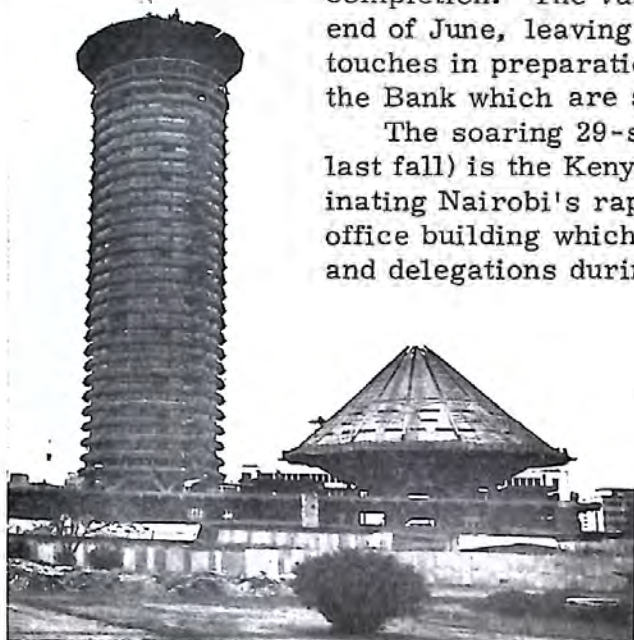




THE KENYATTA CONFERENCE CENTRE in Nairobi is nearing completion. The vast building complex should be finished by the end of June, leaving two and one half months for testing and final touches in preparation of the 1973 Annual Meetings of the Fund and the Bank which are scheduled to open on September 24.

The soaring 29-story tower (shown at the left in a photo taken last fall) is the Kenyatta Centre's most prominent structure, dominating Nairobi's rapidly expanding high-rise section. It is an office building which will provide ample space for Fund, Bank, and delegations during the Annual Meetings. The tower's base,

the so-called "podium-bloc" consisting of two lower ground and three above ground floors, will house the secretariat offices -- documents preparation, support services, etc. Its two topmost floors will be occupied by a restaurant and kitchen. The restaurant has an unusual feature: it can revolve, and the revolving mechanism can be set at different speeds so that the restaurant goes through an entire cycle in either 30 minutes or one hour. At whatever

speed, the restaurant will offer a splendid view of the city and even of Mt. Kenya on a clear day. Next to the tower, a flat two-story building is being completed, the so-called "plenary bloc". It contains the immense meeting hall with a balcony where the plenary sessions of the Joint Boards of Governors will take place, and two smaller conference rooms immediately below. On this same level, the "plenary bloc" will house a cafeteria.

A round structure with a pointed top, reminiscent of an African village hut ("Banda"), stands on the other side of the tower. Its main feature is an amphitheater where meetings with a large attendance and press conferences can be held.

The Bank/Fund Annual Meetings are the first use to which this remarkable new Conference Centre will be put. It has been designed to attract international meetings to Eastern Africa for many years to come. Immediately after our Annual Meeting, FAO and WHO have planned a joint conference in October, and ILO will follow with a November meeting. In addition, the U.N. Environmental Agency plans to make the Kenyatta Conference Centre its temporary headquarters in October.

A NEW COMPUTER has been chosen for the Bank/Fund Joint Computer Center (JCC). The presently used computer, a Burroughs B5700, has been used to capacity by the Fund and Bank for some time so that additional computer time had to be obtained at the nearby Burroughs Data Center. To overcome this bottleneck, various makes of computers with larger capacities were tested, and the outcome was to switch to a larger model by the same manufacturer, the Burroughs B6700. It has about 4 times the capacity of the present system at very slight increase in cost.

The new computer, like its predecessor, will be rented. It will be installed later this summer in the Joint Computer Center's new location, the concourse floor of the Fund's new building, but the JCC will continue to operate under the Bank's management.

Over the years, the computer has become a way of life for many Fund departments. Economists use the computer for country analyses and more general research studies. The new multilateral forecasting project is based on analyses that only a computer can manage. The Bureau of Statistics has continued to develop the Data Fund computer system to handle a large volume of statistics. The Treasurer's Department uses the computer for such activities as the payroll, the Special Drawing Account, quota formula calculations and various aspects of the General Account. The Administration Department relies on the computer for the preparation of personnel actions at the beginning of the fiscal year and the maintenance of the personnel data system. With a similarly increasing use of the computer in the Bank, it is plain to see that a larger system had become a necessity.

A SEQUEL TO THE TWENTY-YEAR HISTORY (1945-65) OF THE FUND is being prepared, and it is already well along its way so that a publication date in 1974 appears feasible. The sequel will cover the years from 1966 to 1971, and the important events of those years -- special drawing rights, developments in exchange rates, the Fund's gold policy, evolution of stand-by arrangements, progress of technical assistance to member countries -- will be described extensively. The new history will consist of two volumes, one containing the historical account and the second reproducing related documents. This portion of the history ends with the central rates regime that was established after the Smithsonian conference of December 1971. If the sales of the 20-Year History are any guide (about 3,300 copies of the three-volume set were sold and 750 complimentary copies were distributed), the new sequel should attract many requests. The person in charge of writing the history is Margaret G. de Vries, who has just been appointed to the position of Fund Historian. She has been involved in this work since 1963.



Mrs. de Vries, an MIT PhD in economics, has had a long and productive career in the Fund. She started out in 1946 as an economist in the Research Department, moved on to the then Exchange Restrictions Department as an assistant division chief, and finally became division chief in the Asian Department. Mrs. de Vries resigned in 1959 to care for her two children. After some teaching at George Washington University, she resumed work for the Fund in 1963 as a consultant, co-authoring the 20-Year History with Keith Horsefield, then a consultant in charge of the history. When Mr. Horsefield left the Fund in 1970 after publication of those volumes, Mrs. de Vries took over. As the new Historian, Mrs. de Vries has now formally joined the Fund staff again. Our picture shows her surrounded by stacks of files and minutes from which she gleans the various bits and pieces that eventually add up to Fund history. Beyond the present sequel, similar supplements are planned for later periods. Indications are that Mrs. de Vries and her assistant, Becky Burrows, will be just as busy with history yet to be written.

FRENCH AND SPANISH EDITIONS OF THE IMF SURVEY are in prospect near the end of the calendar year. A decision to this effect was reached by the Executive Directors early this month, but it was foreshadowed as long as a year ago, when plans for

New Members of Fund Staff



Miss Anita Basak
India — AdM



Mr. Michael Braulke
Germany — ASD



Miss Janet Davies
U.S.A. — BLS



Ms. K. Burke Dillon
U.S.A. — ADM



Miss Maryvonne F. Gate
France — ADM



Miss Kwan-Foong Lee
Malaysia — ADM



Mr. John Prust
U.K. — ADM



Mr. Hans O. Roden
Sweden — ADM



Mr. Ali Salehizadeh
Iran — ADM



Mr. William Shields
Australia — ADM



Mr. Pierre Sihle
Germany — BLS



Mr. Anoop Singh
India — ADM

the English edition were authorized. The Directors at that time deferred a definite decision pending a six-month experience with the new publication, and a study of feasibility and costs.

At present, about 14,000 copies of each issue of the IMF Survey are printed, with 11,000 sent by airmail without charge to central banks and government financial agencies, international organizations, financial writers, university professors and libraries. The rest of the circulation goes to bankers, businessmen

and other private individuals paying the postage costs of fast delivery.

The French and Spanish editions will aim at a distribution of approximately 4,000 copies each. They will appear about one week after the English version and will entail personnel additions in the Bureau of Language Service, Graphics Section and Information Office.

FUND VISITORS. A group of 11 journalists from Barbados, Jamaica, and Trinidad and Tobago as well as representatives of the various governments' information services visited the Fund at the end of March. They were addressed by Fernando Vera, Deputy Director of the Western Hemisphere Department, and had lunch with Sil B. Nicol-Cole, Executive Director for 15 African countries plus Trinidad and Tobago. The visitors were particularly interested to learn about monetary reform and the developing countries' stake in it. The Caribbean journalists had come to Washington to attend a seminar at the Interamerican Development Bank in preparation of the IDB's next Annual Meeting which will be held in Kingston, May 7-11. Jorge Del Canto, Director of the Western Hemisphere Department and Rubén Azócar, from the Information Office, will go to Kingston as Fund observers. -- Two prominent Japanese economists, Drs. Jiro Yao and Ryoichi Mikitani from Kobe University, visited the Fund on April 24. The two professors held discussions with Marcus J. Fleming, Deputy Director of the Research Department, and with senior staff of the Asian Department, and had lunch with the Japanese Executive Director, Kaichi Kawaguchi and his Alternate, Koichi Satow.

FLEXIBLE WORKING HOURS will be introduced on May 1 on a trial basis for six months. Management has decided to try out a flexible system in view of the entry and exit problems on G Street which seem likely when nearly all parkers shift to the new garage in May. Notice has been received by parkers that the monthly rental will be increased from \$17 to \$21 effective May 1. Our picture shows the guard's daily effort to feed the rush-hour stream of cars out of the new building into G Street traffic.



Flexibility in the new system will have limitations -- individuals could arrange to begin work between 8:30 and 9:30 a.m. and end between 5 and 6 p.m., subject to departmental work requirements; staff members may change their schedules twice during the six months; departments are expected to be manned with staff adequate to take care of business between 9 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. A memorandum from the Managing Director to the staff spelling out details has been circulated.

ELECTION OF THE NEW STAFF ASSOCIATION COMMITTEE is currently being prepared. The term of the present Committee is nearly completed, and elections are scheduled to be held on Wednesday, June 6th. The Election Committee is calling for nominations to fill the seven-member Staff Association Committee. Each nomination must be in writing, sponsored by 10 members, and accepted in writing by the candidate. Nominations must be handed personally by the candidate to a member of the Election Committee no later than 5:00 p.m., Monday, May 14. Members of the Election Committee are: Ms. Huston, Mr. Gisse, Mr. Neiss, Ms. Ripley and Mr. Collings. A formal announcement of the candidates will be made as soon as possible after the close of nominations. A policy statement by each candidate will be issued to assist Staff Association members in their voting.

THE LAST ART SHOW IN THE OLD BUILDING will open on April 26, at 5:45 p.m. in the 12th Floor Gallery. It will be on view until May 31. The show's title is "Fibre Art" and it will contain weavings, yarn abstracts, suspended crocheted sculptures, appliques, batiks and tapestries, providing an attractive finale to the richly diversified and well received Art Society shows. The artists of this contemporary textile show come from France, Germany, Ghana, Hungary, Nigeria and the United States.

THE INTERNATIONAL CAMERA CLUB presented its sixth show of the season entitled "Africa Revisited" by Jack and Gladys Mott on April 11. The approximately 150 viewers were given an excellent idea of a camping safari in Kenya and Tanzania: lions, leopards, giraffes, wildebeestes, thousands of flamingos, storks, buzzards and elephants during the day, and a five-course dinner in the evening. The Mott's then judged the Club's last competition of the season. Winners were: Class AA: 1 Harold Shipman (Bank), 2 Fred Dirks (Fund). Class A: 1 Colette Leroy (Fund), 2 and Hon. Men. Chris Montecino (Fund), 3 Madhav Rao (Fund), 4 and 5 Howard Carlson (Fund). Class B: 1 Charles Goor (Bank), 2 Robert Tucker (Bank), 3 Robert Dunn (Fund).

The 1973 Banquet of the Club, at which the Photographer of the Year and Slides of the Year will be chosen, will be held on May 11, in the Fund cafeteria. Details will be circulated later.



MRS. SCHWEITZER AND MRS. SOUTHARD'S TIDAL BASIN TOUR for new staff wives took place on March 29 with 33 wives and 6 children in attendance. As in past years, the ladies met at the Fund, boarded a charter bus and took a full tour of the Tidal Basin. This year the cherry blossoms were at their peak and since it was a perfect spring day, the tour became a lively and happy affair as Mrs. Schweitzer's reactions in the center photos show. On their return to the Fund, coffee and sandwiches were served in the Staff Lounge. The ladies hailed from Australia, Canada, France, the Gambia, Germany, Iceland, Mexico, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Spain, Sri Lanka, Turkey and the U.K. Our photo to the right shows (from left to right) Mrs. Southard, Mrs. Schweitzer, Mrs. Wolfe with daughter Roslyn aged 3, Mrs. Hyndman with her 9-month old daughter Lucy boarding the bus as the tour began.

THE CHESS CLUB proudly announces that in its first year of participation in the D.C. League, it achieved a final position of second out of sixteen teams -- winning five, drawing three and losing one tournament. In other external events, Fernando Vera won a trophy at the 5th Washington Open as the highest-placed non-USCF (U.S. Chess Federation) rated player. In the same tournament, both Fernando Vera and Chris Green came equal second in the booster, sharing a \$50 prize with four other players who scored equally well. The next tournament will be held May 5 and 6 at the Ramada Inn, Thomas Circle in D.C. For more details, call Chris Green, ext. 5169.

BANK/FUND CHORUS concerts are scheduled for Thursday, May 17, Friday, May 18, and Wednesday, May 23; all at 1 p.m. in the Fund's 12th Floor Gallery. The first two concerts will present Bantu, Bohemian, Dutch, English, German, Greek, Israeli, Korean, Spanish and Swedish music. The last program, on May 23, will feature three special groups -- Japanese, Swiss, and a U.S. group which will sing American negro spirituals. The Bank/Fund Chorus will lend support to that program with folk songs.

RIDING CLUB. With the good weather on its way, riding activities will soon be in full swing. The Club is still riding at Callithea Farm stables, a few minutes away from BWRC, under the instruction of Patricia Lowe. Callithea Farm is located in the midst of the Potomac hunt country and offers many beautiful riding trails. Classes are now being formed for beginner, intermediate, and advanced riders, and anyone interested should contact Mr. or Mrs. Lowe as soon as possible, at 948-1881. For those riders interested specifically in jumping, classes will be established at Callithea Farm if there is sufficient support. Over the past few years, the rates have remained stable and no increase is expected this spring. Lessons are \$4.50 an hour for Fund employees and must be booked for a series of 10 lessons. Trail rides are \$4.00 an hour. All are welcome to inspect the grounds and horses.

TWENTY-FIVE YEAR STAFF. Mrs. Gladys Mott, Personnel Officer in the Administration Department, completed twenty-five years service with the Fund in April.

MARRIAGES. Miss Barbara A. Price of the Treasurer's Department was married to Dr. David Virgo on March 14.

BABIES. A son, Antoine, was born on March 1, to Mr. and Mrs. J. Philippe Briffaux; a daughter, Karin Mara, was born on March 12, to Mr. and Mrs. W.M. Schelzig; a son, Craig Patrick Cormack, was born on March 16, to Mr. and Mrs. William Thomson (Mary); a daughter, Susanne, was born on March 17, to Mr. and Mrs. Sten B. Westerberg; a son, Kamal, was born on March 30, to Mr. and Mrs. Mohsin Khan; and a son, Demian Richard, was born on March 30, to Mr. and Mrs. Bertram A. Wolfe.

ALL FACILITIES AT BWRC are ready to receive the seasonal influx of members (whose fees have been slightly raised as of May 1). Our picture shows one of the major improvements that were put in place during winter: the new sundeck at the club house. The former open-air porch has been enclosed to increase the seating capacity in the restaurant.

Athletic activities are starting up all around. The IMF Soccer Club has already played three games since the start of the season, one of them against the participants of the Institute, and another against the World Bank, which ended in a 6-1 victory for the IMF team. The team meets regularly every Sunday at 2 p.m. at BWRC for either a game or a practice session. Your support at these games would be welcomed.



The tennis courts are available by reservation and will be supervised (call 926-9432 on weekends and 948-5497 week days). Hardy souls may play in the evenings under court lights. The first social competition began on April 15 -- a mixed doubles round robin competition. Anyone wishing to participate should be at the courts by 2:45 p.m. on Sundays to register with the court supervisor. The doubles championships will begin in mid-May and end in late June. Participants should contact Kay Wale (ext. 4402). Singles championships will take place in September and October.

When the weather is right and the fish start to bite, it is planned to hold a fishing contest for children of all ages. More details will be given later on.

THE CREDIT UNION now has a Deputy Manager. Alvaro E. Proenza was appointed to this newly created job. Mr. Proenza will support the Credit Union's Manager, Yin C. Chen, who plans to retire at the end of the year. Before joining our Credit Union in mid-March, Mr. Proenza was the IDB's credit union manager for three years.



STAFF NEWS

Published monthly by the
Information Office of the
International Monetary Fund
Washington, D.C. 20431