

gave advice in Japan on land reclamation. The joint study by the Governments of India and Pakistan and the Bank of the problems of water distribution and supply in the Indus basin continued in the period under review.

The Bank continued its policy of posting resident representatives in member countries to assist in dealing with development problems, and sent such experts to Colombia, Ecuador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and Panama. In the 18-month period, the Bank, as in the past, provided opportunities for trainees from member countries to come to the Bank to become familiar with its operation. The Economic Development Institute, set up with the objective of contributing to an improvement in the quality of economic management in government and helping officials from less developed countries to equip themselves for dealing with the practical problems of development, concluded its first six-month course in June 1956. The first course was attended by 14 officials; the second course, which began in October 1956, by 22; a third course is scheduled to begin in October 1957.

### **International Finance Corporation**

In July 1956 the International Finance Corporation (IFC) came into being as an affiliate of the Bank. The purpose of the Corporation is to promote the growth of productive private enterprise, particularly in the less developed countries. It will seek to do so by investing its own funds in association with private capital where this is not available in sufficient quantity and on reasonable terms; by acting as a clearing house in bringing together investment opportunities and private capital, whether foreign or domestic; and by helping to enlist managerial skill and experience where these are not already available for a project.

As of December 31, 1956, the IFC had 47 member countries, and its subscribed capital amounted to \$90,396,000. Although no project had by that time advanced to the stage of active negotiations, and no investments had been made, numerous investment proposals were being received, mainly from Latin America, Asia and the Middle East, in the fields of industry and mining.

### **Exchange Transactions of the International Monetary Fund**

Since the inception of its operations on March 1, 1947 until December 31, 1956, the Fund had effected transactions equivalent to \$1,908,996,029.67 (U.S.) on behalf of 30 members. Repurchases and other operations having the same effect on members' balances had amounted to \$1,018,945,732.75 (U.S.) including \$299,437,596.60 in the period under review. Most of these transactions were in United States dollars but the Fund also sold Belgian francs, Canadian dollars, deutch marks and sterling to its members. Canada has made no currency purchases from the Fund. Egypt purchased \$14,646,090 (Can.) from the Fund on September 26, 1956. The total of drawings in the Fund in 1956, \$692.6 million, including \$561.5 million sold to the United Kingdom, was greatly in excess of that of any previous year.

Since the initiation in June 1952 of stand-by arrangements for the purchase of currencies up to a stated amount and for a stated period without further examination of the member's economic position, through