ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

BULLETIN

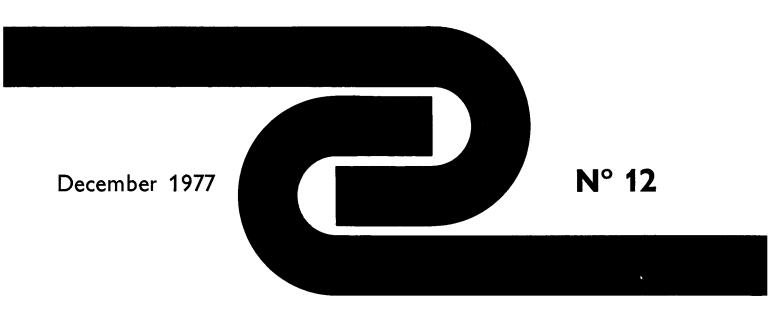


TABLE OF CONTENTS

		P	age	<u>s</u>
I.	154TH PLENARY SESSION	1	to	22
•	Statement by Mr Roy JENKINS, President of the Commission	1	to	6
	Opinions adopted	6	to	22
	1. Farm prices - Beef and Veal	6	to	8
	2. Exchange Rates Used in Agricultural Structural Policy			
	3. Physical Properties of Food	10	to	12
	4. Colouring Matters Used in Food	13	to	16
	5. Antioxidants Used in Food	13	to	16
	6. Preservatives	13	to	16
	7. Swine Fever	16	to	17
	8. Paper and Board Recycling	17	to	20
	9. Large Urban Concentrations	20	to	22
II.	EXTERNAL RELATIONS		23	
	Bureau meet in Manchester		23	
	Study Group Makes Fact-finding Visit to UK		23	
III.	NEW REQUESTS FOR OPINIONS	24	to	2 5
IV.	PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME OF FUTURE WORK	26	to	27
7.7	THE CONTROL OF THE SAME		Λ0	

Ι

154th PLENARY SESSION

The European Communities' Economic and Social Committee held its 154th Plenary Session in Brussels, on 14 and 15 December 1977. The chair was taken by Mr Basil de FERRANTI, the Committee's Chairman.

Statement by Mr Roy JENKINS, President of the Commission

The Session was attended by Mr Roy JENKINS, President of the Commission, who made a statement on Economic and Monetary Union. After summarizing the arguments which he had made in earlier speeches, notably in Florence, Mr JENKINS illustrated the fact that no Member State was able on its own to move more quickly towards the objectives of employment and stability.

"The countries which are under no external financial constraint are nonetheless reliant on the weaker countries for the effectiveness of their policies. But the more vulnerable countries are themselves unable to act on the basis of the collective economic and financial strength of the Community as a whole.

This is a recipe not only for immobility and stagnation, but also for producing not 'the wages of sin' but the 'wages of frustrated economic expectations'. The contemporary economic bible surely demonstrates that the wages of frustrated economic expectations are inflation and social discontent, circumstances in which it is impossible to recreate business confidence and a strong business upswing.

Community interdependence in trade, finance, exchange rate and price behaviour is intense, but our system of inter-governmental cooperation and embryonic Community instruments demonstrably do not match that intensity: what other conclusions can be drawn from the continuing lament in official statements from each of our European countries that they cannot 'on their own' assure the turn-round in international conditions that are required to change the domestic economic outlook?

Some would here argue that improved coordination should be the full answer. The Community should, of course, play a full part in improving its effectiveness, but let us keep a sense of perspective as to its potential - after all, our efforts to coordinate have been genuine enough for a good number of years.

In a properly designed European monetary union the outlook could, I believe, be radically different. The result would be a single homogeneous monetary policy, setting, and indeed maintaining, a common high standard of price stability. It would have to be based on a well-prepared currency reform. This reform would have produced a decisive brake on inflationary expectations, and on the inflationary impulses from exchange rate changes within Europe. The international (but not the domestic) monetary constraint on economic policy would also have been removed between Member States, and greatly diminshed as regards our monetary relations with the rest of the world. This would be a new economic environment, of stronger internal monetary disciplines, but more relaxed external financial constraints. To

work it would have to be coupled to important Community budgetary and financial powers aimed at assuring better geographical balance in cyclical conditions, in the structural reconversion of declining industries, and in the smoother development of demand. These are the conditions in which we would have a right to expect business and labour again to look forward to a sustainable and broadly-based economic expansion. I do not believe this view of the future is either unrealistically academic nor foolishly utopian."

Mr JENKINS said that there are three political arguments for action :

- First, our employment problem is, I am afraid, now a medium-term rather than an ordinary cyclical matter. Moreover, beyond the $6\frac{1}{2}$ million unemployed of today, there are 9 million more young people who between now and 1985 are going to be added to the Community labour force looking for new extra jobs. Thus we have to think in terms of a new medium-term stimulus for the European economy a stimulus which will have to be of a dimension in a historic context to meet the extent of our present and prospective employment problem.
- Second, while monetary union is clearly not for the very short run, I would not wish to push it over the horizon. We should be prepared to take preparatory decisions and proceed as fast as those who want to succeed together can be convinced of the arguments. To those who would prefer to fail separately, I have nothing to say. To those who wish to succeed together but need to be convinced, there is a great deal to say.

If a new design for the Community's monetary union and economic integration gains support in the debate that we are now initiating—in all the Community's institutions and in the public at large—then we should look very seriously again at the length of the time—horizon.

- Third, and for the short run, I would by no means underestimate the favourable effect on business confidence in Europe of the Community deciding to embark again seriously on a renewed and intensified approach to economic and monetary union.

In conclusion, Mr JENKINS summarized the contribution which the Economic and Social Committee could make to the debate on economic and monetary union and said:

- "- On the one hand try and deepen understanding and consensus as to why, how and in what conditions monetary union would change so much for the better, our prospects for employment and stable monetary conditions.
- On the other hand try and clarify the kind of model for the Community's monetary, financial and institutional organization that would enable the union to function, while respecting the political objective of only a minimum centralization."

Finally, I asked the European Council and I now ask you of the Economic and Social Committee to deliberate in such a way as to reawaken interest outside the Community institutions in this project in political, academic, business and trade union circles. The issues at stake are so great and so difficult that we can only benefit from



From left to right: Mr Basil de FERRANTI, Committee Chairman, and Mr Roy JENKINS, Commission President.

a period of renewed debate and analysis across the whole of the Community. I believe the fundamental proposition is robust enough to derive increased vigour and support from such a process. Economic and monetary union will in any case have to come to be seen as a compelling necessity by a wide range of public opinion before it can happen. But without the will to make it happen and to direct our intermediate policies, we should be without a lodestar in an increasingly discouraging world.

Earlier at the same session, the Economic and Social Committee decided to launch an own-initiative Opinion on the international monetary situation. In an extensive debate, representatives of the Employers' Group, the Workers' Group and of the Various Interests Group expressed their deep concern at the situation caused by the fluctuations in exchange rates culminating in the sharp drop in the value of the US dollar on the exchange markets. They underlined the effects such developments would have on the economy and employment situation in the Community.

Opinions adopted

1. Farm prices - Beef and Veal

Communication from the Commission to the Council on the Amendment of the Common Organization of the Market in Beef and Veal

Report by the Commission to the Council on the respective merits of the Systems of Premiums and Intervention Measures in the Beef and Veal Sector.

Gist of the Proposal

The Commission proposes introducing a coherent set of measures for dealing with both shortages and surpluses on the market. A combination of the traditional system of intervention and variable producer premiums would, in the Commission's view, permit the smooth running of the markets, to the benefit of both producers and consumers. The Commission is concerned firstly, to continue providing farmers with firm income guarantees and, secondly, to stimulate the consumption of beef and veal. The Commission also thinks that the prices paid by consumers for beef and veal are not competitive enough in relation to other meat prices and that there is a need for a careful pricing policy.

Gist of the Opinion

The Economic and Social Committee adopted its Opinion by 50 votes in favour, 19 against and 15 abstentions.

The Committee broadly approved the changes envisaged by the Commission.

When it made its definitive proposals the Commission should, however, provide more details in order to ensure correct application of the slaughter grant, the variable grant and the intervention system.

The Committee noted that the Commission did not intend to make any radical changes in the policy on trade with non-member countries. The Committee urged that farmers should not continue to carry an excessive share of the burden resulting from the relevant agreements.

Finally, a wide-ranging assessment of the changes to be made to the common organization of the market in beef and veal should also cover the following points:

- ways of ensuring that supplies reach consumers at reasonable prices;
- improvements in the marketing system;
- alignment of national laws on veterinary matters and animal feed;
- establishment of marketing standards for processed products.

The Committee based its Opinion on material prepared by its Section for Agriculture under the chairmanship of Mr EMO CAPODILISTA - Italy - Various Interests. The Rapporteur was Mr SCHNIEDERS - Germany - Employers.

2. Exchange Rates

Proposal for a Council Regulation on the Exchange Rates to be used in Agricultural Structural Policy.

Gist of the Proposal

To avoid the drawbacks resulting from frequent changes in the conversion rates, while bearing in mind that the success of the measures introduced with a view to improving agricultural structures depends on the level of the aid provided for in the agricultural instruments being maintained at its real value in the event of payment being spread out over several years, it is proposed that:

- 1) for the purposes of the structures policy the representative rates should be brought into line with economic reality once a year. Since the accounting year for eligible expenditure under the EAGGF Guidance Section coincides with the calendar year, the date of entry into force of the new representative rates should be 1 January of the following year;
- either because it is payable in several instalments, or because it is payable for a number of years the equivalent in national currency of the amount due and the amount of expenditure eligible for assistance from the Fund should be determined, in the event of devaluation of the representative rate for a national currency on the basis of the representative rate in force on 1 January of the year during which the instalment in question is payable.

Gist of the Opinion

The Economic and Social Committee adopted its Opinion by a large majority with 1 vote against and no abstentions.

The Committee is in favour of making procedures more flexible in order to increase the effectiveness of the EAGFF.

The changes must not, however, lead to distortions which would be harmful to recipients of aid, particularly in Member States with weak currencies.

The Committee based its Opinion on material prepared by its Section for Agriculture under the chairmanship of Mr EMO CAPODILISTA - Italy - Various Interests. The Rapporteur was Mr ROUZIER - France - Workers.

3. Physical Properties of Food

Proposal for a Council Decision adopting a concerted action Project of the European Economic Community in the field of Physical Properties of Foodstuffs

Gist of the Commission's Proposal

Agricultural products which are used in the manufacture of foodstuffs are subjected to a series of extremely powerful and varied physical or chemical stresses and thus undergo very considerable changes. In spite of the state of development of research facilities, it is very difficult to know how the raw material reacts physically during these changes.

There are a great many studies in this field but the results are rarely available and difficult to interpret. Furthermore, the laboratories work independently of each other.

The proposal for a research programme is consequent upon a request made by the Swedish delegation in COST (*). It constitutes the first phase of a coordination project in the field of foodstuffs. The second phase will concern the organoleptic and nutritional properties of foodstuffs.

^(*) European co-operation in the field of scientific and technical research.

The aim of the research programme is to make available to the food industry data relating to the physical properties of finished food products or foods in the course of industrial processing.

The Commission has carried out a survey among all research centres, except those belonging to private industry, in the Community countries. This survey made it possible:

- to select the products and properties for the initial projects,
- to identify the centres already working in this field and willing to participate in a concerted action.

The proposed research will cover the following aspects of foodstuffs:

- rheological properties,
- water activity,
- thermal properties.

The data assembled by the laboratories will be processed and stored in a data bank.

The centre which will be responsible for setting up and managing the data bank will also have to redistribute the data to the research centres participating in the programme.

The project will be implemented in the form of a concerted action. Non-member countries will be invited to participate.

The total financial cost of the research carried out in this field in the Member States is assessed at 7.5 million u.a. over a period of three years.

Gist of the Opinion

The Economic and Social Committee adopted its Opinion unanimously.

The Committee is pleased that the Community recognizes the usefulness of the proposed research, both from the point of view of developing the food-processing industry and from the point of view of improving the quality of food.

The Committee therefore approves one of the basic proposals of the Commission, namely that data compiled by laboratories should be collected, processed and made available to the research centres participating in the project.

However, as part of the process of Community-level alignment, it may be necessary to amend Member States' food legislation so as to enable research findings to be put into effect.

The Committee would also draw attention to a view expressed in its Opinion of 24 May 1973 on the Proposal for a Council Regulation on the Co-ordination of Agricultural Research (OJ No. C 69/73), namely that all research in agriculture must of necessity include the "agricultural and food industries".

As far as the research topics which it is proposed to coordinate are concerned, the Committee wonders whether other topics could not have been included, such as the visual and mechanical properties of foodstuffs.

The Committee hopes that in future the Commission will play a more active role by itself proposing new topics of Community interest that can be incorporated into the general framework of its research programme.

As far as the phase two studies on the organoleptic and nutritional properties of foodstuffs are concerned, the Committee considers it essential for private-sector research centres, consumers and farmers associations to be consulted in good time and asked to make a maximum contribution to the research planned.

The Committee based its Opinion on material prepared by its Section for Industry, Commerce, Crafts and Services under the chairmanship of Mr HETMER - Luxembourg - Employers. The Rapporteur was Mr BOUREL - France - Employers.

4 - 5 - 6 Colouring Matters - Antioxidants - Preservatives

- Proposal for a Council Directive amending for the sixth time the Council Directive of 23 October 1962 on the Approximation of the Rules of the Member States concerning the Colouring Matters authorized for Use in Foodstuffs Intended for Human Consumption
- Proposal for a Council Directive amending for the Thirteenth Time Directive 64/54/EEC on the Approximation of the Laws of the Member States concerning the Preservatives Authorized for Use in Foodstuffs intended for Human Consumption.

Proposal for a Council Directive amending for the Second time Directive 70/357/EEC on the Approximation of the Laws of the Member States concerning the Antioxidants Authorized for Use in Foodstuffs Intended for Human Consumption.

Gist of the Commission's proposal (colouring matters)

The Commission proposes that a number of substances should be allowed to be used for both mass and surface colouring and that the colourant, riboflavin, should be replaced by riboflavin-5-phosphate. Furthermore, amendment of Annex II to the 1962 Directive is proposed on the basis of Opinions delivered by the Scientific Committee for Food.

Gist of the Commission's proposal (antioxidants)

The Commission suggests that the use of ethoxyquin for applications should continue to be authorized until 31 December 1980 and that, in keeping with the latest scientific and toxicological findings, the substances E 310 (propyl gallate) and E 342 (calcium disodium ethylene diamine tetra-acetate) should be included definitively in the Community list.

Gist of the Commission's proposal (preservatives)

The Commission proposes that the examination of the substances listed in the Treaty of Accession of the new Member States should be completed with a view to their possible inclusion in the Directive on Preservatives. In particular it is proposed that (a) given the current state of research, Member States should be able to authorize the use of liquid smoke solutions in foodstuffs until 31 December 1980 and (b) the preservative formaldehyde should be able to be used in "Grana padano" cheese provided that no residue of the preservative is detectable in the finished product.

Gist of the Opinions

The Economic and Social Committee adopted by 58 votes in favour and 13 abstentions its Opinion on colouring matters and unanimously adopted its Opinions on antioxidants and preservatives.

The Committee was asked for its comments on these three Commission proposals at such a late date that the consultation procedure as laid down in the Treaty of Rome, is in danger of being emasculated.

The Committee does not give blanket approval to the Commission's proposals. It is against the widescale use of additives on which the Scientific Committee for Food has not passed final comment. However, since toxicological tests are due to be carried out in 1978, the temporary derogations allowing some Member States to authorize the use of the colouring matters could be extended.

Furthermore, the Committee endorses use of the additives in question being allowed only insofar as the Scientific Committee for Food has given its approval. Their fields of application should be specified, especially when the acceptable daily intake (ADI) is very low.

The Committee also calls for adequate consumer information along the lines prescribed for diphenyl. This is particularly necessary in the case of ethoxyquin, a pesticide for treating harvested apples and pears.

The Committee based its Opinions on material prepared by its Section for Protection of the Environment, Public Health and Consumer Affairs under the chairmanship of Mr ROSEINGRAVE - Ireland - Various Interests. The Rapporteur was Mr DE GRAVE - Belgium - Workers.

7. Swine fever

Proposal for a Council Directive Extending the Derogations Granted in respect of Classical Swine Fever in Denmark, Ireland and the United Kingdom.

Gist of the proposal

Because of their specific requirements and the effect of existing legislation, Denmark, Ireland and the United Kingdom were authorized to retain for a specific period their national rules designed to provide protection against classical swine fever. That period was to be used to study and prepare Community rules which would ensure maximum fluidity in intra-Community trade whilst protecting the health standards already attained.

There proved to be more technical difficulties than anticipated and a new factor emerged when, upon adoption of a Directive in December 1976, the Council requested the Commission to propose measures to eradicate swine fever in the Community. These proposals are now being prepared and their contents will influence the ways in which trade will be affected by any guarantees required as regards swine fever. Work on these matters will have to be conducted simultaneously.

It is therefore proposed that the deadline of 31 December 1977, the date on which the derogations granted to the three Member States concerned will cease to apply, be extended by one year.

Gist of the Opinion

The Economic and Social Committee adopted its Opinion unanimously.

The Committee regrets the delays in the alignment of national veterinary legislation which the renewed extension is bound to cause.

The Committee based its Opinion on material prepared by its Section for Agriculture under the chairmanship of Mr EMO CAPODILISTA - Italy - Various Interests. The Rapporteur was Mr SCHNIEDERS - Germany - Employers.

8. Paper and Board Recycling

Proposal for a Multiannual Programme of Research and Development in the European Communities on Paper and Board Recycling.

Gist of the Commission's proposal

The present proposal concerns a Community R & D programme in the field of paper and board recycling.

.../...

The programme has been prompted in the main by the need to solve the raw material supply problems of the Community's paper and board industry and to improve the management of wastes, as foreseen in the action programme of the European Communities on the environment.

From a technical angle, it appears that, in order to reutilize more old paper and board, it will be necessary to upgrade all types of old paper through new and more suitable technologies and processes.

Four major research topics have been selected:

- 1st topic: Characterization of reclaimed fibres, their upgrading by various processes, and the effects of multiple recycling on paper-making fibres;
- 2nd topic: Elimination of the detrimental effect of contaminants in waste paper including the dispersion of themo-softening contaminants;
- 3rd topic: De-inking, including the relationship between different types of ink and de-inking, and the treatment of effluent from waste paper recycling plants;
- 4th topic: Use of urban fibres, including technological characterization of solid urban waste and health problems caused by the use of recycled fibres.

The programme will take the form of contracts awarded to private and public research organizations in the Member States and financed partly by the Community.

The maximum Community contribution for the whole of the three-year programme (1978-1980) is estimated at 2,900,000 UA.

Gist of the Opinion

The Economic and Social Committee adopted its Opinion unanimously.

The proposed programme is part of the policy being worked out by the Commission on the better use of raw materials. Its objectives are primarily to (i) make better use of raw materials, (ii) reduce water consumption and (iii) reduce energy consumption.

The Committee particularly urges that the use of waste paper should not be unduly constrained by national standards.

As regards financing the programme, the Committee feels that the Commission ought to try and increase the proportional share of costs borne by both the Community and the Member States.

The Committee thinks that the following additional measures need to be taken as part of implementing the programme:

- Local and national authorities should be prevailed upon to step up the collection of waste paper and run campaigns to get the public to do the same;
- A study should be conducted into all aspects of re-afforestation, including the effects of afforestation on agriculture;

- The Community should encourage a constant interchange of information on how to improve the recovery rate of waste paper;
- There should be an investigation into why more use is not made of waste paper.

The Committee based its Opinion on material prepared by its Section for Industry, Commerce, Crafts and Services under the chairmanship of Mr HENMER - Luxembourg - Employers. The Rapporteur was Mr MASPRONE - Italy- Employers.

9. Large Urban Concentrations

Proposal for a Decision (EEC) of the Council Adopting a Concerted Research Action on the growth of Large Urban Concentrations.

Gist of the Commission proposal

The Commission proposes a programme of research on the growth of large urban concentrations. The object of the programme, which takes the form of a "concerted action", is to provide Community-level coordination for research projects in this field which are financed and executed in the Member States.

The Commission will be responsible for coordination of the research activities included in the programme. Provision is made for the setting-up of a Concerted Action Committee to assist the Commission in this task.

Three major subjects are to be studied under the programme. These are:

- location of economic activities,

- migration,
- evaluation of urban planning and policies.

The Community's financial contribution to the programme is put at 200,000 EUA. This sum will be devoted to coordination.

Article 6 of the draft Decision makes provision for the participation of non-Member States involved in European Cooperation in the Field of Scientific and Technical Research (COST).

On or before completion of the two-year exploratory programme, the Commission is to review the results obtained with a view to putting forward proposals regarding the content and organization of a new, more extensive programme.

Gist of the Opinion

The Economic and Social Committee adopted its Opinion unanimously.

The Committee holds the view that there are serious economic and social problems arising from the growth of large urban concentrations.

It is aware that the responsibility for programmes to tackle the problems of a large number of urban concentrations, the character of which is often very disparate, rests with the Member State Governments and their regional and local administrations. Coordination and exchange of information is of great importance to the Member States and this is a task for the Community institutions and the terms of the proposed Council Decision in this respect are welcome.

The Committee is also of the opinion that the Community must use its position to stimulate action based on a sense of urgency.

In particular, examinations should be made into ways and means of reinforcing the Regional Fund and the Social Fund to assist in fulfilling this objective.

The Committee recommends that within the terms of the Decision provision should be made for gathering together the findings of these studies into urban growth and making the information available to the Member States. These studies should be analyzed for:

- all common factors, economic or social, that have given rise to the growth of the concentration, including the tendency for the concentrations to generate their own growth;
- details of planning solutions that have been applied but which have created additional problems;
- details of planning controls which appear to have been helpful in achieving beneficial growth or containing growth.

The Committee based its Opinion on material prepared by its Section for Regional Development, under the chairmanship of Mr LAVAL - France - Workers. The Rapporteur was Mr REES - United Kingdom - Various Interests.

II

EXTERNAL RELATIONS

1. Bureau meets in Manchester

The Committee Bureau met in Manchester (UK) on 1 and 2 December. The chair was taken by Mr Basil de FERRANTI.

The discussion centred on the Committee's contribution to Community action for direct election of the European Parliament. While in the United Kingdom, the Bureau visited the ICI plant in Blackley.

2. Study Group makes Fact-Finding Visit to UK

From 18 to 20 December, a Committee Study Group visited the UK nuclear facilities at Dounreay. The Chairman was Mr PICARD.

III

NEW REQUESTS FOR OPINIONS

The Council referred the following proposals to the Committee in the month under review:

Proposal for a Council Regulation on the Statistical Surveys of the Areas under Vines.

Proposal for a Council Regulation (EEC) amending Regulation (EEC) 516/72 of 28 February 1972 on the introduction of Common Rules for Shuttle Services by Coach and Bus between Member States.

Proposal for a Council Regulation (EEC) amending Regulation (EEC) No. 517/72 of 28 February 1972 on the Introduction of Common Rules for Regular and Special Regular Services by Coach and Bus between Member States.

Proposal for a Council Directive amending Council Directive No. 72/159/EEC of 17 April 1972 on the modernization of farms.

Proposal for a Council Directive amending Council Directive No. 75/268/EEC of 28 April 1975 on mountain and hill farming and farming in certain less-favoured areas.

Proposal for a Council Directive amending Council Directive No. 72/160/EEC of 17 April 1972 concerning measures to encourage the cessation of farming and the reallocation of utilized agricultural area for the purposes of structural improvement

Proposal for a Council Decision concerning the Programme to Accelerate Drainage Operations in the Less-Favoured Areas in the West of Ireland.

Proposal for a Decision of the Council on the Financial Contribution of the Community to Inspection and Surveillarce Operations in the Maritime Waters of Denmark and Ireland.

Proposal for a Council Directive amedning for the first time Directive No. 76/118/EEC on the Approximation of the Laws of the Member States relating to Certain Partly or Wholly Dehydrated Preserved Milk for Human Consumption.

The Committee will shortly be asked to deliver an Opinion on the :

Proposal for a Council Directive Amending for the Fifth Time Directive 73/241/EEC on the Approximation of the Laws of the Member States relating to Cocoa and Chocolate Products Intended for Human Consumption.

Community Action in the Field of Culture.

RIGHT OF INITIATIVE

At its 154th Plenary Session, the Committee decided to draw up an "initiative" Opinion on:

Communication from the Commission to the Council on Priority Business for a Council Working Programme to 1980 in the Transport Sector.

IV

PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME OF FUTURE WORK

January 1978 Plenary Session

Requested Opinions

- Fisheries : Adjustment of Capacities
- Conversion Rates in the Agricultural Sector
- Animal Feedstuffs
- Alcohol
- Drivers' Seats on Tractors
- Aid to Shipbuilding
- Defective Products
- Green Paper

Own-Initiative Opinions

- Starch
- Influence of Committee

February 1978 Plenary Session

Requested Opinions

- Farm Prices
- Fisheries other Opinions
- Survey of Areas under Vines
- Amendment Shuttle Services
- Amendment Regular and Regular Special Services
- Energy Objectives 1985
- Hot Water Meters
- Fluorocarbons
- Home-Based Courses

Own-Initiative Opinions

- Export Credits
- Education and Vocational Training of Young People

Study

- Tax Harmonization

Subsequent Plenary Sessions

Requested Opinions

- Reprocessing of Nuclear Fuels
- Fast Breeders
- Radioactive Waste
- Prepackaged Liquids
- Economic Situation of Community

Own-Initiative Opinions

- Mediterranean Agriculture
- Forestry
- Customs Union
- Part-Time Working
- Consumption of Drugs
- Frontier Workers
- Lomé

Studies

- Relations between Community and Greece
- Relations between Community and State-Trading Countries
- Relations between Community and Spain
- Asbestos
- Consumer Protection

V

MEMBERS' NEWS

Resignations

Mrs BENNEDSEN and Mr de VRIES REILINGH have resigned their posts as members of the Committee.

Appointments

Mr MAHER, Committee member and President of the Irish Agricultural Organization Society), is the first citizen of the three new Member States to be elected President of COGECA.

Mr WICK, Committee member and Secretary-General of the Deutscher Raiffeisenverband (German farm cooperatives) has been elected Deputy Vice Chairman by the Executive Committee of COGECA.

PUBLICATIONS OBTAINABLE FROM THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE

Periodical

- Bulletin (monthly publication)

General Documentation

- The Economic and Social Committee (leaflet) (January 1975)
- The Economic and Social Committee (April 1975) (A descriptive brochure) 16 p.
- Annual Report (1976) 80 p. (1975) 62 p. (1974) 60 p. (1973) 64 p.
- Directory (January 1977)
 (List of members) 42 p.

Opinions and Studies

- Community Nuclear Safety Code (July 1977) (Study) 50 p.
- -- Regional Development Unemployment and Inflation (June 1977) (Opinion) 130 p.
- Research and Development (November 1976) (Study) 35 p.
- Systems of education and vocational training (August 1976) (Study) 114 p.
- Regional Policy (March 1976)
 (Opinion) 11 p.
- European Union (July 1975)(Opinion) 33 p.
- Progress Report on the Common Agricultural Policy (February 1975) (Study) 52 p.
- The Situation of Small and Medium-sized Undertakings in the European Community (March 1975) (Study) 69 p.