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COMMON MARKET • EURATOM • COAL & STEEL COMMUNITY

COMMON MARKET GRANTS MADE  
FOR RETRAINING WORKERS

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WASHINGTON, D.C., May 19--The Social Fund of the European Economic Community announced today in Brussels grants in aid of \$5,087,210 in its readaptation program for workers in the Common Market.

The grants are the first in the program, set up in 1960.

The Fund, acting on a decision of the EEC Commission, granted \$461,421 to Belgium and \$4,625,789 to France. Each country will match the grant with an equal sum of its own.

Similar decisions are expected in the next few weeks for the other Common Market members, except Luxembourg, which has not applied for the assistance. The Social Fund was established for retraining and resettlement of workers unemployed because of shifts in industry in the Common Market caused by increasing economic integration and resulting efficiency.

Under certain conditions, workers become eligible for retraining for both reemployment and resettlement. The Fund meets 50 per cent of these costs and the member states make up the remainder.

These first grants -- specifically earmarked for retraining -- are to cover programs already carried out in 1958 and 1959.

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