## EUROPEAN COMMUNITY

## research and technology

bulletin published by the press and information services of the commission of the european communities

## REPRODUCTION AUTHORIZED

Brussels, 26 February 1970 No. 45

- \*\*\* A symposium on the <u>ERAIN DRAIN</u> will be organized at Cambridge, Massachusetts, on 24-25 April 1970 by the Information Service of the Commission of the European Communities at Washington, in collaboration with the Center of International Affairs of the University of Harvard and with financial backing from the Giovanni Agneeli Foundation of Turin, Italy. The participants will be European scientists and engineers at present working in the United States, together with European and American specialists in the problems of migration of scientific manpower. A short analysis of the aims which the organizers of this colloquium have set themselves is given in an <u>ANNEX</u>.
- \*\*\* The Member States of the European Community will have to set up a DOUBLE SYSTEM FOR THE TRAINING OF ENGINEERS, embracing on the one hand non-graduate engineers and on the other hand university-trained engineers.— that is, if the Council of Ministers of the Community adopts the conclusions reached by the Legal Affairs Committee of the European Parliament, which had been consulted about a proposal put forward by the Commission of the European Communities concerning the mutual recognition of diplomas within the Community, where there is at present a very wide variety of engineer training courses,

Brussels 4 – Tel. 35 00 40

- \*\* European specialists in NUCLEAR PILE DOSIMETRY met at the Ispra Establishment of the Joint Research Centre on 19 February 1970. Apart from various questions of general interest they examined the different methods of measuring in-pile radiations and performing calorimetric measurements, attention also being directed at techniques for preparing fissile material detectors.
- \*\* THE FUTURE OF SHIPYARDS was recently the subject of a round table held in Brussels under the chairmanship of Mr Colonna di Paliano, the Member of the Commission specially responsible for industrial affairs; it was attended by representatives of the shipbuilding industry and of the European Committee for the Metalworkers' Unions. There was a wide agreement that the Community's shipyards will henceforward have to build new types of vessel in order to meet new needs (e.g., container ships). The characteristics of the industry will have to be modified in order to take advantage of new methods of construction: the automation of certain stages of production, for instance, will make it necessary to employ an appreciably higher percentage of specially trained technicians. However, shipbuilding is still essentially an assembly industry which employs a relatively large labour force.
- \*\* THE PRESSURIZED WATER NUCLEAR POWER PLANT AT OBRIGHEIM, GERMANY (KWO), is now operating at a power of 340 MWe, whereas it was originally rated at 283 MWe.
- \*\*\* The regulations governing the TRANSPORT OF RADIOACTIVE MATERIALS were discussed at a meeting of experts held in Vienna by the International Atomic Energy Agency and attended by representatives of the Commission of the European Communities. The purpose of the meeting was to consider the feasibility of easing the restrictions on transport while at the same time maintaining adequate safety standards.

## Commission of the European Communities Organizes a Symposium on the Brain Drain

Some factors which favour the brain drain from Europe to the United States are well known - better career prospects, higher salaries, better possibilities of working on modern equipment too costly for European budgets, more stimulating environment and social status, etc. What is the order of importance of these different factors? Are there others, and if so, which? How are they rated after some years of experience on the spot by European scientists and technicians who have chosen to migrate to the United States?

For a better assessment of the too frequently empirical replies given by brain drain specialists to these questions, the Information Service of the Commission of the European Communities, in collaboration with the Center for International Affairs of the University of Harvard and with financial backing from the Giovanni Agnelli Foundation of Turin, Italy, is organizing a symposium on the brain drain at Cambridge, Massachusetts, on 24-25 April 1970. European scientists and technicians who have been working in the United States for less than five years will discuss the problems raised by the migration of human capital in the presence of specialists called as observers. They will consider the reasons which induced them to leave Europe, and attempt to evaluate the work they did in their native countries and what they have done in the United States. They will also discuss whether a return to Europe seems possible or desirable to them, and on what terms.

In conjunction with this symposium, at which numbers will have to be limited for technical reasons, a detailed questionnaire will be sent to a selection of scientists and technicians of European origin living in the United States. The replies received will form the subject of a survey upon which we will report in the near future and which will also be discussed during the symposium.

It is hoped in this way to throw some light on the reasons why European industries and universities frequently have such difficulty in keeping their most brilliant colleagues in Europe.