

STAFF NEWS



June 1973

THE MOVE INTO THE NEW BUILDING is going ahead with dispatch. At the beginning of June, the World Bank took over the security and cleaning of the old Fund buildings which they purchased in April. Any requests concerning building operation, cleaning or guard services should now be made to the office of Mr. Frank Johnson in the Bank, ext. 3418.

During the first weekend of the month, the Communications Division, Records Depository, Chauffeurs and Messengers Units moved to the Concourse level of the new building. The next weekend they were followed by the Middle East Department, who went to the third floor of the new building. Then, during the weekend of June 15 to 17, the Graphics Section made their move to the Concourse level. In most cases existing telephone extensions have been retained.

The American Security and Trust Bank branch, which is now in room C - 201 of the Bank, will be brought closer to the new Fund building by moving it at a future date to the second floor on the 19th Street side of the old Fund building. The Joint Fund-Bank Library and the Health Room will stay in their present locations.

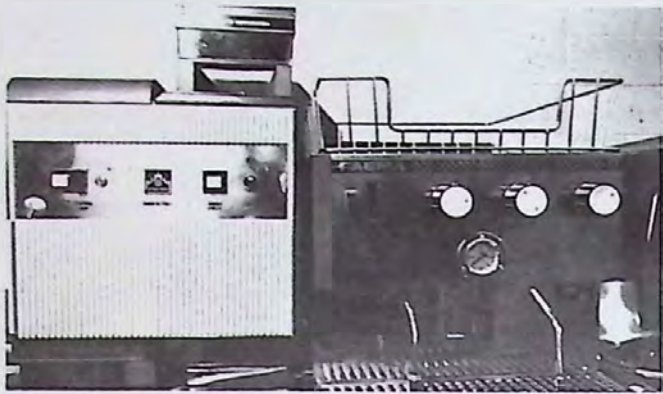


For most staff members, the most striking landmark in the move into the new building was the opening on June 19 of the splendid new cafeteria on the first floor. The cafeteria, with its red checkered carpets, butcher's block table tops, and shiny new appliances, is under the direction of Marriott's Heinz Stiehl, who comes from Germany and is now well settled in after several weeks at the Fund. For the present, the cafeteria will be restricted to Fund personnel and their guests.

To speed up service the cafeteria uses the "scramble" system. Instead of the single counter used in the old cafeteria, there are separate counters for sandwiches and short orders, salads and deserts, hot foods and beverages. Also, because of the problems in finding help, the cafeteria is designed for self-bussing. Staff members are being asked to keep their dishes on their trays, and after finishing their lunch, place the trays and dirty dishes on special carts. Bus girls will be on hand only to clean up spills.



The Executive Dining Room will remain in the old building until work on the new dining room on the second floor of the new building is completed in mid-August. Both the old dining room and the old cafeteria will continue under Henry Langstadt's direction and Fund control until the new dining room is opened. The delay in the opening of the new dining room means, unfortunately, that it will be a



couple of months before Executive Directors and staff members alike are able to sample the coffee from the magnificent Italian espresso machine, which has been donated to the dining room by Guido Carli, the Fund Governor for Italy. In a letter to Governor Carli, the Managing Director passed on the thanks of the staff and Executive Directors and said all looked forward to enjoying a cup of typical Italian espresso when the dining rooms open.

THE INTERIOR COURTYARD of the new building has, to the delight of the botanists among the staff, blossomed forth like the hanging gardens of Babylon with a wealth of trees, shrubs and spreading plants. The aim is to give the courtyard a pleasantly temperate zone aspect, according to Dennis Wilson of Vincent G. Kling and Partners, the landscape architect in charge of the planting, with three distinct layers of growth, ranging from tall Benjamin fig trees and Scheffleras, down to lower lying broad-leaved Philodendron. Up on the balconies, grape ivy has been planted and will slowly trail over the ledges, along with Spathiphyllum, which will bloom with white flowers several times a year. A terrace will be constructed at cafeteria level on the north side of the building, where staff members will be able to sit and relax over their lunches during fine weather.

The trees lining the streets outside have been selected to conform with District of Columbia regulations, with Willow Oaks planted along 19th and G Streets, and Norway Maples to be placed later along 20th Street. Because of the shallow soil and the vaulting under the sidewalks, the trees next to the building have had to be planted in special pots which allow their roots to spread out through the planter bed.

A number of staff members have expressed concern that many of the plants are looking a little the worse for wear after being introduced. They are advised not to become too alarmed. The Fund has been assured that the trees, which have been brought up by truck from Fort Lauderdale, where they were grown, are suffering the inevitable shock of being transplanted from Florida, but will recover once they have become acclimatized. The suppliers have given the Fund a year's guarantee under which any plants that do not survive in their new environment will be replaced without extra charge, and some have already been changed. As an added precaution, the landscape contractor for the building has sent squads of young ladies out onto the balconies and atrium planting areas to clean up the shrubs which have been exposed to the construction dust.



THE MANAGING DIRECTOR was away from Fund Headquarters between Friday, June 1, and Monday, June 11. During this period he was in Paris where he participated in the International Monetary Conference organized by the American Bankers Association, as well as the Ministerial Meeting of the Organization for Economic Cooperation

New Members of Fund Staff



Miss Marie Anne Ah Leong
Western Samoa - BUR



Mrs. Manju Bhatnagar
India - BUR



Mr. Henrik W. Fugmann
Denmark - EUR



Mr. Yoshihide Ishiyama
Japan - RES



Mrs. Sandra Johnston
U.K. - TRE



Mr. Ishan Kapur
India - YPP



Mr. Ian S. McDonald
U.K. - OMD



Mrs. Karen B. Ranfone
USA - ADM



Mr. Ahmed M. Scil
Somalia - ADM



Mr. Hartmut Wiesner
Germany - ADM

and Development. The Deputy Managing Director was also absent from the Fund after the close of business on Friday, June 8, and will remain away until Monday, July 2. During the brief overlapping period between the departure of Mr. Southard and the return of Mr. Schweitzer, Mr. Joseph Gold was designated Temporary Acting Managing Director.

TO PROTECT FUND PENSIONERS against the impact of further exchange rate changes, a new system for the valuation of pensions has been introduced. The new system, which replaces an interim arrangement dating back to last September, was approved by the Executive Directors on May 30. It gives pensioners an option of the currency in which their pensions are to be valued. Either U.S. dollars or the currency of the country where the pensioner resides can be selected. The average exchange rate of the last five years before retirement will be used for conversion. Annual adjustments of pensions will reflect the rise of the consumer price index of the country of residence. A retiring staff member will have to exercise the option within 90 days of his retirement; the option can be changed later, but only if the pensioner has established a permanent residence in another country and has lived there for 12 months.

The new system will probably be welcomed by pensioners residing in countries whose currencies have appreciated substantially against the dollar in recent years -- such as the deutsche mark and the Dutch guilder which have risen about 40 per cent against the dollar since 1969. Residents of these countries are likely to exercise the home currency option, whereas residents of other countries may prefer to continue drawing their pension in dollars.

To make up an example: A pensioner residing in the Netherlands, if he exercises the guilder option, can now convert his monthly pension of say \$1,000 into guilders at the 5-year average exchange rate of 3.47 guilders per U.S. dollar and receive an amount of 3,470 guilders; if that option didn't exist he would have to convert his \$1,000 pension at the market rate of about 2.97 guilders and receive an amount of only 2,970 guilders.

TO CONSERVE ENERGY turn off your lights when you leave your office in the evening, Administration says. Also, lights in the offices of staff members on leave or mission

should be turned off. Every bit helps to alleviate the energy shortage which has already forced Pepco to cut back its supply of electricity. It might also be a good idea for staff members with very bright offices on the outside of the building to put out their electric lights and let the sunshine in.

POUL HØST-MADSEN, Deputy Director of the European Department, is on his way to Bangladesh where he is to become the Fund's Resident Representative at the beginning of July. He will replace Frank Hughes, who is returning to headquarters, as a financial adviser to the Bangladesh Government and its Central Bank.

When the Fund was founded in 1946, Mr. Høst-Madsen was one of the first staff members. From 1952 to 1963, he headed the Balance of Payments Division and rapidly became recognized as a leading authority in his field. He then served as Advisor and Assistant Director in the Research Department in May 1966.



A man of many talents, Mr. Høst-Madsen is an accomplished cook and a pianist of near concert-hall standard. But he has won most renown as an apparently indefatigable long-distance runner who has pounded out his quota of 1,000 miles a year in terrain ranging from the snows of Scandinavia to the sands of the Middle East. Just in case he may lack the opportunity to practice his sport in the heat and humidity of Bangladesh, his secretary, Virginia Gillis, presented him with a deluxe jumping rope, complete with ball-bearings in the handles, so that he can keep trim while in the office. As an additional preparation for his new post, Mr. Høst-Madsen has embarked on learning Bengali. He is probably the most accomplished linguist in the Fund, having mastered Spanish, French, English, German, Turkish and Italian, besides the Scandinavian languages.

STAFF VACANCIES will from now on be announced by posting a copy of the standard requirements for secretarial positions on the Bulletin Board, with copies also available in the Recruiting and Training Division. The list of vacancies will be prepared every two weeks, instead of monthly, as had previously been the case. Also the list will be distributed to the work unit level as well as to Administrative Officers in the Departments. The last day for receiving applications in the Recruiting and Training Division will, in future, be seven days after the date of the vacancy list. It is hoped that these changes, which the Administration has discussed with representatives of the Staff Association, will reduce delays in the filling of vacancies and also enable staff to learn about vacancies more easily.

A NEW STAFF ASSOCIATION COMMITTEE was elected on June 6. The new officers are: Chairman, Joseph Keyes; Vice-Chairman, Peter Engström; Secretary, Alison Mitchell; Members-at-large, Daryl Dixon, Geoffrey Tyler, Duncan Ridler and Valerie Hopkins Papst (Photographs below from left to right). Their alternates are, respectively: Jacques Baldet, Fabrizio Saccomanni, Philine Lachman, Andrew Gantt II, Grant Taplin, Richard Radford, and Joy Huston. The Committee took office on June 18.



A FAREWELL LUNCHEON for Mrs. Schweitzer was given at BWRC on May 30 and was attended by 230 wives. The ladies were first received at the BWRC Club House, where they were offered sherry or tomato juice. They then moved down to the imposing yellow and white striped marquee situated just below the Club House with a spectacular view across the golf course, where luncheon was served at circular tables, with yellow cloths and chartreuse napkins. The menu included fresh chicken with cherry salad, salmon glacé norvégienne, spinach crêpe, French salad tray, accompanied by white wine and followed by apricot and almond mousse, nougat cookies and café en demitasse. During the meal, Mrs. Schweitzer, who wore a yellow and white sleeveless dress, circulated among the tables and chatted with all the wives.



The day was bright and sunny, but, as Mrs. Southard said in the speech she made on behalf of the wives, the occasion was tinged with sadness because of the impending departure of Mrs. Schweitzer. She paid tribute to Mrs. Schweitzer's long-standing concern for the wives of Fund staff members and observed she had always been admired for her poise, grace and coolness. Our picture shows Mrs. Schweitzer, with Mrs. Southard looking on, as she viewed the set of five old prints with various views of the Washington area which were presented to her at the luncheon. One of the prints, titled "A View of Georgetown and the City of Washington", dates back to 1812 and is thought to be of Foxhall Road,



a particularly nostalgic subject for Mrs. Schweitzer since she and her husband have lived on Foxhall Road since they first came to the Fund. Mrs. Southard quoted the art dealer from which the prints were obtained as saying they are "as good as gold -- constantly increasing in value." In her response, Mrs. Schweitzer thanked all those who had come to the luncheon, saying that the prints would be a cherished and constant reminder of the happy days she had spent among Fund families in Washington.

FUND VISITORS. The Chairman of the National Union of Finnish Students accompanied by two fellow student leaders from Finland visited the Fund on May 25. The visitors, who showed an interest in monetary reform and the Fund's technical assistance activities, were briefed by H. Martin Koelle, Chief Information Officer. --



On June 6, a group of 20 Fellows from the Williams College Center for Development Economics came to the Fund to be briefed by Fernando Vera, Deputy Director of the Western Hemisphere Department. It was a knowledgeable group, consisting of junior financial officials from developing countries, and the questions-and-answer period turned out to be quite lively. -- Thirteen participants in the Industrial and Agro-Industrial Development Management Education Program visited the Fund on June 19.

TWENTY-FIVE YEAR STAFF. Mr. Leonidas R. Smith, Jr., of the Administration Department completed twenty-five years service with the Fund in June.

MARRIAGES. Miss Kirstin Skog of the Administration Department was married to Mr. Gerald A. Gotthardt on March 31; Miss Dorothy B. Foster of Fiscal Affairs Department was married to Mr. Gary A. Lafferty on May 5; and Miss Valerie Hopkins of Exchange and Trade Relations Department was married to Mr. Frederick N. Pabst on May 11.

BABIES. A daughter, Nancy Elizabeth, was born on April 27, to Mr. and Mrs. Aldo Polo; a daughter, Dominique Suzanne, was born on May 6 to Mr. and Mrs. Robert Noe; a son Michael, was born on May 12, to Mr. and Mrs. Alexander G.C. Mountford; a daughter, Anjalee Savak, was born on May 17, to Mr. and Mrs. Savak S. Tarapore; and a son, Shidan Alexander, was born on May 18, to Mr. and Mrs. Cyrus Towfiq.

MR. E.D.W. SPINGARN, who is presently Assistant to the Director of the Asian Department, is leaving the Fund at the end of June to take early retirement. He first joined the Fund in February 1947 as an economist in the Research Department. In November 1953 he transferred to the Asian Department. In May 1959, he was promoted to Assistant Division Chief and in May 1970 became Assistant to the Director, his present position. He expects to be staying in the Washington area.



MRS. VIRGINIA GILLIS, who is presently secretary to Mr. Poul Høst-Madsen, Deputy Director of the European Department, is also leaving the Fund at the end of June to take early retirement. Mrs. Gillis joined the Fund on March 16, 1949 as a secretary in Treasurer's Department. From May 1952 to October 1952, she worked in the Administration Department; from October 1952-July 1959 in the Asian Department; from July 1959-May 1, 1966, in the Research and Statistics Department and from May 1966 to the present time in the European Department as Mr. Høst-Madsen's secretary.



CALLITHEA RIDING FARM is pleased to announce an evening class program. Vacancies are limited. Anyone interested in joining should call Mrs. Patricia Lowe at 948-1881 as soon as possible. Private lessons are also available.

BANK/FUND CHORUS SUMMER WORKSHOP. Although the Chorus officially is in recess until the Fall, Guy Potvin is encouraging members to keep in tune by attending a summer workshop -- Wednesdays, 1:00 p.m., room F-481. A special "thank you" to Jean Tarnawiecki, who directed the Chorus and was instrumental in highlighting the programs with the talents of outside groups, as with the Folk Festival on May 24.

FOR THE FIRST TIME, the Fund can meet its quota at the Red Cross Blood Bank. Staff Relations reports that the response to the recent blood donor drive among staffers and their families was quite successful. Hearty thanks are extended to all those who volunteered.



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A REMINDER -- Don't forget the Fund Picnic at BWRC on June 28 from 3 p.m. until dusk. Rain date is July 3, same time, same place.