

Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), International Labour Organization (ILO) and International Telecommunication Union (ITU) have been dealt with more extensively in this year's issue than the other agencies. In last year's edition, more detailed treatment was given to the Bretton Woods institutions; in subsequent issues, more space will be devoted in turn to the other agencies.

The Bretton Woods Institutions

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) provides short-term financial assistance to member countries to help them deal with temporary balance-of-payments difficulties. This activity is closely linked with other efforts made by the Fund to bring about a more balanced international-payments situation and the elimination of exchange restrictions. In general, the Fund works for freer and expanding world trade, thus helping to raise standards of living and to facilitate economic development. Members are requested to orient their fiscal and monetary policies, and their use of the Fund's resources, to these objectives. During 1965, the Fund continued its studies and discussions on the international monetary system, both within the Executive Board and through participation in the work of other groups.

Following a proposal in 1965 of the Board of Governors, the quotas for the Fund, if all members consent, will be raised from \$16 billion to about \$21 billion, with Canada's quota, if Parliament approves, increasing from \$550 million to \$740 million.

After drawing the equivalent of \$300 million in 1962, Canada discharged its repayment obligations to the Fund by the end of 1964. In 1965, net drawings by other member countries in Canadian dollars increased Canada's net creditor position in the Fund from the equivalent of \$60 million at the end of 1964 to \$216 million on December 31, 1965. The Fund's holdings of Canadian dollars at that time amounted to 45 per cent of Canada's quota of \$550 million.

As in recent years, most of the drawings in 1965 were against stand-by arrangements under which members were assured that drawings could be made up to specified limits within an agreed period. The Fund renewed or entered into new stand-by arrangements in the amount of \$726.2 million in 1965, and the amounts available under stand-by arrangements in effect on December 31, 1965, amounted to the equivalent of \$278 million.

In 1965, 23 countries obtained financial assistance from the Fund, in an amount equivalent to \$2.4 billion, with Britain accounting for \$1.4 billion. These drawings were partly offset by the repayment of the equivalent of \$390