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Will ENGINEERS AND SCIENTISTS soon be able to EXERCISE
THEIR PROFESSIONS INDEPENDENTLY IN THE SIX MEMBER STATES?

The Council of Ministers of the European Community has still to pass an opinion on the proposed directives forwarded to it by the Commission on the subject last year. ANNEX 1 contains a brief summary of the present situation with regard to the work being carried out aimed at ensuring FREEDOM OF ESTABLISHMENT FOR THE PROFESSIONS OF ENGINEER AND SCIENTIST in the Community.

** A report on the PUBLIC FINANCING OF RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT IN THE COMMUNITY COUNTRIES. 1967-70 - BREAKDOWN BY OBJECTIVES was recently published by the Commission of the European Communities in French, German and English. The publication is the first of a new series on "Research and Development".

This report, summarized in "Research and Technology" No. 54 on 29 May 1970, analyses for each country and for the Community as a whole the scale and trend of public financing of research and development during the period 1967-70 on the basis of a breakdown of appropriations by broad social and economic objectives. It compares the effort of each Community country with general indicators such as population, gross domestic product and overall

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public expenditure. A special annex shows the proportion of funds contributed by each country to schemes organized on a basis of international cooperation.

** The agenda of the meeting of the ECSC Consultative Committee due to be held on 22 September 1970 will include a discussion of the medium-term programme (1970-74) of TECHNICAL RESEARCH ON COAL forwarded to it by the Commission of the European Communities (see "Research and Technology" No. 61).

** Following endorsement by the ECSC Consultative Committee, the Commission of the European Communities recently decided to provide financial aid totalling 3 910 548 units of account for TEN IRON AND STEEL RESEARCH PROJECTS. A list of the projects concerned is given in ANNEX 2.

** A symposium on the PROBLEMS OF RADIATION PROTECTION RAISED BY TRANSURANIUM ELEMENTS is to be organized in Karlsruhe on 21-25 September 1970 by the Commission of the European Communities in association with the European Nuclear Energy Agency of the OECD.

** Experts from the Six and the Commission of the European Communities exchanged information and experience on the WATER CHEMISTRY OF NUCLEAR REACTORS at the Ispra Establishment on 10-11 September 1970

** Recent EURATOM REPORTS include the following:

- Thermal insulation of vessels in prestressed concrete (118 pp - 165 B.Fr. - No. EUR 4471 d-f - available in French and German)
- Study of the effect of radiations on the embryo and its organs in vivo and in vitro

(10 pp - 25 B.Fr. - No. EUR 4491 f - available in French)

These reports can be obtained from the Sales Office for Official Publications of the European Communities, 37 rue Glesener, Luxembourg.

Freedom of Establishment for the Professions of
Engineer and Scientist

Engineers and scientists working in the various technological sectors (chemists, physicists, geologists, etc.) are not as yet able to exercise their profession independently throughout the Community. They can at present pursue an activity in another Member State only as paid employees, and even then their right to style themselves according to their qualifications remains subject to the conditions laid down by the national legislations.

The removal of restrictions on the exercise of professions requiring specific technical abilities raises a difficult problem, since it means - not ipso jure, except for medicine and the allied professions, but ipso facto - the mutual recognition of degrees and diplomas and, possibly, coordination of the various patterns of training and conditions of practice in the Six. The extreme variety of types of training at the moment in the technical professions has so far hampered the elaboration of a system for the mutual recognition of diplomas.

To remedy these difficulties, the Commission of the European Communities has submitted to the Council of Ministers a number of measures which have already been endorsed by the European Parliament and the Economic and Social Committee, comprising:

- a) A proposed directive obliging the Member States to amend their legislation so as to remove all restrictions on the establishment and freedom to supply services of professionals exercising self-employed activities in research, design, consultancy and applications in the technical field (excluding biologists, architects, geometers and patent consultants, for whom specific directives must be drawn up);
- b) A proposed directive introducing transitional measures provisionally imposing on the Member States minimum standards for qualified persons with at least two years' professional experience. The proposal specifies the minimum criteria to which the various training courses must conform in order to be deemed equivalent in the Member States and to permit freedom of establishment in the Community;

- c) A third proposal for coordinating certain laws and regulations governing the training of engineers.

Financial Aid Decided on by the Commission of the European
Communities for Ten Iron and Steel Research Projects

After endorsement by the ECSC Consultative Committee, the Commission of the European Communities recently decided to provide financial aid totalling 3 910 548 u.a. (1 u.a. = \$1) for the following ten iron and steel research projects:

- 949 148 u.a. for a joint research programme for the optimization of the production of solid steel in electric furnaces.
- 410 633 u.a. for research on the automation of continuous hot wide strip mills.
- 15 470 u.a. for additional research on the improvement and development of comparable hardness measurements in the Community countries.
- 432 600 u.a. for additional research on improvements in the market for blast furnaces and the quality of pig-iron produced.
- 238 960 u.a. for research on the hot compaction of iron ores.
- 239 475 u.a. for additional research on the fireproofing of metal structures.
- 1 112 400 u.a. for a joint research programme on the utilization properties of steels.
- 63 320 u.a. for research with a view to compiling basic documents for architects.
- 175 018 u.a. for research on the automation of oxygen steelworks.
- 273 515 u.a. for additional research on continuous pig refining.