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*Cherry Blossoms and Mt. Fuji, Japan.*

*Photograph by courtesy of the Japan Travel Bureau.*

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# AHSO DESUKA

by  
Russell Dorr



*The great Bronze Buddha at Kamakura.*

The red carpet spread out before us at Haneda Airport, Tokyo, last November proved to be a true symbol. During the ensuing five weeks we were to travel very nearly from end to end of the country and to meet dozens of leading figures in government, finance and industry. On every hand we encountered not only that traditional and exquisite courtesy which smooths human relations in those crowded islands, but cordiality and gracious hospitality.

Of the four of us, three had visited Japan before. John de Wilde was a veteran of the previous year's Bank mission and the many friendships he had formed in those days were quickly and warmly renewed. Chester Case had lived in Japan and as a representative of Brassert worked with the steel industry of Japan and Manchuria for the three years immediately preceding the Pacific

War. He too found friends of earlier days. I had spent three somewhat grim months in Japan as a naval officer in the fall of 1945, surveying the economic effects of the hostilities. For Dick Richards it was a "first," but as a practitioner of judo he could hardly claim to be entirely unversed in Japanese ways of thought and action. And what he had forgotten was recalled subtly yet forcefully when he found time to visit the Kodo Kwan (judo headquarters) and tangle with the holders of the judo "black belt."

For Case and myself the contrasts were particularly vivid. His recollections were of the days of war preparation when every foreigner was suspect. Now he found a willingness frankly and freely to discuss installations, techniques, problems; a new respect accorded the technical man; above everything all doors open in a friendly welcome. Even

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*\*Japanese for "Is that so!" an expression so frequently used that even the worst linguist picks it up after two days in Japan. The 'u' is almost completely elided as in "sukiyaki."*

after a month his wonderment had not worn off. For me, memories of the ashes and devastation and hungry people of 1945 were still vivid. The sight of completely rebuilt cities, bulging shop windows, swarming automobiles and cheerful townspeople was a truly impressive demonstration of Japanese resilience and resourcefulness.

Scientists now say that when the land can no longer support its teeming billions our descendants will turn to harvesting from the sea not only such succulencies as fish and lobsters, but plankton, algae and seaweeds. The Japanese have long anticipated this trend. As one wings in over the Uraga Strait and skirts the shores of Tokyo Wan to Haneda, one sees below tens of thousands of stakes driven into the shallow bay bottom in regular rows. Fish traps? No, seaweed cultivation. And driving into the city one sees in the yards of houses near the bay,

wood panels with neat oblongs of the weed drying into paper thin green wafers. When, later on, we sampled them, we decided that the cattle ranchers have no need to sell off their stock just yet. For Japan, however, unusual tastes in food are a real asset. Since 1945 Japan has undergone a population "explosion." Repatriation of some six million Japanese from overseas, the return of millions of soldiers after lonely years far from home and wide introduction of modern medicines, have combined to increase the population of the Japanese islands from 65 million in 1940 to around 87 million today. And the increase is more than a million a year. Even now twenty per cent of the food supply is imported at a cost of fifty per cent of merchandise exports. Soon it will be more.

The intensive cultivation which prevents food imports from being even larger is proverbial. In Honshu and Kyushu the charming

*Bank Mission prepares to go underground at Yubari Coal Mine, Hokkaido.*



pattern of small rice paddies runs far up the valleys of even the smallest brooks, stepping up the steepening slopes until there is no room for even a tiny plot. And the upland fields are laid out and cultivated by hand as carefully as gardens.

Arriving in Hokkaido, the northern island, is like coming to another country. Suddenly there is space, there are woods on level areas as well as precipitous ones; there are moors where one looks instinctively, though vainly, for flocks of fat sheep; there are farms with silos; in December there are sledges and fur hats and people on skis. Hokkaido has a Wisconsin climate, which the sturdy rice growers who have over the centuries worked their way up from the more hospitable south find quite uncongenial. Perhaps that is why when the Mission proposed its visit there our hosts quoted us the Japanese saying - "Hokkaido is like an old, old lady. Everyone knows she is there, but nobody goes to see her."

Coal was our principal interest in Hokkaido. At Yubari after churning through deep snow to

the mine entrance and donning coveralls, boots and hard hats with lights attached, we were treated to a most telling demonstration of the need for a vertical shaft program to shorten underground travel time. Intellectually, I suppose, we would have all admitted that we weren't walking the entire 550 miles back to Tokyo underground, but there was more than one moment when it did seem that we were. And it was quite apparent that some of our Japanese friends were taking the shaft program rather seriously, for at several places in the prospectively redundant main haulage way we had to stoop low to avoid projecting timbers where the roof was caving in gradually enough, so everyone hoped, for the shaft to be financed and built first. It was then that the question crept in of whether a Bank Mission can carry devotion to duty too far!

The Mission's interest in Japanese food which I have mentioned was by no means confined to its economic aspects. The Japanese themselves told us that their food was designed to appeal to the eye more than to the palate, but I

*L to R: Guardian of the gate at Tokugawa Shrine at Nikko; Temple and cemetery at Kyoto; December street scene in Sapporo, Hokkaido.*



doubt whether any of us will soon forget the delights of sukiyaki and tempura (live shrimp and fish fried at the table) with which we were regaled. Also memorable is the Mongolian grill at the delightful former princely residence, Chinzanso, where we sat on benches around a large square charcoal brazier and plucked delectable morsels of meat, onions and other vegetables practically off the coals.

Along with the fine food went the famous geisha parties. Featured were the superbly colorful, highly stylized, classical dances of Japan. Though relying almost entirely on gesture, facial expression and various static attitudes these produce a real impact. Not less entertaining were the various folk dances including the fishermen's and coal miners' dances, and "beizbol" (baseball) in which the guests are expected to join. De Wilde displayed an expertise and an elan in this activity which the rest of us could only envy.

No account of a trip to Japan would be complete without mention of earthquakes, baths and temples.

Our earthquake, though prolonged, was well-behaved. Coming as it did after bedtime while we were in the earthquake-proof Imperial Hotel, one could hardly feel that the pronounced but gentle rocking which went on for several minutes was cause for alarm. It was like nothing so much as the persistent, but lazy motion one sometimes feels in the tail of a large airliner, when the air is disturbed but not really rough. The baths were, as advertised, frighteningly hot and enormously euphoric, but alas, contrary to popular report, entirely non-coeducational. The perils of progress!

As for the temples, some of us were fortunate enough to visit Kyoto, Nara and Nikko. One wonders whether to dwell most on their splendor of color, which runs the gamut in lacquer and gilt, on their exuberance of ornamentation, sometimes entirely abstract, sometimes exactly representing the subtlest beauties of nature, on the vitality of their design, or on their superbly lovely natural settings among trees and mountains. The combination makes a westerner catch his breath.

*L to R: Terraced rice paddies and landscape of the interior of the Ise Peninsula; Spreading rice to dry in the courtyard of farm near Sagami-hara; Mother and child in ceremonial costume for the fete of the "Three, Five and Seven."*



## NON - TECHNICAL APPRAISALS

*This is the first of a series of impressions of countries visited by "Spottie". Spottswood. Others will follow in later issues.*

I want to give my impressions of a small island densely populated with charming people whom I greatly admire, located sort of south-west of Iceland. It is a part of the United Kingdom but, unfortunately, I am informed by one of the loyal inhabitants of this island that I cannot call it by any single name. It is an island containing England, Scotland and Wales, but if it should be called by any one of the three names the inhabitants of the other two regions would be offended. So from here on the island will be referred to as "it."



It frequently disappears in a fog. When these fogs occur, the London papers print headlines saying "Continent Isolated." It is noted for Greenwich, where time and space begin, Shakespeare, peculiar plumbing, Churchill, a complicated system for counting money, and the worst coffee in the world. The people who live on the island like to bet on horse races through bookies and on football pools, and spend their spare time in pubs and clubs. In pubs they throw darts and drink beer. In clubs throwing things is prohibited, and so is practically everything else except drinking Scotch whisky - which is served without ice. The men love to wear striped pants (pardon, trousers) and the women tweeds. They drive on the wrong side of the road and try to accent as many words as possible on the first syllable. This is known as the King's English. The double negative and understatement is the proper use of the King's English. They never, well, hardly ever, say: "This is important" - always "This is not unimportant." And if something is good one must say "It is not bad;" and if it is really good, it becomes "Really not bad."

The English fought the Scots for many years until they discovered the Scots knew how to make good whisky. After that they settled down to do a little steady drinking with the Scots and have forgotten about fighting. The Welsh don't make any kind of whisky that is drinkable and consequently haven't reached any fundamental understanding with the English. Many still refuse to learn the English language. This is stubbornness. But when the English refuse to learn Welsh, that is different.

Some of my ancestors left the island along about 1710 and settled in Virginia. They have been pitied ever since.



# OUR ALTERNATE DIRECTORS

*John S. Hooker*, Alternate Executive Director of the Bank for the United States as of July 1946, and of the Fund as of January 1950, held office in the Department of State as Executive Secretary of the Board of Economic Operations and as Assistant Adviser on International Economic Affairs. He was also Assistant Chief of the Division of Financial and Monetary Affairs and Deputy Director of the Office of Financial and Development Policy.



*Martin Flett*, Alternate Executive Director for the United Kingdom as of October 1953, was born at Sutton, Surrey. An Oxford graduate, Mr. Flett started as a British Civil Servant in the Dominions Office, and then transferred to H.M. Treasury, where he has followed his complete financial career, with the exception of two years when he was seconded to the Cabinet Secretariat and the Ministry of Reconstruction.



*Maurice Perouse*, Temporary Alternate Executive Director for France as of April 1953, is a graduate engineer of the Ecole Centrale de Paris. After service in the army he entered the French "Inspection des Finances" and later became Chief of the Monetary Operations Service in Sarre. Following several other posts in the Ministry of Finance he was appointed Financial Counselor to the French Embassy in Washington.



*V. G. Pendbarkar*, Alternate Executive Director for India for the Bank and Fund as of December 1953, received B.Sc. degrees from both the University of Bombay and the London School of Economics. A Research Fellow in the Indian Statistical Institute, he became a Deputy Director of Statistics in the Government of India during the War and then worked in the Reserve Bank of India. His publications include articles on problems in Economics and Animal Husbandry.





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*Julio E. Heurtematte*, Alternate Executive Director of the Bank for Mexico, Cuba, Peru, Uruguay, Venezuela, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua and Panama as of November 1952 (and previously from 1950 - 1952) was Undersecretary of Commerce in Panamá and now serves at the Panamanian Embassy in Washington as Financial Counselor. He represents Panama in the Inter-American Economic and Social Council and is also Alternate Governor of the Bank.

*Antonije Tasic*, Alternate Executive Director for Germany and Yugoslavia as of May 1953, worked first in the Research Department of the National Bank of Yugoslavia, and then joined successively the Ministry of Trade and Industry, the Finance Ministry, and the Federal Planning Office. While in the service of the State Administration he was also a Professor at Belgrade University and was Alternate Governor of the Fund in 1951.



*Ali Akbar Khosropur*, Alternate Executive Director for Pakistan, Egypt, Iran, Syria, Iraq, Lebanon, Ethiopia and Jordan as of November 1953 was an economist in the Head Office of the Bank Melli Iran. He studied and trained in Paris and then returned to the Bank Melli where he remained until 1951 when he became Manager of the Insurance Company of Iran in Teheran, and Vice Governor of the Bank Melli.

*Felice Pick*, Alternate Executive Director for Italy, Austria, Turkey and Greece as of November 1952, holds a doctorate degree in economic sciences and has had extensive experience in cotton manufacturing. For seven years he was manager of an Italian exporting firm in Bologna and later joined the Bank Societa Italiana di Credito in Milan. His publications include a book and many newspaper articles in "Il Sole" on monetary and general economic subjects.





*Ohn Khin*, Alternate Executive Director for Japan, Burma, Ceylon and Thailand as of January 1954, was born in Rangoon, Burma. A graduate of the University of Rangoon, he served in the Ministry of Finance for ten years and then entered the Burma Diplomatic Service. He was a member of the Burmese Delegation to the Colombo Plan Conference, and now holds the rank of First Secretary at the Embassy of Burma in Washington.

*Veikko Makkonen*, Alternate Executive Director for Sweden, Denmark, Norway, Finland and Iceland as of April 1954, received his M.A. degree from the University of Helsinki and then joined the Finnish Ministry for Foreign Affairs. He served in Copenhagen at the Legation of Finland and then returned to the Ministry as Acting Chief of Bureau. In 1951 he was appointed First Secretary to the Legation of Finland in Washington.



*Jorge Schneider*, Alternate Executive Director for Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Philippines, Bolivia, Ecuador and Paraguay as of March 1953, (previously serving in a temporary capacity) was Assistant Manager of a tire and rubber company, a U. S. and Canadian representative of the Chilean State railways and Vice President of the Steel Company of Chile. Since 1950, he has been head of the New York Office of the Corporacion de Fomento de la Produccion.

*B. B. Callaghan*, Alternate Executive Director for Australia and the Union of South Africa as of February 1954, has been with the Commonwealth Bank of Australia for more than twenty-five years. In the course of his career, he served in the Exchange Control Division and then became Assistant Secretary and Assistant Manager of the London Branch. He was appointed Secretary of the Commonwealth Bank in 1953.



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*J. H. Warren*, Alternate Executive Director for Canada as of May 1954, served with the Royal Navy in the North Atlantic and the Mediterranean during the war and then joined the Department of External Affairs. He was with the Office of the High Commissioner for Canada in London for four years and then returned to Ottawa. A delegate to many conferences he is also Financial Attache of the Canadian Embassy.



*L. R. W. Soutendijk*, Alternate Executive Director for the Netherlands as of January 1953, engaged in private banking for eight years and then joined the staff of the Netherlands Military Mission in Berlin. An Adviser to the Netherlands Delegation in Savannah and Adviser at several annual meetings of the Bank and Fund, he has served as Financial Counselor to the Netherlands Embassy since 1946.



*Jean Godeaux*, Alternate Executive Director for Belgium and Luxembourg as of October 1953, is a graduate of the Faculty of Philosophy and Letters in Namur, Belgium, and also holds degrees in law and economics from the University of Louvain. First with the National Bank of Belgium, he later joined the Fund as Technical Assistant in the office of the Executive Director for Belgium and then as Alternate Executive Director.



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INDONESIA  
IS 56th MEMBER OF  
BANK AND FUND

His Excellency Moekarto Notowidigdo, Indonesian Ambassador in Washington, signed the Articles of Agreement on April 15 in the presence of Samuel C. Waugh, Assistant Secretary for Economic Affairs, Department of State.





The following contributed to the Red Cross Blood Donor Program recently: L to R (Seated): *Gladys Willard, Irene Young, Alliene Lybrand.* (Standing): *Vittorio Bolis, Joseph Fajans, Jonas Haralz, Murray Bryce, Hans Bachem, Arie Kruithof, Edward Lamont, Victor Umbricht.* Unable to be present: *Siem Aldewereld, Egbert de Vries, Toni Georgion, Francis Godwin, Douwe Groenveld, Dick Richards, Alexander Stevenson.*

### INTERNATIONAL COOKING CORNER

Tay Matsumoto, Administration Department, gives us this delicious and popular Japanese dish.

#### SUKIYAKI



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|--|---|
| 1 cup green onions, tops and all, sliced lengthwise, 2" long | 1 tbs. bacon grease or cooking oil                                |
| 1 cup mushrooms  | 1½ lbs. fillet of beef, cut in very thin strips, across the grain |
| 2 cups bamboo shoots, sliced                                 | ¼ cup beef stock or bouillon                                      |
| 1 cup celery, sliced lengthwise, in strips, 2" long          | ¼ cup soy sauce   |
| ½ cup green peppers, sliced in thin strips                   | 2 tbs. sugar  |
| 1 cup tofu (bean curd) diced                                 |   |

Pork, veal or chicken may be used in place of beef; and carrots, onions, celery, cabbage or broccoli may be substituted.

Saute meat until brown in cooking oil in chafing dish or skillet. Add stock, soy sauce and sugar and when mixture begins to simmer, add separately each of the vegetables, the tofu last. Cover and cook gently for about 15 minutes mixing gently about half way through the cooking. Serve at once with steamed rice. Serves six.



### WELCOME TO NEW STAFF MEMBERS

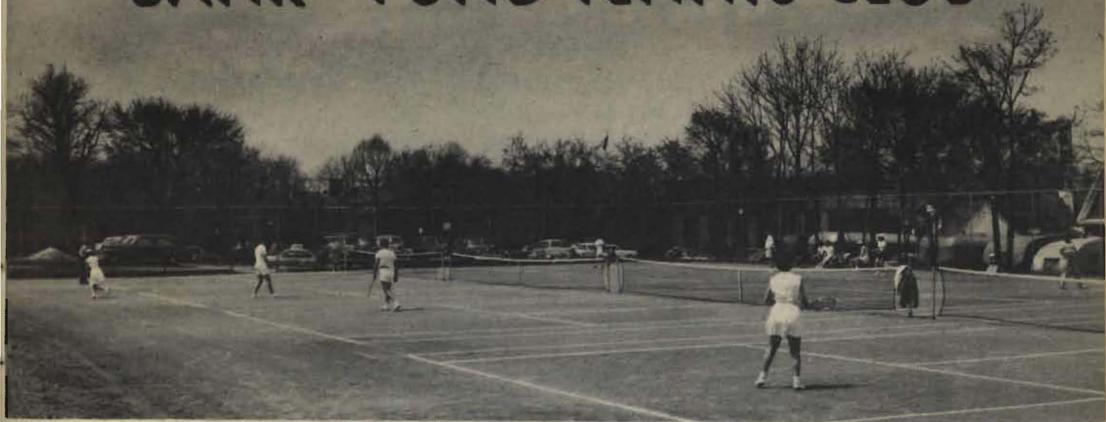
*Mario Piccagli*, Department of Technical Operations, from Milan, Italy, formerly with Societa Edison de Milano. *Olga Vick*, Department of Technical Operations, from Winnipeg, Manitoba, formerly with the British Consulate General in Philadelphia. *Thecla Schulz*, Department of Operations -- Asia and Middle East, from Arlington, Va., who is returning to the Bank after spending nearly three years in Germany with the U. S. Air Force. *Elmer Burland*, Marketing Department, from Visalia, California, who is returning to the Bank after an absence of two years in Brazil with Interamericana de Financiamento e Investimentos. (Unable to be present:) *Liselotte Boesch*, Paris Office, from Berne, Switzerland, formerly with the Compania de Navegacion "Anne" S. A. in Greenwich, Connecticut.

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"I would like all members of the committee to be clear on whether this loan under consideration is for a project to grow coffee or for the means to purchase it."

# BANK - FUND TENNIS CLUB



The Bank-Fund Tennis Club has started activities in fine form and to date has 59 members. The Committee are still looking for more enthusiasts so don't forget to call Helen McLeod, Ext. 2993 if you are interested.

The Mixed Doubles Handicap Tournament for the Thailand Cup will commence Saturday May 15 and continue during succeeding Club hours until the winners are determined. Partners will be drawn and handicaps assigned so all players have an equal chance to win.

*President, Rudi Kroc.*



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# TRADING POST

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EMPLOYMENT - Dutch girl, university student, would like summer job as household help. For information call Extension 2015.

RIDE WANTED - North Capitol Street to Bank and return on reimbursement basis. Ramm, Extension 2164.

FOR SALE - Semi-folding baby (twins) buggy; excellent condition; also 2 well-worn children's car seats with trays; \$40 the lot or near offer. Extension 2951.

Sailboat - Norwegian built; 16 ft.; good condition; \$500 or offer. Finne, TE 6-1511.

9 yds. floral drapery material, grey and yellow, all one piece; \$10.00; also Dress, size 16, black and white orlon, nylon, wool, lined with taffeta, red trim, almost new, \$25. Thoms, Ext. 2268.

SHORT TERM RENTALS - 5 BR house, 3 baths, at 3433 - 34th St. N.W., avail. June and July; fully furn.; \$300 per mo.; also services of Jamaican maid. Extension 2951.

3 BR house, 2 baths and maid's quarters, at 6612 - 31st Pl. N.W., avail. June 17 to Sept. 15; fully furn.; \$250 per mo. Tenant could discuss use of car. Extension 2951.

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## BENEFIT THE BOOKENDS

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The following new books have been added to the Staff Relations' Library, Room 1212. They rent for 3¢ per day and may be reserved without charge by calling Extension 2951.

SEVEN YEARS IN TIBET

by Heinrich Harrer

MIND ALIVE

by Harry and Bonaro Overstreet

THE DOCTORS

by Andre Soubiran

TOMORROW

by Philip Wylie

KING'S VIXEN

by Pamela Hill

BLESS THIS HOUSE

by Norah Lofts

SECOND TREE FROM THE CORNER

by E. B. White

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The Bank picnic will be held on Thursday, June 10 in Areas 2 and 3 in Rock Creek Park. Races, games, pony rides, soft drinks, ice cream, prizes. Watch for more details.

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The Bank's contribution to the American Cancer Society Crusade amounted to \$50.43 which represents a decided increase over what was contributed last year.

# Personals

Robert Skillings, formerly on the staff of the Paris Office, has now transferred to the Department of Operations - Europe, Africa and Australasia at headquarters.

Dr. and Mrs. Egbert de Vries (Department of Technical Operations) have announced the marriage of their daughter, Anna Elise Zweede, to Alfred Grant Walton, Jr. on May 15 at the Wesley Methodist Church in Washington. Mr. and Mrs. Walton will make their home in Brooklyn, New York.

The girls in the Loan Disbursements Division of the Treasurer's Department entertained at a farewell luncheon on Wednesday, April 28th in honor of Chris Perkins and Kathryn Prewitt. Chris sailed on the "Ryndam" on April 30 for the Hague where she has accepted a position at the Australian Embassy. Kathy also left us on April 30 to join her husband who is presently stationed at Fort Bragg, N. C.

Kathryn Sheerin, Economic Staff, will be married to Robert Holmes on May 15 at St. Ann's Church in Lansford, Pa. Her gown is of white satin and lace, and she will carry orchids and lily of the valley. Her two sisters and niece will be the bridesmaids and flower girl. After a honeymoon in Canada the couple will live in New York where Mr. Holmes is associated with an engineering firm.

Marcel Verheyen, Treasurer's Department, is much improved in health and is now home from the hospital. He is reported to be enjoying these warm Spring days in his garden.

Elinor and Bill Bennett, Office of Public Relations, are the proud parents of a baby son, John Lawrence, born April 29 at Alexandria Hospital, weighing 7 lbs. 7 oz.

Jack and Magda Sweede (formerly Office of Public Relations) are happy to announce the arrival of their son David Eugene, born in Joliet, Illinois on April 26 weighing 7 lbs. 9½ oz.

Donald and Terry Dixon (formerly Office of Public Relations) have a new baby girl, Lyndsey Ruth, born on April 9 at Georgetown Hospital, weighing 6 lbs. 6 oz. Before leaving the Bank Terry was guest of honor at a party given for her by members of her department, at which she was presented with a bathinette.

It is with deep regret that the Bank learned of the death on April 12, 1954 of Daniel H. Connor, Assistant Chief of the Loan Disbursements Division of the Treasurer's Department. Mr. Connor had been with the Bank since May 19, 1947.

# BOWLING WITH BROOKS



It's all over now -- the 1953-54 bowling season, that is. Administration held on to its lead and came in the winner, with Treasurer's Assets the runner-up. A surprise upset was for Personnel, on the last night and by a three pin margin, to take third place away from President's Office. Legal, realizing that there could be no change of venue, no appeal to a higher court, no ipso factos or inter alias, proceeded to buckle down and take three games from Treasurer's Assets, thereby finishing in penultimate position.

The tournament which finished the season in fine style, saw Jo DiCostanzo highlight the evening with some brilliant playing which resulted in a game of 135. Money winners were Mignon Roberts, Maria Opasnov and Ursula Zieschang for the women, Harold Graves, Colin Conron and Bill Bennett for the men. The rest of us were forced by the rules of good conduct to congratulate them -- quite weakly -- on their achievement. (After all, they got our money!)

Fabulous prizes were garnered by the following members of the IBRD bowling family:

High Average:	Doris Eliason and Timothy Burns
High Set:	Pauline Newton and Bill Geolot
High Game:	Josephine DiCostanzo and Frank Shull
High Strikes:	Olga Dinneen and Peter O'Neill, Sr.
High Spares:	Emily Awid and Bill Bailey
High Flat Game:	Edith Kesterton and Sidney Wheelock
Most Improved Bowler:	Maria Opasnov, Frontis Newton and Kevin Flanagan (tied)

An interesting finale to Harold Graves' term as President of the Bowling League was his winning first prize money. We are all wondering if Mr. Demuth, who was elected President for the coming year, thinks a precedent has been established which he will follow. Could be, and we hope so, but there's something about that tenth pin which remains defiant and upright, frame after frame after frame. Ah, me! The League welcomes Mignon Roberts and Olga Dinneen as Secretary and Treasurer for the coming year, and commiserates with Carol Dewing who has the unenviable task of score-keeper for 1954/55.