STAFF **NEWS**

November 1973

WILLIAM B. DALE has been appointed to the position of Deputy Managing Director and will take up his duties on March 1, 1974, succeeding Frank A. Southard who will continue with the Fund for a short period in an advisory capacity in order to complete work on the budget and related matters. Mr. Dale, whose appointment by the Managing Director was approved by the Executive Board on Tuesday, November 27, has been Executive Director for the United States since November 1, 1962. He was born on March 24, 1924, in Detroit and is a graduate of the University of Michigan and the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy. From 1948 to 1955, he held various posts with the U.S. Treasury, serving in Brussels, in Washington as Deputy Chief, British Commonwealth and Middle East Division, and in the Middle East as U.S. Treasury Representative. He was Program Manager, International Research, Stanford Research Institute in Washington, D.C. from 1956 to 1961, when he became Director, Bureau of International Programs at the U.S. Commerce Department. He was appointed Deputy Assistant Secretary for International Affairs in the Commerce Department in 1962. Mr. Dale is married and has five children.

Mr. Dale will be the fourth to serve as Deputy Managing Director. The previous holders of the office were Andrew N. Overby, from February 9, 1949, the late H. Merle Cochran, from March 20, 1953, to October 31, 1962, and Mr. Southard, who took up the post following Mr. Cochran's retirement.

TWO NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS. Per Asbrink and Jacques de Groote joined the Executive Board on November 1. Mr. Asbrink (left below), who succeeds Eric Brofoss as Executive Director for Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden, came to the Fund from the position of Governor of the Bank of Sweden. He was born in 1912 in Faerila, Sweden, and graduated from the University of Stockholm with the degree of Politices Magister. After working in the city administration of Stockholm, he served from 1946-47 as a counsellor to the Ministry of Education. He then joined the Ministry Communications in 1948, serving as Under Secretary of the Ministry from 1951 to 1955 when be became Governor of the Bank of Sweden. Mr. Asbrink is married. On November 1, he was awarded the degree of Doctor of Economics Honoris Causa of the Stockholm School of Economics.

Jacques de Groote (right) succeeds Andre van Campenhout as Executive Director for Austria, Belgium, Luxembourg and Turkey. He came to the Board from the post of Chief Advisor, Research Department, National Bank of Belgium. Mr. de Groote, who is married and has three daughters, was born in 1927 in Klerken, Belgium, and educated at Louvain and Cambridge Universities. In 1957, he joined the Foreign Department of the National Bank of Belgium, serving with the

Fund in Washington from 1960 to 1963 as an assistant to Mr. van Campenhout. From 1965 to 1971, he was Financial Advisor to the Belgian Delegation to the OECD, with an interval between 1966 and 1969 during which he was Advisor to the Governor of the National Bank of Zaïre.

During the next few months the Board's duties will include, in addition to its usual tasks, the consideration of several aspects of the reform of the international monetary system. Following discussions at the Annual Meeting between the Managing Director and Jeremy Morse, the Chairman of the Deputies of the Committee of Twenty, it was agreed the Board would go forward with work on such topics as valuation of SDRs, rules governing the use of the SDR, a possible new facility in the Fund which would be concerned with the interests of developing countries, questions of the quota structure, and possible changes in the General Account.

THE NEXT MEETING of the Committee of Twenty will be held in Rome on January 17 and 18, and the Deputies will meet beforehand on January 14 and 15. The Committee will continue its efforts on the reform of the international monetary system, working towards the completion of its recommendations by the deadline of July 31, 1974, set at the Nairobi Annual Meeting. The Deputies will lay the groundwork for the Committee's meeting and will also review the progress made by the four technical working groups which were established after the Annual Meeting. These deal with the topics of adjustment, settlement, global liquidity and consolidation, and the transfer of real resources from developed to developing countries.

The problem of transfers of resources to developing countries was also at issue during the meeting of the Deputies of the Group of 24, which was held at Fund headquarters at the end of October. The meeting concentrated on the need for such transfers, on their balance of payments effects, in particular on the current account of the countries making the transfers.

THE FUND'S HISTORY for 1966-71 is progressing. Parts I, II and III of the seven parts comprising the sequel of what is to be a two-volume work have been circulated in draft to the Executive Directors and staff with an invitation that those with comments forward them directly to Margaret G. de Vries, the Fund's historian. Mrs. de Vries emphasizes that what has been distributed represents only the first twelve chapters -- an opening chapter and then eleven chapters devoted entirely to the genesis of the SDRs and the first two years of their use. The remaining chapters of Volume I -- Parts IV to VII -- will deal with such subjects as exchange rates through the time of the Smithsonian Agreement; the Fund's resources and their use, including buffer-stock financing, quota increases, stand-by arrangements, gold markets and the Fund's gold policies; and the further evolution of the Fund as an institution. Volume II will contain related documents.

Once the sequel has been published, probably late in 1974, Mrs. de Vries plans to compress the "meat" of the 1945-65 History and the 1966-71 History into a single volume paperback edition for the convenience of both staff members and outsiders who may be interested in the Fund, what it is, what it does, and its growth.

The World Bank history titled The World Bank Since Bretton Woods, has recently been published by the Brookings Institution. Unlike the Fund History, the first three volumes of which appeared three years ago, this was not prepared by staff members but by two outside academic authors.

The authors of the Bank history are Edward S. Mason and Robert E. Asher, and their work was financed by the Rockefeller and Ford Foundations, the Charles E. Merril Trust, and the Bank itself. The book, which sells for $17.50, covers the first 25 years of Bank operations, from 1946 to 1971, giving detailed treatment to such important milestones in Bank history as the Indus River Basin development scheme and the growth of IDA credits.

FROM THE BOARD TO THE BOARDS ... IN ONE EASY JUMP. In late October, the French Theater Club staged several performances of Marcel Ayme's four-act comedy Clerambard in the World Bank Auditorium and George Washington University's Marvin Theater. The title role was filled, with great elan and style, by the Fund's Alternate Executive Director for France, Claude Beaurain. Our thespian board member gave a polished and convincing portrayal of a tyrannical, eccentric and impoverished nobleman, whose sudden "conversion" -- complete with visions of St. Francis of Assisi -- propels him and his unfortunate family into a series of farcical schemes and misadventures. Clerambard offers amusing and mordant social comment which often strikes close to the mark. This quality, and the proficiency of the cast, made for thoroughly enjoyable entertainment.

Backstage members of the troupe included Mme Gerard Teyssier, wife of the Director of the IMF Institute. Publicity was handled by Mme Jacques Waitzenegger, wife of the Deputy Director of the African Department.

THERE'S A NEW FACE BEHIND THE SIGN saying "IMF" in the meeting rooms of the United Nations. On November 1, Jan-Maarten Zegers became the Fund's new Special Representative to the U.N., succeeding Gordon Williams who had held the post for nearly 23 years. For the twelve months prior to his appointment, Mr. Zegers had "understudied" for the job as temporary Assistant Representative, getting to know the complicated structure of the United Nations system and the people who are part of it. They number in the tens of thousands, and include thousands of U.N. officials high and low, hundreds of ambassadors, ministers, counsellors and other diplomats representing their countries at the U.N., as well as the officials of the many other U.N. organizations, such as UNDP and UNCTAD, and of specialized agencies such as FAO, ILO and UNESCO.

In many ways Fund interests are involved in the work of this enormous machinery. It may be in the General Assembly itself when it discusses economic and financial matters, adopting resolutions affecting the Fund. It is even more the case in the Economic and Social Council of the U.N. But it may also be in the numerous expert groups and organizations where such abstruse matters as tax treaties between developing and developed countries or the world banana trade are discussed. The Special Representative -- who is a member of the Office of the Managing Director -- attends and reports on a number of meetings himself and, in coordination with the various departments involved, provides expert Fund representation where warranted.

The job involves weekly commuting between the Washington office on the 12th floor here and the New York office of the Fund on the 22nd floor of the United Nations Secretariat building. Traveling between the two with little loss of time becomes a fine art and Mr. Zegers has been able to cut it down to two hours from office to office, if there is no fog at La Guardia, no departure or arrival delays, no rush hour traffic, or any of the other hazards of the long-distance commuter.

Mr. Zegers joined the Fund's Information Office in January 1966 and was Chief Information Officer when he was appointed to the temporary position of Assistant Representative a year ago.

BRINGING A PIANO TO BANGLADESH is no light task, as Poul Host-Madsen discovered after he moved to Dacca this summer to become the Fund's Resident Representative there. "To enrich the cultural facilities available to me", he reported to Staff News, "I recently imported a small piano by air from Hong Kong. In Dacca I had managed to obtain permission to have the piano directly loaded from the plane onto a truck. An especially enthusiastic member of a Bangla-Beatle group, who had taken a great interest in the arrival of the piano, was on hand at the airfield to help. The truck, in addition to the driver, carried five strong men. My Beatle friend volunteered to accompany the piano in the truck; I followed by car. When we arrived at the Intercontinental Hotel, a crowd of about fifty Bangalese gathered to watch the unloading and uncrating of the piano at the back of the hotel. My driver very ably took charge of the truck crew and the hotel staff that assisted. I wanted to use a small office at the rear of the building to pay for the truck and get a receipt, but it was occupied by an old man, kneeling in prayer, his head turned towards Mecca. Only after he had finished his devotions was I able to settle with the driver. Then the piano was pushed through the hotel kitchen and into an elevator in the main lobby, again stirring considerable curiosity.

"When the piano had been properly placed in my suite, the real fun started. First, the whole group of Bangla-Beatles poured in, with some of their friends. Then followed in succession: my good friend the Romanian ambassador, who lives on the floor above and who had heard the commotion; the local manager of BOAC and a colleague; my bosom Russian friend, Danilov, who hugs me like a bear whenever he sees me; a Swiss doctor who once sang with the Vienna opera, and is now engaged in a world-wide family-planning program; a young British economist; a Catholic brother who was formerly the teacher of some of the Bangla-Beatles; and many others who had been attracted by the sound of music.

"The music we then played was generally of the lighter variety, although I included some Bach for good measure. The theme song from 'Love Story' was sung by one of the Bangla-Beatles to my accompaniment, but the most touching number was a performance of 'Yesterday' by three of the Bangla-Beatles. Their performance was indeed so good that it had to be repeated by popular demand several times during the course of the evening. The Swiss doctor, who has a marvellous voice, sang 'Auf Wiedersehen' with appropriate schmaltz ... Altogether it was a most enjoyable evening."

SEMINAR FOR ASIAN GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS. The Fund held its first regional seminar for senior governmental officials of Asian countries from November 5-12. The chairman of the seminar was Tun Thin, Director of the Asian Department, and those participating came from government departments and central banks in Bangladesh, Burma, China, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Laos, Malaysia, Nepal, Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Viet-Nam and Western Samoa.

The seminar discussions were inaugurated with welcoming remarks by the Managing Director. Several of the sessions during the seminar reviewed the whole issue of the the reform of the international monetary system, including a thorough analysis of the First Draft Outline of Reform, and were conducted by J.J. Polak, Economic Counsellor and Director of the Research Department, Joseph Gold, General Counsel and Director of the Legal Department, and George Nicoletopoulos, Deputy General Counsel.

Other staff members who addressed the seminar included Ernest Sturc, Donald Palmer, Michael Dakolias, Subimal Mookerjee and Bahram Nowzad of the Exchange and Trade Relations Department; Richard Goode of the Fiscal Affairs Department; Frederick Dirks of the Treasurer's Department; and Charles Schwartz and Duncan Ridler of the Research Department. Their discussions reviewed the whole field of Fund operations in Asia as well as technical issues in the fiscal affairs, public finance and commodities fields. The participants in the seminar also had a session with the Executive Directors for the countries of the Asian area.

At the closing session, one of the participants V.K.S. Nair, of the Ministry of Finance in India, thanked Mr. Witteveen and Mr. Tun Thin for their hospitality and for all they had done to make the seminar a success. He said all the officials who had taken part would return to their countries with an enhanced understanding of developments in the economic and financial fields.

Our pictures show (right) Malek Ali Merican, of the Malaysian Treasury, a former Fund Alternate ED, chatting with William Dale, U.S. Executive Director, at a reception for the seminar in the Atrium on November 6, and (left) Tun Thin, speaking to D.J. Barnes of the Central Monetary Authority of Fiji and Mr. Nair.

A group of 41 participants in the program of the Institute for International Cooperation, Ottawa,

New Members of Fund Staff

Ms. Aida Burela-Sterling
Peru - BLS

Mr. Paul De Grauwe
Belgium - YPP

Miss Petronella Fernandez
Malaysia - RES

Mr. Heinz J. Händler
Austria - EUR

Ms. Loa Doyne Holl
U.S.A. - BUR

Mr. Michio Ishihara
Japan - ASD

Mr. Thomas F. Lehwing
Brazil - YPP

Mr. K. Ake Lonnberg
Sweden - YPP

Mr. Karim Nashashibi
Jordan - MED

Mr. Saleh M. Nsouli
U.S.A. - YPP

Ms. Minako Oka
Japan - ADM

Mr. Roger Pownall
U.K. - YPP

Mr. James B. Stepanek
U.S.A. - YPP

Mrs. Sherrill G. Tobin
Australia - WHD

Mr. Peter Wickham
U.K. - YPP

Canada - both Africans and French-speaking Canadians - visited the Fund on October 29. They were addressed by Jean-Marie Parmentier of the IMF Institute and Paul Gibeault of the African Department.

RECENT SHARP INCREASES IN THE COST OF LIVING in the Washington area and the Executive Board's decision this month on salary adjustments was the main topic of both the Staff Association Committee's Progress Report and the General Meeting of the Staff Association held on November 15. The Committee stressed in its report that it did not consider the adjustments voted by the Board as "sufficient since they do not give a full cost of living adjustment to a large number of staff members." It also emphasized that "there is a need for a new general study of salaries as a basis for salary proposals for the 1974 budget." The chief criticism voiced concerning the 4.4% salary supplement was over the low cut-off point ($13,700 net salary), which, the Committee argued, unfairly penalizes middle level staff members. The Committee invited all Staff Association members to pass on to it their views on the position it should take over future salary negotiations.

Other issues treated in the report included the status of women, especially the subject of the Principal Income Earner criterion, which, the Committee concluded, should be abolished; the review of benefits; and ways in which fringe benefits might be improved. The Committee also proposed that staff should in future participate in policy discussions with respect to services such as food service, parking, and medical insurance for which the staff pays.

During the General Meeting considerable concern was expressed by staff members that their views on staff matters should be adequately presented to the Executive

Board and that they should receive more detailed explanations from the Board on the basis for its decisions relating to staff pay and conditions. It was also suggested that the Staff Committee should transmit to Management the staff's concern at the possible impact any changes in the future structure and organization of the Fund might have on present staff members.

Attendance at the meeting was good, but some thought it should have been larger. Staff members were urged to attend future meetings.

HAITIEN CONTEMPORAIN, a vibrant and most original collection of Haitian works has been on view in the 2nd floor court for the month of November. More than 75 artists are represented, providing samplings of water colors, wood sculpture, metal sculpture and oil paintings.

Traditionally, Haitian art has been defined as belonging to the primitive school. Since the early 1940s, the native art movement gathered momentum with the influx of outside artists, who were so capitvated with indigenous art forms they opened an art school, the Centre d'Art, where aspiring artists could study, exchange techniques and exhibit their works. The Centre d'Art, together with increased travel and study abroad, insured the rapid and ever-expanding growth of traditional and new-found art forms. An apt discription of Haitian art was provided by the Anderson-Hopkins Gallery (who have made the show available to the Art Society): "Very few artists paint Haiti in terms of the realities of daily life. Rather, each event provides the basic structure of a painting and then the dreams are piled on. The historical circumstance which infused this tropical wonderland with the rare combination of African culture, pronounced French influence, the ascendancy of the world's first black Republic, and Voodoo combined with Catholicism, provides a permeating and enduring folklore to fire the dreams of artists." Although the primitive school still predominates in the Haitian art movement, the contemporaries have made a place for themselves adding new dimensions to the eagerly viewed, collected and written about Haitian art -- by some considered one of the most original art forms in the Western Hemisphere.

Our pictures show (right) Richard Anderson and William Hopkins viewing one of the paintings at the opening on October 30, and (left) John Gunter, President of the Art Society, welcoming some of those who attended the opening of the exhibition.

THE OLD ARRANGEMENT under which Fund and Bank staff members could visit each other's cafeterias before 12:15 and after 1:15 in the afternoon has been ended for good by the move into the new building. In order to prevent overcrowding in the Fund cafeteria, Bank staff will only be allowed in if they are guests of Fund staff members. The Bank has followed suit and adopted a similar policy for its cafeterias. By unhappy coincidence, the announcement of the new policy was accompanied by the news that the prices of many of the items in the Fund cafeteria had been increased.

TWENTY-FIVE YEAR STAFF. In November, Mrs. Rachel L. Dillon, Administrative Officer, Fiscal Affairs Department, completed twenty-five years of service with the Fund.

MARRIAGES. Miss Erica Crowe, African Department, was married to Mr. Isik Asim Erim on October 5; and Mr. Tuan Minh Tran, Bureau of Statistics, was married to Miss Suong Linh Phan on September 11.

BABIES. A daughter, Marlene Andree (Minou), was born on July 24, to Mr. and Mrs. Andre Kebreau (Marlene); a daughter, Ayesha Priyadarshini, was born on September 18, to Mr. and Mrs. R. Venkateswaran (Bette); a daughter, Mariana Cecilia, was born on September 26, to Mr. and Mrs. A. Humberto Petrei; and a daughter, Karen Patricia, was born on October 23, to Mr. and Mrs. Roopnarine Mahabir.

THE ENERGY CRISIS IS NOW WITH US and all staff members have been asked by Administration to cooperate in economizing on the use of fuel. Easy steps that anyone can take are to keep office temperatures at not more than 68° -- wear a sweater if necessary -- turn off lights when they are not being used, and get together with colleagues in a car pool. In addition, a number of conservation measures have already been taken by the Administration, including reducing the temperature in non-office areas controlled by general thermostats, cutting back on lighting in certain areas such as the garage levels where this would not cause a safety hazard, reducing the span of hours used for cleaning the building at night, and ordering the drivers of official cars to keep speed limits within 50 mph on high-speed roads. Everyone can help -- you are urged to do your bit!

FUND/BANK SKI CLUB. Skiing plans for the new season are now beginning to take shape. All those interested in a Christmas trip to the Rockies should call Stephen Silard on ext. 5214 as soon as possible. The Club is also organizing a group to ski at Whiteface Mountain, New York, for four days between December 29 and January 1, departing late on December 28; for information contact John Ducker on ext. 6261. Ski trips being planned for 1974 include trips to Roundtop, Pennsylvania, Seven Springs and Jack Frost mountain in January and February, and a trip to the Rockies, probably Utah, in February. The Ski Club party will be at the Canoe Club near Key Bridge on Saturday, December 1.

THE FUND/BANK CHORUS. Christmas Program is Beethoven's Mass in C Major. It will be performed in the Eugene R. Black Auditorium, 11th Floor, Bank C Building, 1:00 p.m., Wednesday, December 19, and on Sunday, December 16, 10:30 a.m., the Chorus will sing this same mass in the Church of Our Lady of Lourdes, East-West Highway, Bethesda. This is the third year that the Chorus has been invited to present its Christmas program during a Mass in that church.

THE ADULT CHRISTMAS PARTY will be held at Fund headquarters this year on Saturday, December 15. Three dance bands will play, including Ralph Graves and his orchestra, who played last year, Miguel Vega and his Latin American band and a rock group. The Children's party will be held on the following day. Full details on the arrangements for the parties -- times, parking facilities and food service -- will be released in the near future.

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