

### S U M M A R Y

- P. 2 CULTURE: And why not exchanges of artists?  
A residential centre for Irish artists launches an appeal aimed at the Community's cultural organizations.
- AGRICULTURE: Not exactly flowing with honey  
... but raising the level of Community production is far from easy.
- P. 3 LIVING STANDARDS: Europeans are behind the Americans - but ahead of the Japanese  
Cars, telephones and TV sets in the EC, North America and Japan.
- P. 4 MONEY: An obstacle to the creation of a "European currency" is removed  
Bonn authorizes the use of the ECU in Germany.
- P. 5 REGIONAL AID: ECU 180m. for eight countries  
The ERDF's third allocation for 1987.
- P. 6 HEALTH: Pesticides - to be avoided like the plague  
Better health and environmental protection requires that more pesticides be regulated.
- P. 7 FISHERIES: Eating seed corn is wrong  
Catching immature fish is a waste of resources.
- P. 8 SPORTS: Hunters - the animals' best friend?  
The Commission gives Italian hunting association ECU 7,600 to protect birds of prey.
- P. 9 OIL: The EC is the world's fourth largest producer  
144m.t. last year, including 122m.t. from the North Sea.

This newsheet is published in six languages (English, French, German, Dutch, Italian and Spanish) by the Directorate-General for Information, Communication and Culture of the

Commission of the European Communities,  
Rue de la Loi 200 - 1049 Brussels - Belgium.  
Tel 2351111 - Telex 21877 COMEU B

Its contents do not necessarily reflect the official views of the Community institutions



CULTURE: And why not exchanges of artists?

A residential centre for Irish artists launches an appeal aimed at the Community's cultural organizations.

Places where writers, painters and sculptors from all over the European Community can stay, at little cost, and work together are a bit like castles in Spain. And yet this is just what an Irish residential workplace for artists, the Tyrone Guthrie Centre, would like to turn itself into.

Located in the Irish Republic, yet not far from the frontier with Northern Ireland, the Centre is both a meeting- and a workplace for artists from both sides of the border. It has been generously funded, in fact, by the Arts Councils of Belfast and Dublin.

The Centre now wants to bring together artists from all over the Community. To encourage European artists to use it as a home from home, the Centre's Director, Bernard Loughlin, has suggested that regional or national cultural bodies provide bursaries for their own artists.

He also envisages a network of exchanges with other like-minded centres elsewhere in the Community. Under this system each centre would make available board, lodging and studio space for artists from the other centres. Mr Loughlin would like all interested bodies to contact him at the Tyrone Guthrie Centre, Annaghmakerrig, Newbliss, County Monaghan, Ireland (tel. 047-54003).

AGRICULTURE: Not exactly flowing with honey

... but raising the level of Community production is far from easy.

The 12-nation European Community produces only 40% of the honey it consumes, despite the aid producers have received and the high import duties to discourage outside competition. As the European Commission has pointed out to the British Euro-MP, William Newton Dunn, this situation, unusual at first sight, is due to the special conditions in which honey is produced.

There are an estimated 6.5 million hives, kept by some 463,000 beekeepers in the Community. But many of them do it as a hobby or on a part-time basis. Under these conditions it is very difficult to implement a Community policy ... short of aiming it at the bees themselves.

LIVING STANDARDS: Europeans are behind the Americans - but ahead of the Japanese

Cars, telephones and TV sets in the EC, North America and Japan.

Rightly or wrongly, motor cars, telephones and television sets are seen as symbols of material comfort and a high living standard. On the basis of these three barometers, it is clear that European living standards are lagging behind those of the Americans and Canadians but are higher than those of the Japanese, on the whole.

According to figures published on the occasion of the recent Western economic summit in Venice by Eurostat, the European Community's statistical office, the Community's inhabitants own proportionately fewer cars, telephones and TV sets than the Americans and Canadians but more cars and TV sets than the Japanese, as the following Table shows:

|                                | Year | EC-12 | United States | Canada | Japan |
|--------------------------------|------|-------|---------------|--------|-------|
| Cars per 1000 population       | 1958 | 80    | 357           | 210    | 50    |
|                                | 1986 | 260   | 536           | 427    | 224   |
| TV sets per 1000 population    | 1958 | 92    | 324           | 210    | 75    |
|                                | 1986 | 380   | 647           | 460    | 245   |
| Telephones per 1000 population | 1958 | 102   | 395           | 305    | 26    |
|                                | 1986 | 490   | 768           | 675    | 520   |

Since 1958 living standards have risen substantially in all the industrialized countries of the West. In the 12-nation Community the number of cars per 1000 population has more than tripled, the number of TV sets increased by more than four times and of telephones by nearly five times. The gap between the Community and North America clearly has narrowed considerably over the last 30 years.

The Japanese, for their part, have seen the number of telephones per 1000 population rise by 20 times since 1958. They have pulled ahead of the Europeans in this field. However, over the same period, the number of TV sets has increased more slowly in Japan than in the Community.

MONEY: An obstacle to the creation of a "European currency" is removed

Bonn authorizes the use of the ECU in Germany.

German residents and companies based in Germany will finally be able to use the ECU at home without restrictions. Thanks to a recent decision of the German authorities, firms can make out their bills in ECU or use it to make payments if they so desire. As the European Commission has underlined, recognition of the European Community's currency unit, in the home of the Deutsche Mark, should facilitate both the establishment of a Community-wide capital market and Europe's monetary integration.

While the French and Italian governments have taken a number of decisions in recent months to facilitate capital movements, the German decision amounts to a further step towards the liberalization of capital movements within the 12-nation European Community. A single European capital market should become a reality, in principle, at the end of 1992, the date set for the completion of a European area without frontiers.

All is not well, however, in the Community's monetary sphere. On June 15, the very day on which the German authorities announced the ECU's recognition by the Federal Republic, the finance ministers of the Twelve failed to reach agreement on the measures likely to strengthen the European monetary system, of which the ECU is a key element.

It was also on June 15 that the Committee for European Monetary Union announced its forthcoming initiatives on behalf of a monetary Community, at a meeting held in Brussels in the presence of Wilfried Martens, Belgium's prime minister and president of the European Council\*.

Presided over by the former French President, Valéry Giscard d'Estaing, and the former German Chancellor, Helmut Schmidt, the Committee includes political and business leaders, such as MM Van der Klugt and Agnelli, presidents of Philips and Fiat respectively.

In the coming months the Committee will finalize precise proposals for the creation of a European Central Bank, at the Community level. The Committee also wants to alert European economic and financial circles to the importance of monetary union in the light of the single market envisaged for 1992.

Finally, the Committee intends to encourage the use of the ECU in daily life, through contacts with sectors such as banking, insurance, tourism, transport and the Community's postal and telegraph authorities.

\* The Meeting of the heads of state or government of the 12-nation Community, which is presided over by a different country each semester.

REGIONAL AID: ECU 180m.\* for eight countries

The ERDF's third allocation for 1987.

More roads, schools and factories will be built in the disadvantaged regions of eight European Community countries, thanks to the ECU 180m. to be provided by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF). This is the third allocation to be authorized by the European Commission for 1987, and it will be shared out among all but four member states (the three Benelux countries and Greece).

More than ECU 147m. will be spent on infrastructure projects, while the remaining ECU 34m. will finance investments in industry, the crafts and the service industries. As a result, nearly 3,700 new jobs will be created and another 2,600 saved.

The largest sums will go to the Community's newest member states. The nearly ECU 80m. allocated to Spain will be used mainly to improve the road network and water supplies. The ECU 30m. Portugal will receive will provide schools and health centres as well as other improvements to the country's infrastructure.

Nearly ECU 24m. have been earmarked for Germany. They will help finance improved tourist facilities in Lower Saxony and extra manufacturing capacity in the engineering, metallurgical and electronic industries.

The U.K. will receive more than ECU 20m., mainly for infrastructure projects, including the construction of a holiday centre at Southport for the handicapped and improvements to the airport at Birmingham.

The ECU 17.4m. Italy will receive will finance industrial investments in the Marches and Basilicata provinces. More than ECU 7m. will be used to help finance industrial projects in Ireland and improve the road link between the Republic and Northern Ireland.

The ECU 2.7m. earmarked for France will mainly help finance industrial investments in the Midi-Pyrenees region. Finally, the ECU 320,000 Denmark is to receive will enable a dike to be built.

\* 1 ECU = UK£ 0.70 or IR£ 0.77

HEALTH: Pesticides - to be avoided like the plague

Better health and environmental protection requires that more pesticides be regulated.

Snow White's wicked stepmother would no longer need to poison the apple meant for the unhappy protegé of the seven dwarfs. All she would have to do is pick any of the numerous apples, heavily sprayed with the usual pesticides.

There is virtually no product of vegetable origin which is free of this danger, while products of animal origin are often implicated as well through the food chain. Of course, the scale of agricultural production, and the need to protect crops from being attacked by insects, explain the use of pesticides, sometimes in very large amounts. It is also not always easy to fix limitations on their use - not to mention the difficulty of ensuring that they are respected.

This led the Italian Euro-MP, Ferruccio Pisoni, to ask the European Commission what proposals it would be putting forward to improve the quality of agricultural products meant for human consumption.

Frans Andriessen, the agricultural commissioner, declared that the Commission shared Mr Pisoni's concern and agreed that its first priority must be the extension of the lists of maximum residue levels (MRLs) of pesticides in foodstuffs, especially in view of the fact that six years have elapsed between the Commission's proposal and the adoption of the directives by the Council of Ministers last July.

In the specific case of fruit and vegetables - which are meant to be eaten fresh and, consequently, are potentially more dangerous in case of very high levels of toxic residues - the directive dates from 1976, and has been modified on three occasions, the last of which was in 1982. In order to improve the Community-wide system introduced by the two directives adopted recently, the Commission will submit a report, together with the proposed modifications, on the basis of which the Council will re-examine the directives.

FISHERIES: Eating seed corn is wrong

Catching immature fish is a waste of resources.

Catching young, immature fish, to turn into fishmeal, is both a serious waste of natural resources and a threat to the very existence of the species. The French Euro-MP, Mrs Sylvie Le Roux, certainly thinks so; in fact she has asked the European Commission what measures it intends to propose to the member states to prevent such fishing for industrial purposes.

Unhappily, it is far from easy to decide whether or not a fish is sexually mature. For a given species the age of starting maturity varies from one individual to another, depends on the temperature of the water and the very region in which the fish live. The Commission, not surprisingly, in view of these biological facts, has declared itself unable to provide Mrs Le Roux with either a record of catches of immature fish or breakdowns by length and age.

In any case, as Commissioner Cardoso e Cunha has pointed out, it is clear that the principle of a rational management of resources is based on the objective, for each stock, of a maximum long-term weight yield. Achieving this objective depends on a complex relationship between growth rate, natural mortality rate, fished mortality rate and size of net mesh in use.

In order to minimize catches of young fish the Commission proposed to the Council of Ministers last year a series of measures regarding mesh size, only some of which were adopted. The Commission has no plans at present to propose further such measures, especially as they do not resolve the basic problem.

This is due to the fact that a ban on the fishing of certain species, such as the small sandeel and Norway pout (which are more suitable for processing into meals and oil and represent an important source of income for fishermen) would mean a loss of major resources. It so happens that among these fish are to be found others, immature and belonging to species suitable for human consumption.

SPORTS: Hunters - the animals' best friend?

The Commission gives Italian hunting association ECU 7,600 to protect birds of prey.

The Italian expression "squarciar lupi" is pretty blood thirsty: it signifies "disembowel the wolves". But it hardly applies to the Italian Euro-MP, Mrs. Squarcialupi; on the contrary, she is an animal lover and concerned at their fate at the hands of hunters armed to the teeth.

But it is these very same hunters who, as members of the National Union of Italian Hunting Associations (UNAVI), have launched a campaign to protect birds of prey. The European Commission has agreed to subsidize their publicity campaign to the tune of ECU 7,600.

UNAVI has brought out a poster showing a honey buzzard and persuaded both the specialist and daily press to carry articles on the role of birds of prey in the ecosystem. It has also written to hunters inviting them to prevent poaching, of which such birds are victims; sent a circular letter to all its own game keepers, encouraging them to greater vigilance and, finally, published all these documents in a brochure, which it has widely distributed.

Mrs Squarcialupi frankly doesn't believe in wolves disguised in sheep's clothing; and this time she is living up to her name. She finds it illogical, to say the least, to give funds meant for the protection of birds to those who threaten them the most. UNAVI's publicity campaign, in her view, is basically a campaign of self-defence on the part of hunters. The Euro-MP seems to be in two minds, in fact, as to just which group better deserves the term "birds of prey".

The Commission obviously cannot probe the motives of those seeking its aid. In his reply to Mrs Squarcialupi the Environment Commissioner, Stanley Clinton Davis, underlined the fact that a subvention of ECU 7,600 has been made in favour of a campaign designed to protect birds of prey. But he noted the thrust of her remarks. The Commission can be expected to keep an eye on all birds of prey.

\* 1 ECU = UK£ 0.70 or IR£ 0.77.



OIL: The EC is the world's fourth largest producer

144m.t. last year, including 122m.t. from the North Sea.

Mention petrol and people at once think of sheikhs in Cadillacs and oil-rich OPEC. It is only too easy to forget that Europe, too, is a major oil producer. With its 144 million tonnes the European Community in fact ranks fourth. Britain is the cornerstone of this particular success story, with crude oil production of 122m.t. last year.

The USSR is still the world's largest producer, with 613m.t. out of a world total of 2,900m.t. The United States is in second place with 280m.t. and Saudi Arabia third (248m.t.).

The 12-nation Community is therefore ahead of Mexico (140mt.) and China (130m.t.). Saudi Arabia staged a spectacular comeback last year, when production recovered to nearly 250m.t., up from 158m.t. in 1985.

This was the case as regards Middle East producers generally; their production rose some 25% last year, to reach 662m.t., as compared to 530m.t. in 1985. OPEC, which remains the world's largest group of oil producers, increased output by 16% last year (950m.t., as against 818m.t. in 1985). While the United States witnessed a decline in output of 2.3%, the Soviet Union saw output rise by 3%.