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** FURTHER PROGRESS MUST BE MADE TOWARDS THE ATTAINMENT OF A COMMON ENERGY POLICY if the Community wishes to continue to enjoy, over the next decade, a steady and stable energy supply meeting its needs, in terms of both quantity and quality, in the less predictable conditions now emerging on the energy market as a result of political, economic and social changes. The forthcoming meeting of Heads of State and Government could be the occasion for imparting fresh impetus to energy policy in the setting of Community policy generally.

This is the feeling of the European Commission, which is to send to the Council of Ministers a paper on the progress needed in order to arrive at a Community energy policy, together with a report on problems and instruments of energy policy in the period 1975-85.

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The information and articles published in this Bulletin concern European scientific cooperation and industrial development in Europe. Hence they are not simply confined to reports on the decisions or views of the Commission of the European Communities, but cover the whole field of questions discussed in the different circles concerned.

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At the same time the Commission is submitting a number of studies dealing with the demand for primary energy in the Community (1975-80-85) (see IRT No. 158) and medium-term forecasts and guidelines for the oil (see IRT No. 159) and natural gas sectors, as well as a second illustrative nuclear programme for the Community.

Furthermore, the Commission is preparing to transmit to the Council of Ministers a proposal for a directive on measures intended to palliate the effects of difficulties in the procurement of hydrocarbons in the event of a crisis, two proposals for regulations governing trans-frontier oil and gas pipelines and the freeing of hydrocarbon imports and, lastly, for a concurring opinion, a proposal for a decision on the new system of Community aid for coking coal and coke intended for the Community steel industry.

A brief summary of the Commission's communication of "Progress Needed in the Community's Energy Policy" will be found in ANNEX 1.

** ALL ATTEMPTS TO CURB POLLUTION imply, first of all, an objective understanding of its effects on man and the environment. Common methods throughout the Community countries are essential if we are to succeed in harmonizing ecological and health standards. In conjunction with experts from the member countries, the European Commission recently completed the definition of a certain number of concepts and terms (such as criteria, quality targets and standards) which will simplify the examination of proposals for action at Community level.

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Dr Recht, Director of Health Protection at the European Commission, called on the 500 persons attending the INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON LEAD IN THE ENVIRONMENT to specify the results of laboratory measurements and analyses relating to lead and to interpret them in terms of public health. The Symposium, jointly organized by the Commission of the European Communities and the United States Environmental Protection Agency, was held in Amsterdam on 2-6 October 1972.

Further particulars of the results of this Symposium will be found in ANNEX 2.

** Taking 1963 as the base year (1963 = 100), the INDEX OF INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION rose to 152 in 1970 in the Community of Six and to 146 in the Community of Nine. Over the same period the index rose to 135 in the USA, 174 in the USSR and 258 in Japan. The table below shows the movement of the general indices of industrial production in various countries.

Country	1963	1968	1969	1970
Germany	100	128	144	153
France	100	127	142	151
Italy	100	136	140	149
Netherlands	100	143	159	175
Belgium	100	120	131	136
Luxembourg	100	112	127	127
COMMUNITY	100	129	143	152
United Kingdom	100	120	124	125
Ireland	100	142	152	156
Denmark	100	137	154	157
ENLARGED COMMUNITY	100	127	138	146
United States	100	133	139	135
Canada	100	140	146	150
USSR	100	150	161	174
Japan	100	190	222	258

** The European Commission recently made proposals for the introduction of a EUROPEAN PROSPECTUS AS A REQUIREMENT FOR ADMISSION TO QUOTATION ON THE COMMUNITY'S STOCK EXCHANGES. It transmitted to the Council of Ministers a proposal for a directive and a draft Council recommendation on the contents, supervision and circulation of prospectuses to be issued when securities are admitted for quotation on the stock exchanges of the Community countries. The Community standards proposed by the Commission are designed to provide shareholders and bondholders with greater information, which would be of a comparable standard in the various member countries. They are also intended to facilitate the interpenetration of capital markets by improving the quality and comparability of information published on securities quoted on the Community's stock exchanges.

** THE TOTAL RESERVES OF NATURAL GAS DISCOVERED IN THE CONTINENTAL SHELF UNDER THE NORTH SEA are believed, according to the latest unofficial estimates, to amount to between 1520 and 1640 thousand million cubic meters, of which 990 thousand million lie off the British coast, 30-50 off Denmark, 100-200 thousand million off the Netherlands and at least 400 thousand million off Norway; exploratory drillings off Germany have so far failed to produce any appreciable results.

The nearest markets are generally the preferred outlet for gas extracted from these fields and in some cases marketing is subject to the approval of the governmental authorities. The selling price is decided by negotiations between producers and purchasers. In certain countries the price agreed upon must be approved by the national authorities. The European Commission is entitled to assess the way in which these prices are determined (as it has already done in the case of Dutch

natural gas), but the Treaty contains no provision authorizing it to take part in the pricing process.

The European Commission recently made this clear in its reply to a written question from Mr Vredeling, a Netherlands Member of the European Parliament.

** THE COSMETICS INDUSTRY underwent very rapid growth in the period 1966-70. The mean growth rate for the Community was 11.5% percent on turnover and 7.5% on the volume of output.

A study of the cosmetics and perfume industry has been carried out for the European Commission by SEMA (Metra International). The study examines, in respect of the chief classes of toiletries and perfume, the problems relating to the production, consumption, supply and future development of the main basic constituents and additives. It also considers the major characteristics and structural aspects of the industry, pointing out the growth of the sector since 1985 and putting forward forecasts on future market trends and specific needs in the next five years. This study could form the basis for discussions between representatives of the European Commission and the industries concerned, which could be held next November.

** The proceedings of the international symposium on RADIOECOLOGY APPLIED TO THE PROTECTION OF MAN AND HIS ENVIRONMENT, held in Rome on 7-10 September 1971, have just been published by the European Commission under reference EUR 4800 d-f-i-e (two volumes, 1420 pages, 1500 Belgian francs) and can be obtained from the Office for Official Publications of the European Communities (Case postale 1003, Luxembourg 1).

ANNEX 1 p.1THE PROGRESS NEEDED IN COMMUNITY ENERGY POLICY

(A Communication from the European Commission to the Council of Ministers)

The Community's key problem in the energy field is to ensure adequate supplies in a market displaying greater uncertainty than in the past. It will therefore be imperative to watch carefully over trends in energy supply and, if necessary, to take appropriate action on a Community-wide basis. Apart from the problem of finding the capital required for very substantial investments, this means that the Community, as well as supervising conditions of competition, should be able if necessary to influence the conditions in which competing forms of energy operate. Aside from these general considerations, the Commission's communication voices its concern as a result of current developments and outlines steps that should be taken.

In particular, the Commission considers it necessary to:

- (a) ensure that due attention is paid to environmental considerations through a number of research projects designed to restrict or eliminate pollution caused by the production, transportation, storage and consumption of energy, which will dovetail with the series of actions that the Commission proposes to take in relation to the environment.
- (b) promote the more rational use of energy (the recovery of waste heat from heat conversion processes for use in district heating systems, improved insulation, etc.) in order to cut down supply and environmental problems and to cushion the effects of a possible rise in energy costs.

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- (c) promote scientific and technical research aimed at greater efficiency in the production and use of energy and at the discovery of new sources of energy, new resources or even new uses of known ones;
- (d) institute or extend liaison between the Community and other energy-importing countries in order to provide a better exchange of information and produce common solutions;
- (e) improve economic and social cooperation with the energy-exporting countries in all spheres of common interest and on a basis of mutual advantage, in order to foster stable relations between equal partners;
- (f) promote, in the oil, natural gas, coal, electricity and nuclear energy sectors, the pooling of information, integration of the market, security of supply and the necessary investments.

As a tangible expression of these general guidelines, the European Commission set out in its communication a total of 46 measures whose gradual implementation it considers necessary for the attainment of the Community energy policy. In forthcoming numbers we shall return to the steps advocated by the Commission.

ANNEX 2 p.1LEAD - A DANGEROUS POLLUTANT

How matters stand after the International Symposium on Lead in the Environment held in Amsterdam on 2-6 October 1972 and organized jointly by the Commission of the European Communities and the United States Environmental Protection Agency

A great deal has already been done, but there is even more still to be done: this might be the conclusion drawn by most of some 500 experts, representing 27 countries and six international organizations, who attended the International Symposium held jointly by the Commission of the European Communities and the United States Environmental Protection Agency.

The aim was to attempt to answer the following question: What is the hazard to human health due to the presence of lead in the environment?

Almost a hundred reports and papers were presented on a very large number of experiments conducted in many parts of the globe, while a round table discussion provided an opportunity to compare the occasionally divergent opinions held by experts when it comes to assessing the hazard to man and the environment due to the presence of lead in the latter, particularly in the atmosphere.

A number of conclusions can be drawn even now, however, from the very frank discussions that took place:

1. The measured level of lead in the blood varies according to region and age. In particular, children should be regarded as the critical one age bracket, i.e., that for which limiting levels should be introduced which can be taken as the basis of all prevention and surveillance action.

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2. In addition to the blood lead, the activity of an enzyme (ALAD) which is involved in the synthesis of hemoglobin appears to provide a useful indicator. Moreover, a correlation has been established between the action of this enzyme and the presence of atmospheric lead. The use of this correlation for monitoring purposes is not yet widespread, however, and the Commission proposes to hold a training seminar for laboratory technicians in order to acquaint them with the method and to bring about some measure of harmonization in its application.
3. The toxicology of lead has undoubtedly benefited from the experience acquired in the field of industrial medicine. But the protection of the general public make even more extensive experimental work necessary. A particularly valuable field of study and research is the investigation of the late effects of the uptake of lead by humans.
4. The Symposium recognized the importance of taking readings - with maximum comparability - of the levels of indicators of human contamination by lead. In this connection the Commission of the European Communities has already instituted moves to harmonize methods and techniques, and it intends to continue them, with reference both to lead in the atmosphere in towns and countryside and to lead present in the blood of individuals.

As for the assessment of hazards, the Symposium agreed to emphasize the importance of an overall estimate, i.e., one taking into consideration all existing possible means of uptake by humans. Here it should be recalled that the Commission of the European Communities has concerned itself with these problems by organizing periodic meetings of health experts at Community level.

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The aim of the conference was to take stock of the latest scientific findings in various fields concerning pollution due to lead, in order to provide the health authorities with reference data on which they can base the decisions they will have to take. As regards the Community, the ad hoc panel on health protection, centred on the European Commission, will have the duty of drawing from the proceedings of the Symposium the appropriate conclusions on the need to continue the research necessary in order to arrive at a fuller understanding of the relevant phenomena and on the need to establish common evaluation criteria.

