



# STAFF ASSOCIATION BULLETIN

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

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21 April 1948

## HARD HEADS, SOFT HEARTS

Things came to a crisis in Geneva. Sir John Boyd Orr, the living spirit of the great crusade against want, rose up in wrath and swept away proposals that would have weakened the powers of the World Food Council.

In Quebec, he begged that the infant FAO be given enough authority to act, so that it could do its job. He lost that battle. His comment was, "The people are hungry and we can only give them pamphlets."

In Copenhagen, he asked for a World Food Board. "Give us the right tools for our job," he said, "and we'll banish hunger from the earth." The tools were denied him.

Now, with delegates before him in Geneva, he saw even the World Food Council being watered down to the consistency of pink tea. He would have none of it. The rumble of his Scotch burr was like the thunder that came with the forked lightning that flashed from his eyes.

The awe-struck delegates broke ranks before him as he left the room. As he stepped from the great marble hall of the Palais des Nations, he announced, "What FAO needs is more men with hard heads and soft hearts ... and fewer men with soft heads and hard hearts."





SIR JOHN GREETE HIS SUCCESSOR

An American rancher has replaced a Scottish farmer as Director-General of FAO. At the special session of the Conference held last week, Mr. Norris E. Lodd, under-secretary of agriculture for the US, and wheat and livestock farmer, was chosen as Sir John's successor. He will take office in a few weeks, and continue through the close of the 1950 session of the Conference.

Outstanding for his support of the World Food Board proposals, Mr. Lodd has been a close friend of FAO. He was head of the US delegation to the Copenhagen Conference, US delegate to the Preparatory Commission and the Geneva Conference and chief US representative at both sessions of the World Food Council. He was this January named chairman of the International Wheat Council of which he has long been a member.

Mr. Lodd's government service dates back to 1933 when he became a field officer of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration in the West, becoming director in Washington in 1943. Just prior to becoming under-secretary he served as director of the Field Service Branch of the USDA's Production and Marketing Administration.

Born in Chickasaw County Iowa in 1879, Mr. Lodd was both farmer and pharmacist throughout the mid-west before he settled on his Oregon ranch. Scientific farming practices such as FAO recommends have expanded his holdings to 2000 acres of cereals and grazing land.

On accepting the post of Director-General, Mr. Lodd stressed the need for concrete practical action on the part of each individual nation. "Nevertheless," he said, "in FAO the whole is greater than the sum of its parts. This Organization's work is a stronger force than any separate effort could be, because of our mutual pledge to take action, nation by nation and nation together with nation in order to feed the world and to improve the lot of the world's rural people."

NEW DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL  
NELLS NO INTRODUCTION TO FAO

FAO has as its new deputy Director-General another old acquaintance, Sir Herbert Broadley of Great Britain. Sir Herbert has been present at almost every milestone in the Organization's development from Quebec in 1945 down through the recent special session of the International Wheat Council.

Made a Knight of the British Empire in 1947, Sir Herbert will be leaving his post as Deputy Secretary of the British Ministry of Food when he joins the staff of FAO in a few weeks. He has had a long career in the Civil Service, extending from 1912 to 1926, when he left to become director of an advertising firm, and resumed with the outbreak of the war in 1939. He has been with the Ministry of Food since that time.

Sir Herbert's activities with the FAO include membership in the UK delegation to Quebec, and chairmanship of the Committee on Conservation and Expansion of Supplies at the Special Meeting on Urgent Food Problems. He was also chairman of the World Food Board Committee at Copenhagen and has been head of the UK delegation of the recent successful Wheat Council meetings.

Sir Herbert was born in 1892 and attended the University of London. Mr. Noble Clark, interim deputy Director-General will return to the University of Wisconsin when his five month term expires.

Another Council meeting highlight of interest to the staff is the decision to hold the third session of the Conference in Washington next November.

## THE STAFF MEETS TODAY IN HONOR OF SIR JOHN

The secretariat of the FAO is gathering this afternoon to try to tell Sir John Boyd Orr what working for him has meant to them. They have one serious complaint to make of their association with him: they have had to share him too much with the world. Those who have had the privilege of close collaboration with him, on or in between his many journeys - have shared a rare experience.

Among these is an economist who has taken part in every step of FAO's development. He remembers, "When Sir John returned from Quebec he called the entire professional staff into his room - there were perhaps six of us - and asked us to write a report within three months showing what all the peoples of the world were eating in comparison with what they ought to eat. Of course we protested and said that it could not be done. Whereupon he characteristically turned the point by remarking that he had complete

confidence we would get the job done on time. Subsequently with expert help loaned from several US agencies, the job was undertaken; and because Sir John never accepted no, FAO was able to publish the World Food Survey after the Organization had been in existence only eight months. It still remains our most exciting product. It is because Sir John always insisted on doing the impossible that he has been a great leader for us."

A Chinese scientist who started with the Interim Commission, "Sir John has the sentiment of a Chinese saying that "Within the four seas all men are brothers." He is essentially an internationally-minded man, believing in group action and world brotherhood. Although he has retired from his office as the first Director-General of FAO, Sir John will always remain with us in the family of the United Nations."

### SAVE NEXT WEDNESDAY EVENING FOR THE QUARTERLY MEMBERSHIP MEETING OF THE ASSOCIATION

A general meeting of the Staff Association is scheduled for next Wednesday, April 28, in the Grafton Annex Conference Room at 5:30 P.M. A regular quarterly review of Council Activities, as called for in the Constitution, the meeting will have the following agenda: 1) a progress report; 2) Committee activities which are described in part in another section of the Bulletin; and 3) a report on the credit union.

To add items of business to the agenda, Association members may call the secretary, Miss Anna Mae Singer, on Extension 281.

Note: The latest report of paid membership brings the total to 335, as of the 20th of April, at which time the total staff membership was 538. The staff is reminded that eligibility to the Staff Advisory Committee (see story elsewhere) requires membership in the Association. For purposes of the elections which are scheduled next week, the list of those eligible will be closed on Friday, the 23rd of April.

### UN Publications at Half Price

Staff members of FAO may receive a discount of 50 percent on purchases of all United Nations and League of Nations publications which are on sale in the UN bookshop, in accordance with a ruling made by the Publications Board of UN on 27 February 1948. Staff members who wish to take advantage of this opportunity should write to Mr. Coert Dinnerts, Chief of the UN Sales Section at Lake Success, giving the titles of the publications they wish

wish to buy. A check or money order may be enclosed for half the list price at the time of writing or, if the price is not known, the staff member may pay upon receipt of a bill later. In order that the UN Sales Office can be sure that requests received are from bona fide staff members, it has been suggested that letters requesting publications be approved by the Personnel Office before dispatch.

## CONGRATULATIONS ARE IN ORDER

The Association archives show that just one year ago last week, the first shy circular inviting the staff to a meeting to discuss a staff association was distributed. Since April 15, 1947, FAO has witnessed many an organizational growing and planning pain, but can now consider itself in possession of a well developed, healthy functioning one-year old. Over of the staff now at headquarters have signed their blue membership cards in the initial drive. The summary of Council and committee activities below finds the Association representatives have barely looked up to wish each other a happy birthday.

## PROCEDURE FOR SELECTING ADVISORY COMMITTEE IS OUTLINED

With the circulation of Staff Association Memorandum No. 3 last Thursday, April 15, the machinery for the long-awaited election of the Staff Advisory Committee was geared for action. The Council makes the following decisions: (1) to close the list of those eligible to serve on the Committee (i.e. those who are Staff Association members and not head or acting head of the division) on April 22, 4:30 p. m.; (2) to distribute the list and ballots on Monday April 26; and (3) to schedule balloting from Tuesday, April 27 through Thursday, April 29, 5:30 p.m.

The Staff Advisory Committee under the Staff Association Constitution will "provide a channel for consultation on questions concerning conditions of employment, grievances and other related problems," and will "consider individual and collective grievances, making recommendations to the Council, and subject to the approval of the Council, conduct negotiations with the Organization."

The representatives to the Committee will be elected on a "unit" basis, that is, by division or appropriate unit as decided by the Council. The "units" and the number of representatives for each are as follows:

Agriculture	1	Information Service	1
Economics	3	IEFC	1
Fisheries	1	Documents & Languages (1)	2
Forestry	1	Office Management (2)	2
Nutrition and Rural Welfare	1	Other Administrative Units (3)	2

- (1) Includes Translation & Interpreting, Translators' Stenographic Pool, Distribution and Storage, Duplicating Sections.
- (2) Includes Stenographic Pool, Office of Chief, Transportation, Messenger, Supplies, Travel, Maintenance.
- (3) Includes Office of the D.G., Chief Executive Office, External Relations, Library, Budget & Finance, Personnel, Registry.

All "units" with the exception of Economics & Statistics Division will conduct a direct election from the list of those eligible for election with no preliminary nomination procedure. For the Economics and Statistics Division, a slate of six names will be presented by a committee composed of D. Brugere, C. Taeuber, and P. Okura, in addition to the list of those eligible from which other choices may be made. The latter procedure was adopted to facilitate voting, since the Economics Division has over 100 members eligible to be elected with three representatives and three alternates to elect. Each member of the Staff is entitled to vote, up to the total number of representatives and alternates his unit is allotted.

An Election Committee of 11 members, with D. Brugere as Chairman, will work out the election procedures and will act as Returning Officers. The following will be returning officers for "units" other than their own, hence will remain eligible for the Staff Advisory Committee.

R. Libera:	- Agriculture
L. Thomas:	- Economics and Statistics
H. Scavenius:	- Fisheries
D. Gertenbach:	- Forestry
B. Oslund:	- Nutrition and Rural Welfare
V. Llona:	- Information Service
A. Eckstein:	- IEFC
A. Banos:	- Documents and Languages
E. Fautz:	- Office Management
E. Ellis:	- Other Administrative Unit

The Returning Officers will count the ballots, Thursday, April 29, after 5:30 p.m. in the Grafton Annex Conference Room.

#### LATEST DEVELOPMENTS ON JUDICIAL COMMITTEE

Mr. Taeuber, Chairman of the Staff Association Council, appeared before the Staff Regulations Committee to discuss the recommendations of the Staff Association Council regarding Administrative Memorandum 78 concerning the proposed Judicial Committee. These recommendations were summarized in the last issue of the Bulletin. At the request of the Committee, Mr. Taeuber met with Mr. Biren, Secretary of the Committee, to examine the possibilities of compromises on several specific proposals made by the Staff Association Council.

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#### PREVIEW OF COMING ATTRACTIONS

Like the tender green shoots that are creeping out into the Spring air, the buds of a dozen Staff Association committees are beginning to emerge. Formed in an effort to bring a number of services and conveniences closer to staff members, the participation in committee work will also provide manifold outlets for the untapped as well as the tapped talent hidden among the staff members.

The following brief survey of current developments will be followed by a fuller Progress Report to appear in the next issue of the Bulletin. In addition, you will hear from the committee chairmen at the next general staff meeting. Come to it and bring all your best ideas as to what these various committees should undertake. So far, a round-up of the twelve committees has yielded the following news:

First, the Association will have its own "Foreign Office" in the form of an EXTERNAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE. They are meeting today to outline their plans for

establishing contacts with the staff associations of other international and regional organizations. W. H. Pawley, Chairman, Dorothy McLeod, Vice-Chairman, and Patti Okura, Secretary are its officers. Other members to date are Mrs. G. B. Crevenna, Jutta Schwärzinger, Marjorie Scott, Elise Free, and K.K.P.N. Rao, the Council's representative.

New members of the Staff should contact the STAFF WELFARE COMMITTEE that will specialize in orientation and hospitality. Vedra Chambers (Ext.302) will welcome your suggestions on social and useful projects that might be started. Better still, she would like you to volunteer for service on the Committee.

The HEALTH COMMITTEE is off to a flying start: many staff members can now take to the woods without fear of ticks. The Chairman, C.M. Lorenzo, is being assisted by Violet Podesta, Secretary. Food and nutrition matters are in the

# FAO - ROMAN STYLE

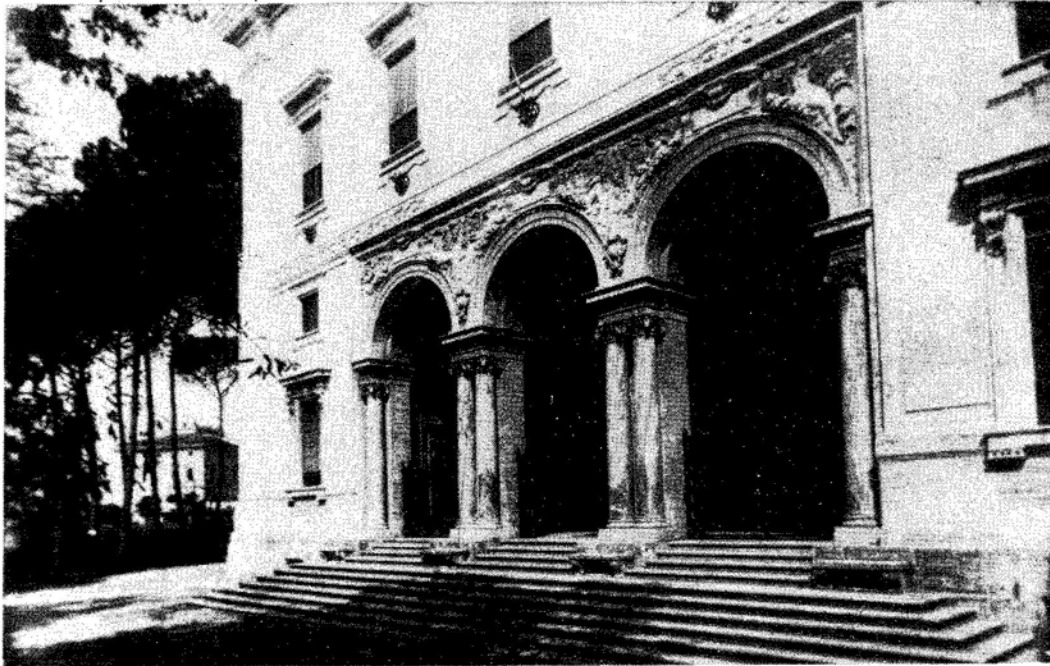
The renaissance-style splendor and the traditions of the International Institute of Agriculture which combine to make up the Rome Office are unknown to most headquarters staff members. As the probable European Regional Office as well as the ancestral quarters of FAO, the buildings on the grounds of the Villa Borghese will become increasingly important to the work on Connecticut Avenue.

While more limited in scope than FAO, the IIA was a pioneer in the field of international agricultural cooperation. Founded by an International Convention signed in Rome in 1905 by 42 governments, the Institute later increased to 72 members. It was the realization of an ideal cherished by David Lubin, an American, and a small band of enthusiastic supporters who believed that an international center of collaboration among all countries, providing accurate information and dealing with practical problems in the field of agriculture, would eventually lead to the settlement of mutual problems. The IIA survived two wars, preserving its neutrality and its pacific character.

A visitor from headquarters finds that many of the proud traditions of the IIA still pervade the Institute buildings in the beautiful park which once surrounded the old home of the Borghese. Although the name of the Villa Borghese was changed to Villa Umberto after the King of Italy, no Roman taxi driver ever heard of the change. A blank stare from the driver greets a request for "Villa Umberto Primo", while "the Villa Borghese"

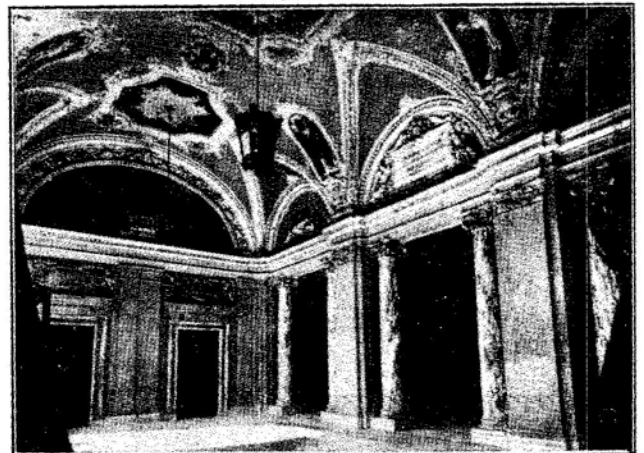
is rewarded with "yes, yes" and the crashing gears of his old jalopy.

If you are not lucky enough to have a car, you may find it hard work to climb the steps up the steep ascent to the buildings in the summer temperatures of Rome. The two main buildings, the Institute proper and the Library, are surrounded by a lovely pine wood, a haven for lovers and artists as well as for statisticians. On mounting the wide marble

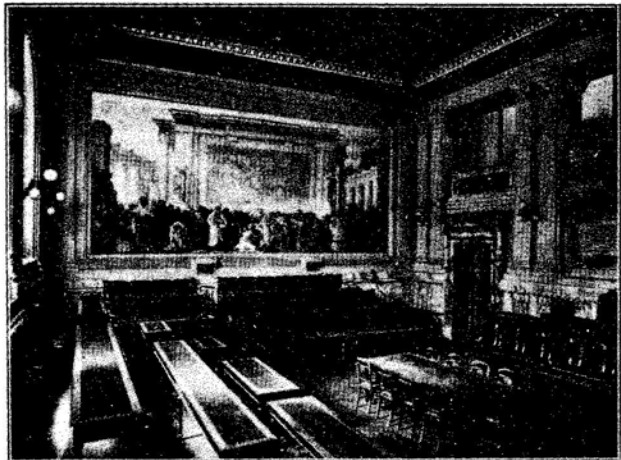


Most vividly remembered of the Institute's features are its portals, shown above, which lead into the spacious and elaborately decorated atrium shown at right. A plaque above the center doorway bears the following inscription:

NATIONIBUS UNIVERSIS  
STUDIUM ET OPERAM CONFERENTIBUS  
RES AGRARIA  
FELICITER INTER POPULOS  
AUGESCAT



steps you are received by a gentleman in the Commissioner's uniform who rushes with a great flourish to open the gates of the elevator, which has the distinction of being the first electric elevator in Rome. Upon disembarking, you are met by another gentleman in uniform and another flourish of the gates. At intervals along the corridors, more uniformed gentlemen are found sitting or standing at small tables.



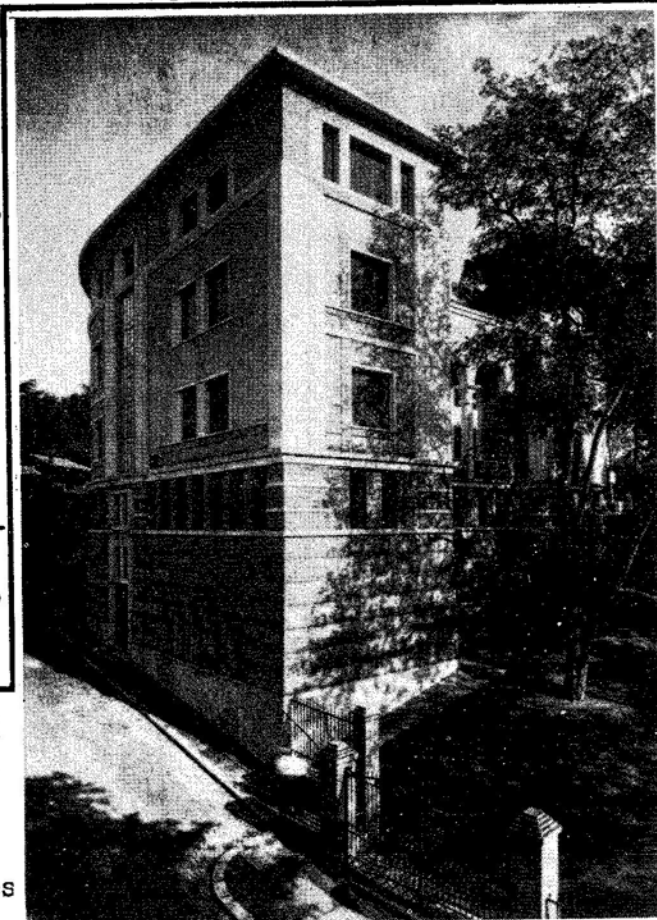
This view of the third floor conference room shows the president's chair and the table for delegates at the extreme right. The center table was for the use of the secretaries.

explain what is desired to the guardian of the hall who will then get busy on the outside telephone located in the corridor. The IIA was superior to FAO in at least one mechanical detail, however: up until the second world war it had a pneumatic messenger service.

The staff of the Rome Office is a mixture of the old members of the IIA secretariat and new-comers from FAO. Long-standing members of the IIA staff now in Washington include Mr. V. Dore, Mr. G. Capone, Mr. I. Salto, Mr. I. Moskowitz (president of the IIA Staff Association), and the Misses Wilma and Elba Gasser, Emmy Lochs, and Maria DeRegel. Other graduates of IIA also on the headquarters staff are Mr. J. Evans, Mr. H. Jenssen, Mr. R. C. Fortenescue, Miss Kristine Lomsdal, and Mrs. Natalie La Stella.

The Rome Office will be the center of activity for the various European National FAO committees. A bi-monthly publication embracing all fields of FAO's work and interest is being issued and meetings on forestry, nutrition, fisheries, and other subjects have been held. Training courses have been conducted for specialists from member countries on artificial insemination, cross breeding of maize, and other technical problems important to European agriculture.

The modern semi-circular building pictured at the right was originally constructed for the Academy of Fine Arts. When the IIA moved into it, the basement and first two floors became the library and offices for the library staff, while the two top floors were devoted to offices for the Economics Division staff.



## UNION NOW - FOR CREDIT

Establishment of a credit union for the staff of FAO has been proposed to the Staff Association. Since a credit union is a cooperative association which is entirely dependent upon its members for its effectiveness and success, it is necessary to find out if there are enough staff members interested in undertaking such a venture before the Association can assume sponsorship of it. Answers to the questions most frequently asked concerning credit unions may help staff members in deciding whether or not they wish to support one of their own.

### What a Credit Union is.

A credit union is a savings and credit association organized as a cooperative under a State or Federal law to serve a group of people who are united by some common interest (such as employment in FAO, for example). Its purpose is to provide a convenient place where members may accumulate savings and where they may go to borrow money quickly and cheaply. As such, it is both a savings bank and a lending institution but one which is not operated to make a profit.

No limitations are placed on the uses of money borrowed by members. Loans may be granted to members for a variety of purposes, such as to pay off old bills, to make cash rather than installment payments, to cover taxes, medical bills, home repairs, vacations, weddings, education, or any other expenses which they may contract and which they cannot conveniently meet from their current earnings.

The expenses of conducting business are low because all officers of the credit union serve without pay. Interest rates on loans are never higher than 1 percent per month on unpaid balances, as opposed to loan companies which charge as much as 3 1/2 percent. At the same time, interest rates on savings are higher than those granted by commercial banks.

### How a Credit Union operates.

A credit union operates through a board of directors, a credit committee, and a supervisory committee, elected by and from the members themselves. Among these three groups, it is the credit committee which passes on applications for loans. A treasurer, appointed by the board of directors, takes care of all the business details involved in credit transactions.

The financial soundness of a credit union is assured in several different ways. The chief safeguards include incorporation under State or Federal laws, an annual examination of the books by State or Federal authorities, and bonding of the treasurer and all other officers who handle money. In other words, your money will be SAFE!

### How one becomes a member.

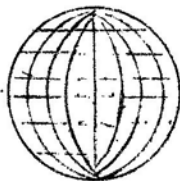
Membership in an FAO Credit Union would be open to all FAO staff members who buy one or more shares, at \$5.00 per share, and who pay an entrance fee of 25¢. A share may be paid for all at once, or in 25¢ installments, payable once a week or every two weeks. The entrance fee is used to form part of the reserve of the credit union.

Dividends of 4 to 6 percent are paid at the end of the year on each share held by a member. However, a member may take out the money he has paid for his shares at any time he wishes, subject to the right of the credit union to ask for a notice of withdrawal.

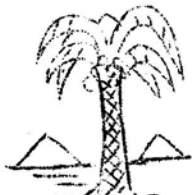
Staff members who are interested in forming an FAO Credit Union are invited to leave their names with Ona Bielogurskas, on extension 166. If at least forty persons indicate their willingness to support the venture, the Staff Association will call a meeting on the subject and further details will be explained.



# FAO AROUND THE WORLD



A count of the travel authorizations of FAO staff members would find an FAO representative on almost every part of the globe, and meetings or preparations before or after meetings on almost every continent. So much of the work of FAO is flying - or sailing out into the field that the Bulletin plans to present a monthly summary of operations abroad including individual travel and tours, missions, regional office activities and international technical and inter-governmental meetings.



The large number of regional meetings the past few months have kept headquarters a fueling station basis. The Conference of Near Eastern countries convened by FAO in Cairo produced a series of recommendations for projects for the immediate increase of food production, with particular stress on irrigation and drainage. Food imports in the immediate future and efforts to increase purchasing power over a longer period were proposed to meet the poor dietary position of the peoples in this region: 60 to 80 percent of the population are badly or under-nourished. To help realize the conference recommendations, a Regional Office with temporary headquarters in Cairo was suggested. The office will require at least ten technical experts and a secretariat supplied from headquarters, and an officer of high standing from the near eastern region. Appointed each year, such an officer would negotiate directly with Ministers and Governments. When fully established, the office would also have at least one official whose salary and expenses would be borne by his government.

The February meeting of European National Committees in Rome, briefly described in last month's Bulletin, emphasized the need for reconstruction on a European-wide, regional basis, treating all member nations with equality. Close collaboration with the UN and specialized agencies, similar to that already developed with the ECT, was recommended

by Sir John and endorsed by the meeting. As in the Near Eastern conference a program for the speedy increase of food production was outlined. Among the technical questions recommended for study was the possibility of producing the milk needed for the feeding of the children of Europe under the Children's Fund program.

Rome was also the scene of the fruits and vegetables meeting, initiated by the first session of the World Food Council, and assembled by the meeting of European Committees. It was a full dress conference to which ten European governments sent delegates, five observers, and at which inland transport committee of the ECE and the International Chamber of Commerce were represented. The problems to be covered by the study which was recommended center chiefly on dislocations in trade in fruits and vegetables caused by the war, and the need for increasing consumption and improving processing and distribution as means of reopening or re-channelling distribution lanes.

In Geneva FAO's forestry office has set up the ECE European Timber sub-committee. Two agreements have been reached at the meetings of the Timber Sub-committee which are expected to produce a stabilization of timber prices and an increase in available export supplies, along with a satisfactory distribution among European deficit countries. Mr. Egon Glesinger has just returned from organizing the Geneva office of the Division of Forestry and Forest Products. Heading the office is D. Roy Cameron, former Dominion forester of Canada who has been with FAO since last November. Other FAO officers there are Rene Fontaine, a French forester who has been acting as the European representative of the Division of Forestry and Forest Products for the past 18 months with headquarters in Salzburg, Germany; Stephane Bauer and Tor Sandbu, who are temporarily transferred from headquarters; and Marthe Dillon, former assistant to Mr. Veillet-Lavallee, who takes care of financial and other administrative problems,



both for the Forestry office, and for the Economic Staff in Geneva headed by Dr. Ezekiel.

The Geneva Office is about to publish its first quarterly commodity report on timber. It has also initiated cooperation with the International Refugee Organization on a plan designed to provide displaced persons with houses which they could take with them when going to their new countries.

Around the other side of the globe the series of meetings held at Baguio have been completed and the secretariat returned - including Misses Robinson and Drummond who were shuttled on to Bangkok to help with the report of the Siamese Mission. Representatives from each of the participating Divisions reviewed the work of the conferences at a recent "Introducing FAO to the Staff" and Dr. Kirk of Agriculture outlined the three year program for expanding rice production, and the world-wide



Conservation campaign which will help stretch available supplies. The Constitution was drafted for an International Rice Council which will deal with all problems concerning rice with the exception of trade. Subordinate to the World Food Council, this body would have headquarters at the site of the Far Eastern Regional Office, since the great bulk of the world's rice is both produced and consumed in this area. The Nutritional meetings, described by Dr. Aykroyd as "very practical," concentrated on rice preparation and consumption problems.

A Standing Committee on Nutrition for the Rice Eating Countries was proposed. At the Fisheries Meeting, Dr. L. Kask head of the Biology Section of the Division was representative along with Geoffrey L. Kesteven, FAO fisheries representative in South East Asia. The primitive fishing methods of the native populations combined with the need for protein made obvious the urgency of expanding facilities. It was agreed to establish an Indo-Pacific Fisheries council to determine the resources of the area. Work on the development of inland fishing areas was also recommended.

Another committee at Baguio recommended the establishment of a regional office for

the Far Eastern area as soon as possible, to act in an advisory capacity to the governments. It was suggested that the regional office be rotating, moving every two years to a different country. Mr. Wormald described the Baguio series of meetings as one of the most amiable cooperative and useful conferences FAO has ever held. The generosity of the Philippine Government in large part contributed to the friendly spirit that prevailed despite the magnitude of the production and nutrition problems considered, and the previous reservations of the participating governments to the work of FAO, Mr. Wormald stated.

Through individual tours and missions, FAO is also keeping touch with the world at large.

Mr. Mordecai Ezekiel has been FAO representative extraordinary on the European Continent for the past year, having participated in the Polish Mission, the Geneva Conference, the report of the ECE on European Agricultural reconstruction, and the meetings in Rome described above. He has just returned for the Council meetings following a three weeks tour of the Balkans which he described for the staff last Wednesday night. In all the countries he visited throughout Europe, with the exception of Austria, Dr. Ezekiel found a remarkable degree of recovery compared to his impressions at the time of the Greek Mission a year earlier. The U.K. and the so-called iron curtain countries have been the most successful in distributing available supplies on an equalitarian basis through strict rationing systems. Though little is available, it is shared equally by all and black markets in commodities and money are negligible.

Though elaborate preparations were necessary to travel within the custom and regulation of the Balkan countries, the Ezekiels were received cordially everywhere. Statistical and agricultural officials he conferred with in Budapest, Bucharest, Sofia, and Belgrade were eager for the technical ser-

(Around the World, continued)-

ices FAO could provide and for an exchange of information and students with other countries. Planning officials were interested in investigating economic problems on a Continent wide basis. Among the Balkan countries, Yugoslavia has made the greatest advances, having carried over a spirit of camaraderie and units from wartime partisan activity into economic reconstruction. In agriculture this spirit is manifested in the large number of successful voluntary cooperatives for the pooling of land and mechanical resources.

The Polish Mission was described in greater detail by its director, Deputy Director, Noble Clark in an earlier Wednesday night meeting. Illustrating his talk with his colored slides, Mr. Clark stressed the inefficiencies of the strip farming system typical of Poland and many other European countries. Added to the difficulties caused by out-moded tenure systems and techniques in Poland is the vast destruction of farm land, buildings and animals wrought as gigantic armies crossed and re-crossed the country. Because of the liquidation of a third of her scientists and the ten year's wartime isolation from new developments, Mr. Clark and the rest of the Mission found a great hunger for scientific and technical assistance and information.

A grand tour throughout Latin America has just been terminated by Mr. Rose-Ugarte of the Economics and Statistics Division, including each of the twenty Latin republics and the islands of Trinidad and Puerto Rico. Travelling in connection with plans being formulated for the agricultural census of 1950, Mr. Rose-Ugarte found interest in the census and a desire to participate in almost every country. A statistical training center will open in Mexico City in June or July to run for half a year both to train statisticians for the census taking and to deal with other statistical problems. It will be open to statisticians from all parts of the region.

The members of the Mission to Siam have just returned to headquarters and will report their adventures in the next issue of the Bulletin.

HAVE YOU GIVEN ALL YOU CAN AFFORD?

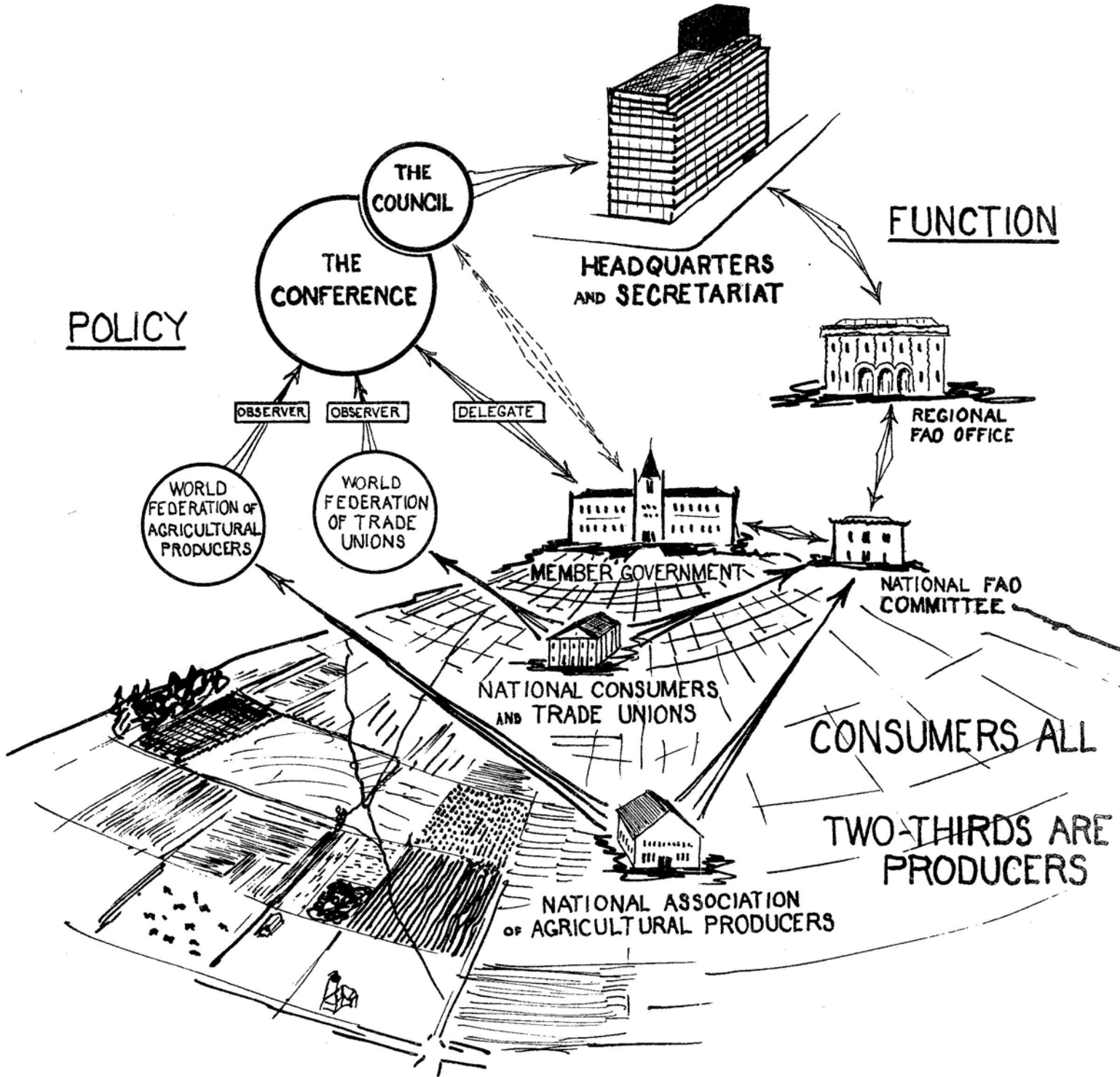
At the beginning of the last week of the FAO drive for funds for the United Nations Appeal for Children, the Association had received \$2800 from staff members. The Rome and Geneva office had conducted their own campaigns.

As the staff has been informed through circulars and collectors, the UNAC is an appeal for voluntary individual contributions which will supplement government aid. Founded by a decree of the UN General Assembly, and relying on the International Emergency Children's Fund as its chief distribution Agent, the UNAC is being conducted as an expression of individual concern for the world's hungry children. If each member of the staff had responded to the opportunity to give one day's pay to the Appeal, \$7500 would have been collected. Many staff members, including those whose salary can barely meet the Washington cost of living, gave more than a day's pay. Some have personal obligations to friends and family abroad which prevented a contribution at this time. But many in full sympathy with the UNAC and its work gave nothing or a fraction of what they could spare.

With its present financial resources, the UNAC can provide the children of 12 European countries with a minimum of extra food of high nutritive value. More countries will be added if funds permit. The 12 were selected on the basis of urgency of need, high priority being given to the victims of aggression. The program for distribution within each country is decided on by the government of that country in agreement with the Children's fund. There is an officer of the Fund in every recipient country; Dr. and Mrs. Ezekiel on their recent Balkan tour noted the grave need and excellent work of the fund representatives in devastated areas. Dr. Latsky of the Nutrition Division is at present making a tour of Europe on behalf of the Fund.

The FAO drive will be continued until the end of this week, Friday, April 22. Payment can be made in cash or check to the collectors previously announced. A ten dollar bill, which can disappear uselessly and quickly in a Connecticut Ave. restaurant or Washington theater, means a year's supplemental food to some child.

# CONSUMERS, PRODUCERS, AND FAO



## GHA NEWS

Two important items of business will affect the 205 FAO members subscribing to the Group Health Association: (1) voting for Propositions I and II regarding increase in dues and (2) electing of five delegates from FAO to the GHA Advisory Council.

The GHA Board after considerable discussion and study proposed the increase in dues for the following reasons: (1) In the past three years expenses exceeded income, so that \$60,000 in reserves were used to meet the deficits. For the Association to operate on a sound basis, income must cover current expenses and reserves be restored; (2) Commitments must be met. Such commitments are the retirement program for the GHA staff, which had been postponed each year, the increases in salaries which had been foregone by the staff until Association finances were adjusted, and maintenance of adequate medical care to GHA members; (3) Inflation has made increase in dues unavoidable. The outcome of the balloting for Propositions I and II is expected to be announced shortly.

FAO will continue its policy of paying monthly charges in excess of 1% of the salary for those members whose annual salary is \$5,000 or less; monthly charges in excess of 2% of the annual salary of those who receive an annual salary exceeding \$5,000.

The Staff Association Health Committee composing the Nomination Committee have selected and submitted to FAO-GHA members a slate of 25 names, five of which will be elected to the Advisory Council. The Council will transmit and represent to the Board of Trustees opinions of the membership at large on matters of GHA policy and practice and will keep the membership informed of GHA policies and problems. THE DEADLINE FOR BALLOTS IS APRIL 23, 1948.

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### FACTS ABOUT OURSELVES

In the same week the departure of Sir John was announced, FAO lost another charter member, Mr. Emmitt Harris, who has been with the Organization since its beginnings as the Interim Commission, has just resigned for a rest in California. Except for a few months absence for negotiations with the US army, Mr. Harris has been on duty, first on the messenger staff, and then as stock room clerk for the Grafton. Following his holiday, his future plans are indefinite aside from his desire to continue his boxing career.

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Miss Violet Podesta of the personnel office and the Staff Association Council has just announced her engagement to Mr. Dick Meyer. June 5 is the wedding date.

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A less pleasant report is from Miss Gerda Blau, who traveled all the way to Cairo to be FAO representative at the international cotton meeting, only to spend her entire stay in bed with a form of pneumonia.

The often heralded and much buffeted FAO Yearbook of International Statistics has finally made its appearance in a very limited edition--20 hand-bound copies for the Food Council members. Piled onto the natural difficulties of publication have been a printers strike, which coincided with its printing, and a binders strike which is now delaying its binding.

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FAO has sprung into national prominence through the leisure time activities of the architect of the Longfellow, Mr. Lescaze. In a current magazine ad, Mr. L. is pictured in tweed splendor, a sparkling glass in hand, distinction rampant, with a dim photograph of the Longfellow over his left shoulder.

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As if to make certain that no part of Connecticut is without some form of noisy improvement, the old Grafton will soon disappear via a professional wrecking crew. It has gradually disintegrated for some time, aided last week by two well-dressed matrons who were seen removing a wrought iron lamp on the front stoop with a nail file and ill-concealed glee.

## AROUND THE DIVISIONS

The biggest news in the INFORMATION DIVISION is the return of Director Gove Hambidge after a many months' absence. The biggest job, during the past month have been covering the World Food Council meetings through press releases and teletyped communications to Lake Success, generally servicing both press and delegates with information and on one occasion assisting cameramen from the March of Time. Global personnel shifts include the departure from Baguio to Nanking of Mr. Charles L. Clotman, FAO Information representative for China, and the visit to headquarters of Mr. P. V. Acharya. He will return to New Delhi in a few weeks to take up his duties as information officer for the regional office in India.

The technical mission in Venezuela has been receiving its share of publicity in recorded interviews in both Spanish and English made by Mr. Dale W. Jenkins for use by the UN Department of Public Information. He will also be heard in a recorded interview on the "Adventures in Science" program over WTOP on April 17. FAO also goes on the US airwaves via the NY Department of Education "Assignment UN" series. Mr. Percy Baneshik will be on the receiving end of an interview on FAO and its fundamental aims.

The NUTRITION DIVISION has been completing work on rice nutrition and other follow-up tasks resulting from the Baguio meeting. Dr. Aykroyd held a staff meeting to discuss the Report of the Nutrition Committee on the Nutrition Problems of Rice-Eating Countries in Asia (CL2/10) and other Baguio projects. The working paper prepared for the Baguio meeting entitled Rice and Rice Diets -- A Nutritional Survey (N48/Co.12) is to be revised for publication. Further information will also be collected on the various methods of determining the vitamin B<sub>1</sub> content of rice, on the nutritional aspects of rice milling and on the composition and digestibility of the foods consumed in this area, among other questions.

Dr. Verzar and several members of the staff recently attended meetings in Atlantic City of the federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology with which the American Institute of Nutrition is affiliated.

The plethora of meetings in the field have finally yielded up most of the absent members of the ECONOMIC DIVISION. Messrs. Vogel, Majumdar, McAnsh, Mortensen and Ezekiel and Miss Robinson are all returned and all looking healthier than their reports of hard work in Baguio and Rome would indicate. Jeune Houghton is the leading candidate in the field with Dr. Ezekiel for the record of conferences attended. Her itinerary includes the ITO, ILO, ECE, Rome meetings, and assistance with the Polish mission report. She has just come back after nearly a year in Europe ending with a personal tour of Spain and Morocco.

A statistical form manual standardizing statistical practices is being considered by a manual committee under the chairmanship of Mr. Charles S. Gibbons. The recommendations of the committee will be passed on to the committee on publications. The third issue of the monthly statistical bulletin is just off the press and the second economic quarterly is with the editors.

The statistical intelligence branch has just increased its staff by two members: Mrs. Rosamund Robertson who recently returned from London and Miss Betty McCay a few months new from Australia. Miss McCay worked in the Philippines and Australia with the US Army. Mrs. Norma Morin has just joined the area specialists branch as secretary to Dr. Bau. Other population movements in the Division include the marriage of Ann Lawrence to John Rhys Davies, and of Maria Perez to John Kennedy; and the birth of a son, Robin, to Mr. Majumdar.

IEFC is passing through a period of violent transition. Immediately after the move to 1706 and 1708 New Hampshire from the Dupont Circle Building, came Secretary-General Fitzgerald's announcement that he had been recalled to the US Department of Agriculture to head the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Mr. J. Niel Lewis, assistant to Dr. Fitzgerald, is also leaving to return to Ottawa with the Canadian Government. The 83 page printed Report of the International Emergency Food Committee for the Council of FAO at its Second Session accounts for much of the recent strenuous activity at IEFC.

## LE PRINTEMPS

Inasmuch as spring is in the air, it was thought well to take advantage of the opportunity and see what people elsewhere in the world were doing -- where spring is more than the five minutes between summer and winter.

Iran greets the sun's return to the northern hemisphere by commencing its New Year. Gaiety and holiday festivity reign supreme for five days during which gifts are exchanged. Even earlier, China has presaged spring during the week of March 12, the birthday of Sun Yat Sen, by planting trees, somewhat as Arbor Day is celebrated in other countries.

Easter Monday is a universal holiday in Egypt, known as (and this is a literal translation) the "Smelling of the Zephyrs". Miscellaneous calendars confuse the issue somewhat here, but on the Monday following Easter, which is decided as everywhere by the first full moon following the date of the spring equinox, everyone puts aside his work and enjoys what may be his only picnic of the year.

The flowers that bloom in the spring have everything to do with the case in India. There, the Hindus celebrate spring with Holi. On that day, merriment prevails and, reflective of the colors of spring, brilliantly hued liquids and powders are tossed on all encountered. Students make the most of this day, and the professors beware (and it could be an ideal day for secretaries). By midday, everybody and everything has assumed the shades of the rainbow. In the spirit of the day, visits are exchanged, the host being greeted according to the custom with colored liquids and powder and the demand for sweets. Although largely confined to North India, the traditional festival is also celebrated in South India.

China, historically known for pageantry, remembers the death of one of her early statesmen and poets, Chu Yuan, with one of the major celebrations of the year. Disagreeing with the ruler of his state, Chu Yuan resigned his position and wrote poetry which is now among Chinese

classical literature. Under the lunar calendar, his memory was celebrated on the fifth day of the fifth month. In legalizing the solar calendar, the Government designated May 5th as this holiday, approximately a month ahead of the old date. But this change has little altered the meaning of the day; people still prepare the special foods, which were formerly thrown on the river for the spirit of Chu Yuan who out of sorrow drowned himself. A major event of the day is a race of the dragon boats.

And then, of course, there is Easter. Dyed eggs are standard, but the customs pertaining to them differ. The Greeks in the country have "open house", exchanging visits and eggs, and enjoying conviviality generally. But there is a special greeting, "Christ has arisen". One then taps another's egg, and the person whose egg comes through unscathed is supposed to be lucky in the year following. In France the silence of the bells between Good Friday and Easter is explained to the children as the flight of the bells to Rome to be blessed. En route home, the bells are supposed to drop sweets and colored eggs in children's gardens.

The cherry blossoms planted around the tidal basin and Hains Point symbolize the coming of spring for Washington and the rest of the US. The two weeks pre-maturity arrival of the blossoms - which are always unpredictable, did not change plans for the festival. This year FAO had a special interest in the celebration because of the two Cherry Blossom Princesses on the staff. Miss Dorothy Keatts of the Economics Division was a representative from the state of Ohio on the court, and Miss Ketty Mercado-Cedo of the Administration, the contribution of Porto-Rico to the festivities.

Meanwhile, the southern hemisphere approaches winter. Harvests are being gathered, and in Australia, a day in March is known as the Harvest Festival.

Table 1.--Just How Bad Was Last Winter?

Winter Months October-March	Snowfall 1/ (cm)	Rainfall (cm)	Temperature (degrees Centigrade)				
			Lowest	Minimum	Av. Mean	Maximum	Av. Highest
1934/35-38/39	53.39	51.18	-6.94	2.03	6.64	11.26	22.74
1945/46	53.09	44.68	-5.17	2.43	7.17	11.90	22.66
1946/47	57.15	30.94	-5.60	2.17	7.25	12.34	23.05
1947/48	63.75	37.87	-6.89	1.42	6.10	10.77	22.00

6/ Greatest Washington snowfall: in 1899 with 126.49 cm (49.8 in.)

THE SUN IS OUT AGAIN!!

At this time -- when tennis courts are being rolled, horses are neighing, golf courses being mowed, and the weather lifting in an invitation to out-of-door activities -- the Sports and Activities Committee of the Staff Association is getting underway. The principal guide in its activities, however, is the nature and extent of the interest of staff members who would like to avail themselves of the assistance of this Committee. It hopes to arrange for outdoor activities, gather together general information on opportunities in the Washington area, get groups together for hikes, picnics, etc., and a variety of other things depending on the wishes of the staff members.

Miss Marie-Louise Fowle, Chairman of the Committee, has provided the following questionnaire on which staff members may make known their interests:

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Check below the activities in which you would like to participate:

Badminton	_____	Horseback Riding	_____
Bicycling	_____	Golf	_____
Boating	_____	Swimming	_____
Bridge	_____	Table Tennis	_____
Chess	_____	Tennis	_____
Hiking	_____	Fencing	_____
Other (specify) _____			

Would you be willing to serve on a committee for your favorite sport? \_\_\_\_\_.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ . Telephone Ext. \_\_\_\_\_ .

Tear out and send to: Marie-Louise Fowle - Room 840  
Grafton Annex