cook and house servant in their village and were most impressed with the bride's enormous golden headwear. The wedding had been somewhat of a surprise, because when the cook had originally presented herself she brought a young man whom she introduced as her brother in search of a job as a house servant. After four months the two came to say contritely that they weren't really related but wanted to become so!

Katarine Saito uses her free time to teach English at the University of Djakarta and finds the students most eager, though she sometimes gets slightly distracted by the comings and goings of a couple of birds making a nest in the high ceiling of the class room.

The Djakarta staffers spend much of their time at the office - our picture shows Bruce Smith, Joan Pugh and Kunio Saito there - so home is a good place to be, also in Djakarta, the Bruce Smiths say. "Weekends we often stay quietly at home - anyway we work a six-day week here. We enjoy life here, although we miss our friends and the involvement that comes with living in Washington. But we know that when we return there we'll miss many things - sitting in our front porch of an evening with the enveloping warmth of the tropics and the special fragrance that fills the Djakarta air, and the sounds of the city - the bells of the betjaks, the cries of the street vendors and the tap-tapping of hollow bamboo in the foodstalls..."

THE LANDSCAPE AND PEOPLE OF ISRAEL are the subject of a new Art Society show featuring U.S.-born painter Aryeh Lubin who has made his home in Israel since 1923. The exhibition runs from this Thursday, May 20, until the middle of June, and will show oils, pastels and gouaches.

WORK ON THE TUNNEL that will connect the old and new buildings at a depth of some thirty feet below 19th Street level is making good progress. A few weeks ago mechanical mastodonts congregated just outside the 19th Street entrance to start on the 35 feet deep vertical shaft that had to be dug as a starting point for horizontal digging. Work was started at "our" side rather than at the new site so as not to interfere with construction. By now the shaft has been dug, sheeted and shored and horizontal digging at a depth of some 30 feet is beginning. Most of that will be done by hand. The steel curved ribs and the form liners to hold back the dirt have been delivered and can be put in place as the diggers advance. At a later stage, after the actual digging is completed, the tunnel will get a concrete wall. It will then form a connection between the garages of the old and the new buildings and the outward signs of the tunnel's existence will have disappeared. It is expected that the tunnel as well as garage space in the new building can be used in the latter half of this summer.

THE CHORUS IS ROUNDING OFF ITS YEAR OF ACTIVITIES with a series of concerts in the twelfth floor court. A program of Baroque music will be presented Wednesday, May 26, at 5:45 p.m. Songs from many lands will be featured in a Folk Song Festival to take place the following week on Thursday, June 3, at 5:45 p.m. and Friday, June 4, at 1:15 p.m. Staff members and their families are invited.

Beginning Wednesday, June 16, singers with sightreading ability and choral experience are invited to rehearse for a program of early music to be presented in the Fund Auditorium (Room 484) around the end of July.

THE IBRD-IMF-IFC TENNIS CLUB has been playing tennis on club courts for the last few weeks. Four clay courts are available for play on Saturdays and Sundays from 10:00 a.m. until noon at Carter Barron, 16th and Kennedy Streets, N.W.; while three clay courts are available on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. in Rock Creek Park on Pierce Mill Road.

The season lasts until October, weather permitting, and a tournament will be organized toward the end of the season. Annual membership fees are \$22 for ladies, \$30 for men and \$40 for families. For membership information, contact Denise Pegoix, ext. 3477, Room D-1203.

CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS' SHIPS appear on a silver 5 gourdes coin struck by the Republic of Haiti in commemoration of the explorer's discovery of the country on December 6, 1492.

A Fund mission recently visited Haiti and, during its stay, was invited to attend the ceremonies surrounding the investiture of the new President. President François Duvalier's death and the succession of his son Jean-Claude had been announced two days after the arrival of the mission. It was headed by Mr. Andrew J. Beith and its five members were seated with the Diplomatic Corps at the colorful ceremonies in the Port-au-Prince cathedral and in the Legislative Assembly building where the new President presented his program and the new Haitian cabinet. Though the events had considerable impact and caused heightened activity in the capital, the mission could continue its consultations on schedule.



MARRIAGES. Mr. Ciro Tognetti of the IMF Institute was married to Ann Hardwick on April 3, 1971; Mr. Gunter D. Baer of the Asian Department was married to Cynthia S. Bauer on April 16; Mr. James Chan-Lee of the Research Department was married to Riitta Pihjala, formerly of the Research Department, on April 24.

BABIES. A son, Marc-Dewaine, was born to Mr. and Mrs. William Dorsey on Feb. 13; a son, Manoj Kumar, was born to Mr. and Mrs. Eric Khandagle on April 3; a daughter, Tanya, was born to Mr. and Mrs. Surinder Nath on April 8; and a son, Keith Taraz, was born to Mr. and Mrs. John D. Huddleston on April 22.

BWRC ACTIVITIES ARE HEADING FOR ANOTHER SUMMER PEAK. The swimming pool opens this coming weekend. Golf weather is fine and the tennis courts are crowded. Many other sports are being organized. Construction of a multi-sport field, to be used primarily as a cricket pitch, was started two weeks ago in the lower playground. After the grading has been completed, the field will be seeded with Bermuda grass allowing use in the near future. Cricket-fanciers will be contacted shortly for the setting-up of a team. The soccer pitch is also under repair following construction of the four additional tennis courts. Accommodation of the courts required moving the soccer field further down. The new pitch will be greatly improved with a much smoother as well as graded surface.

Two weeks ago the IMF soccer team defeated the Hungarian team with a score of 2 to 1. This past weekend, a highly trained local team - The Bavarians - who play in the Washington Soccer League, defeated the IMF team with a final score 6 to 4. Following recent inquiries, IMF staff are being informed that the Riding Club deals exclusively with River Oaks Farm Stables, telephone 299-3107. There are still a few vacancies in the evening program. Those interested in equitation classes or trail rides should contact Miss Patricia Dunkle at the above telephone number. Weekend classes are also being formed though arrangements with the Stable should be made soon. BWRC now has five bicycles for use by members. Users must register at the Golf House before taking the bikes out. A special bulletin will be issued soon inviting all departments to set up volley ball and basket ball teams for interdepartmental competitions.

SIR KENNETH CLARK'S "CIVILISATION" SERIES, being shown under the Camera Club's auspices, has been very successful, with record numbers of Bank and Fund staffers in attendance. The series will run through June 30.

The Club's last meeting, on April 28, consisted of "Slides from Around the World", by Harold Shipman. He also judged our fourth slide competition. The next and last competition for the season will be held on May 26. Members are urged to submit their slide entries to Miss Colette Leroy, Fund Room 328, as soon as possible, both in Class "A" and Class "B", so there can be prizes in both classes. This last meeting will also include a show on Israel by Mr. James Cudney, an excellent photographer from AID. Mr. Cudney uses three screens in his shows, one of which, on Vietnam was given before the Club about a year ago.

The annual Club Banquet is scheduled for Friday, June 18, probably at the Bretton Woods Recreation Center. At the banquet, the "slide of the year" and "the photo-

grapher of the year" will be chosen. Please make (members and non-members alike) reservations as soon as possible through Miss Colette Leroy, ext. 2930, Room 328.



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