

candidates for economic, finance and technical posts in a number of member countries.

During the year the Bank continued to provide opportunities for trainees to work in the Bank to become familiar with its operations. In addition, the Bank announced on March 11, 1955, the establishment of an Economic Development Institute which will provide senior government officials with intensive training in the formulation of development policies and the organization and administration of development programmes. The first seminar of the Institute was held in January 1956.

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 during the year. In June 1955, an agreement was announced between the two Governments concerning the allocation of available water during the water-short months of 1955. This interim agreement permits co-operative work to go forward on the longer range problems.

Technical Assistance Activities of the Fund

During the 18-month period under review, the Fund has, on request, sent members of its staff to a number of member countries to provide technical assistance in relation to balance of payments and other financial problems. A number of comprehensive reports have been prepared on particular aspects of the economies of certain member countries. The Fund has continued its training programme which is planned to familiarize selected officials of member countries with the working and policies of the Fund. As of June 30, 1955, training was being given to 15 trainees from the following countries: Bolivia, Brazil, Ceylon, Colombia, Federal Republic of Germany, Greece, Haiti, Honduras, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Israel, Pakistan, Syria and Thailand.

Exchange Transactions of the International Monetary Fund

During the year ending June 30, 1955, the international payments situation and the payment position of most Fund members was reasonably satisfactory and drawings on the Fund's resources amounted to only \$58.75 million (U.S.) equivalent compared with \$225.79 million (U.S.) equivalent in the previous 12 months.

The year was marked by the repayment in gold or dollars of large amounts of currencies purchased by member countries in earlier years, as well as by repurchases arising from improvement in the members' monetary reserves position, without any previous purchases from the Fund. Total repurchases during the year by 14 members amounted to the equivalent of \$259.14 million (U.S.). Since the Fund's inception, total sales of currencies by the Fund, including deutsche marks, Belgian francs and sterling as well as U.S. dollars, have amounted to the equivalent of \$1,207.70 million (U.S.). Of this amount, \$837.82 million (U.S.) has been repaid to the Fund either through repurchases by members that had drawn upon the Fund, or through drawings by other members of currencies of members that had purchased from the Fund. Canada has made no currency purchases from the Fund, nor has any country purchased any of the Fund's holdings of Canadian dollars.

During the year, no changes were announced in the Fund's policy on the use of its resources. As of June 30, 1955, stand-by arrangements were in effect with Belgium, Mexico and Peru. These are arrangements whereby a member is assured that upon request, and unless it has been declared ineligible, it will be permitted, during a fixed time period, to purchase currencies from