

# research and technology

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

## REPRODUCTION AUTHORIZED

Brussels, 28 April 1970

No. 52

- \*\* The European Community is to provide backing amounting to almost four million units of account for TEN NEW METALLURGICAL RESEARCH PROJECTS (the total cost of which is estimated at six millions). The Commission of the European Communities has just forwarded a document to this effect to the Council of Ministers and to the Consultative Committee of the ECSC. A summary of the research projects concerned will be found in an ANNEX.
- \*\* THE USE OF RADIATION TECHNIQUES AND ISOTOPES IN THE BUILDING INDUSTRY will be the subject of a conference to be held at the headquarters of the European Communities on 28 and 29 October next. This conference will meet the need to provide interested industrial circles with a complete picture of the possible industrial uses of nuclear techniques with an up-to-date rundown of the latest developments in the applied research field.
- \*\* More than 350 specialists from 17 countries attended an information conference on TECHNOLOGY AND TRENDS IN HARD-COAL COKING held in Luxembourg on 23-24 April. A series of reports were presented on the results of work on technical productivity, the profitability of coking plants and also on research relating to the broadening of the range of possible coking coals by the use of comparatively poor coking coal for making blast furnace coke.

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For further information please apply to the

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- \*\* The STRESS ANALYSIS PROBLEMS which arise during REACTOR CONSTRUCTION and which must be taken into account in safety assessments concerning concrete or steel vessels formed the subject of the fourth International Conference held at Cambridge in Great Britain on 6-10 April 1970. Experts from the Commission of the European Communities and from 14 countries took part in this conference, which was organized under the auspices of the Permanent European Committee for Stress Analysis.
  
- \*\* The proceedings of the Second Symposium on MICRODOSIMETRY held at Stresa, Italy, on 10-24 October 1969 have been published under the title Euratom Report EUR 4452 d-f-c. Copies of this report in German, French or English can be obtained from the European Communities Publications Office, 37 rue Gleesener, Luxembourg.
  
- \*\* The Group of the Advisory Committee of the ECSC responsible for research will meet in Luxembourg on 27 April 1970 in order to discuss the MEDIUM-TERM PROGRAMME OF THE "STEEL RESEARCH" SECTOR proposed by the Commission.
  
- \*\* In its ENDEAVOUR TO PROMOTE THE TRAINING OF SCIENTISTS AND TECHNICIANS IN EUROPE, the Commission of the European Communities has invited six young prize-winners of the competition "Youth in Research", organized by a German illustrated magazine and German industry, to a study visit to the Joint Research Centre at Ispra on Lake Maggiore in Italy.
  
- \*\* The Commission of the European Communities recently published a report on "THE POSSIBILITIES OF INCORPORATING NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS IN THE WEST GERMAN ELECTRICITY SUPPLY SYSTEM BY 1985" (EUR 4407 d), which can be obtained from the European Communities Publications Office, 37 rue Gleesener, Luxembourg.

Ten New Steel Research Projects to be Financed  
by the European Coal and Steel Community (ECSC)

The Commission of the European Communities recently forwarded the Council of Ministers of the Community and the Consultative Committee of the ECSC a proposal for Community participation in ten new research projects in the steel sector.

These projects, which will receive credits totalling nearly 4 million units of account from the Community, concern basic research, which is too often neglected by industry, although it is of great importance for the development of applied research; the projects either aim to develop new processes which hold out hope of reducing production costs or of improving the regularity of product characteristics, or they are adjuncts or practical applications of existing research projects which have yielded particularly encouraging results.

The ten new projects to be given Community backing relate to the following matters:

1. The optimization of the manufacture of solid steel in the electrical furnace.
2. The automation of wide-band continuous hot conveyors.
3. The improvement and development of comparable hardness measurements in Community countries.
4. The improvement of the blast furnace market and of the quality of cast metal produced.
5. The hot compacting of iron ores.
6. The behaviour of metal structures in fire.
7. The in-use properties of steels.
8. The compilation of background documents for architects.
9. The automation of oxygen steelworks.
10. The continuous refinement of cast steel.