

European Community



October/November 1977

Energy, Enlargement are Key EC Issues



EC Commission President Roy Jenkins greets Greece's Minister for Economic Planning Pahayotis Papaigouras.

The proposed enlargement of the EC and the continuing drain on European economies by inflation and unemployment are the two issues of "overriding importance" for future Community action, according to EC Commission President Roy Jenkins.

He told the European Parliament that economic rejuvenation and enlargement were also crucial in

European Integration Journal Launched in Canada

A *Journal of European Integration* has been launched by the Centre d'études et de documentation européennes (CEDE) of the University of Montréal. To be published three times a year, the journal is edited by Panayotis Soldatos, of the University of Montréal, and Charles Pentland, of Queen's University.

Subscriptions (\$14 a year) can be ordered from CEDE, 5255 avenue Decelles, Montréal, Québec H3T 1V6.

EC Major Market for Canada's Farm Goods

The EC was Canada's major export market for farm goods last year, taking \$890 million of the \$3.6 billion total; it was followed by:

— Japan \$778 million, — the US \$574 million, — the USSR \$361 million, — and China \$144 million.

Vegetable and potato exports increased by \$33 million to \$115 million, mainly because of a rise in potato shipments to the EC, following a drought in Western Europe.

stimulating European voter interest in the direct election of the European Parliament, scheduled for next year.

On the anticipated accession during the 1980s of Greece, Portugal and Spain, Mr. Jenkins said a "politically acceptable response" should include a reform of "already creaking" EC institutions, a special approach to Mediterranean agriculture and recognition of the economic and structural problems involved.

Calling the current economic malaise "one of the most debilitating political diseases we have suffered since the Community began", Mr. Jenkins offered two solutions for combatting it: "either the pseudo-solution of national protectionism — and we know where that led in the 1930s — or a disciplined Community approach".

The President said a better coordination of Community financial instruments and a proposed programme of borrowing more than \$1 billion on the international capital markets should strengthen the Community approach.

BC Mission Holds Trade Talks with EC

With the EC Commission's help, British Columbia hopes to increase its output, and export to the EC, of non-ferrous metals, forest products and metallurgical coal.

This follows the visit of a BC trade mission, led by Premier William Bennett, to EC headquarters in Brussels in September.

The BC team, which included Finance Minister Evan Wolfe and Economic Development Minister Donald Phillips, met EC Commission President Roy Jenkins and Commissioner Etienne Davignon, as well as various Commission officials.

It was agreed that the two sides would examine the feasibility of EC firms helping to develop the province's reserves of coal and non-ferrous metals and its pulp-processing capacity. The goal would be to reconcile the EC's concern over long-term supply and BC's concern over guaranteed demand for its products.

The machinery set up under the EC-Canada Framework Agreement — the Joint Cooperation Committee and its sub-committees — would be used to assess particular projects.

During the two-week mission to Europe Mr. Bennett also met Prime Ministers James Callaghan of Britain,



French Prime Minister Raymond Barre welcomes BC Premier William Bennett in Paris.

Leo Tindemans of Belgium and Raymond Barre of France.

The BC Premier told a Paris press conference: "We found that in most cases European businessmen, with the exception of those who already have interests in our province, know very little about BC.

"They automatically think of us as traders around the Pacific Rim and not with the EC, mainly because of the distances involved. In many cases, they know very little about Canada itself, with the exception of Ontario and Quebec.

"However, they need markets for their products and increased economic activity in our province will expand the market and they are aware of this".

Electronics: EC, Canada seek to cooperate

The EC and Canada are looking for ways of promoting industrial cooperation in the field of peri-informatics. This is one of the first concrete initiatives taken as a result of the EC-Canada Framework Agreement signed in July 1976. Peri-informatics covers mini-computers, data processing and terminals equipment.

The programme aims to bring together prospective partners in this growing field and the two sides expect that medium and smaller-sized Canadian and European companies trying to break into new markets will be especially interested in such cooperation.

Both the Canadian Department of External Affairs and the EC Commission, in liaison with Community and national industry associations, are drawing up lists of potential partners.

EC-Canada Talks on Fisheries

Canadian Fisheries Minister Roméo Leblanc had talks with EC Fisheries Commissioner Finn-Olav Gundelach and Commission officials in Brussels on 29 September on an EC-Canada fisheries agreement and the 11-21 October meeting in Ottawa of ICNAF (International Commission for North-west Atlantic Fisheries). All EC member states (except Luxembourg, Belgium and the Netherlands) were members of the eighteen-member ICNAF, but now the EC Commission has been given authority to act on their behalf.

Germany and France are the EC countries most active in the Canadian zone, where EC countries have been allowed to go on fishing this year in the context of quotas agreed on in ICNAF and applied by Canada in its own zone. In the case of France there is a special interim arrangement because France negotiated a bilateral agreement with Canada in 1972 which covers fishing in the area around the French *département* of St. Pierre-et-Miquelon. In these waters Canada has traditional fishing rights and catches almost 70,000 tons. Future fishing rights in this area will be one issue in EC-Canada negotiations.

Baby seals: Canada not approached

Baby seals will still be found in the form of furs and après-ski boots in the European Community.

In answer to a question raised in the European Parliament, the Commission said it had not approached the Canadian Government about the protection of baby seals. The seals are not classified as endangered animals and the Commission has no intention, for the time being, of proposing that the use of baby seal skins in the EC be prohibited.

Two Canadian in Bruges

Two federal government officials are spending the current academic year studying European integration at the College of Europe in Bruges, Belgium.

Louise Fréchette, from the Department of External Affairs, and Jean-Marc Duval, of the Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce, will be the first Canadian officials to be seconded to the College by the federal government.

If the project succeeds, other officials may follow them in coming years.

Energy

Brunner: EC Must Limit Oil Imports

To reduce the EC's dependence on imported energy, particularly imported oil, the Commission has urged that net Community imports be limited to 500 million tons by 1985.

Addressing an International Energy Agency meeting in Paris in October Energy Commissioner Guido Brunner said that to reduce further the EC's vulnerability to oil supply difficulties, the Nine had established an emergency oil-sharing scheme and were



EC Energy Commissioner Guido Brunner

close to agreeing on measures for the reduction of consumption in emergency circumstances.

He noted that the Commission's proposals for a wider supply base involve, for 1985, a fall in the share of oil to 50%, from over 55% in 1976, a rise in the share of coal, increased supplies of oil and gas from the North Sea, and elsewhere outside the Community, and an increase in the share of nuclear energy to almost 10 per cent.

EC "Like a Tortoise"

"I sometimes think the European Community has the qualities of the tortoise in my garden. If I sit in my deck chair and watch it closely it never seems to move, but if I sensibly fall asleep, by the time I wake up it has covered a remarkable amount of ground." Lord Thomson, EC Commissioner 1973-76, in *Lloyds Bank Review*.

EC Funds for Uranium Exploration

The EC Commission has allocated some \$6 million over a period of three years to 13 uranium prospection projects in the Community.

The EC is highly dependent — about 80% — on non-EC suppliers for uranium, which is a vital raw material for its nuclear power programme. Commission funds will aid projects in Ireland, Belgium, Germany, Greenland and Italy.

The Commission has also put forward a multi-annual Research and Development programme to improve knowledge of uranium deposits in and outside the Community by developing prospecting methods and techniques for obtaining uranium from low-grade deposits.

Economy

Code for Stocks and Shares Urged

The EC Commission has recommended the introduction of a code of conduct for security transactions. Worked out by experts in stock market and investment operations, the code forms part of the programme for integrating capital markets in the EC. Common principles for transactions should gradually remove disparities in dealing techniques and contribute to the growth of public confidence in stock exchanges, the Commission maintains.

The main proposals are that:

- * accurate, readily understood, and timely information about any security be available to the public;
- * all shareholders be treated alike in a given situation;
- * company supervisory boards, directors, and managers ensure fair dealings, even if observance of the code's objectives results in them having to forego short-term gains.

The principles are already widely accepted in the EC, but the code would clarify their interpretation.

EC Studies Poverty

Just over half (52%) of all EC citizens say they regularly have to economize; 11 per cent say they even have to economize on food, according to an EC opinion poll. The survey was one of 21 pilot schemes and studies carried out to combat poverty.

Eight per cent of Europe's population considers itself really poor, and

one in four (28%) feels his income is lower than the minimum he thinks essential. The reasons for the existence of poverty differed from region to region: the British condemn the "laziness or lack of good will" in the individual; the French and Italians attribute poverty to the "injustice of society", and the Irish put the blame on drink.

Aviation

EC Aviation Research Plan

Helicopters and airframes are the sectors chosen by the EC Commission as priority areas for a first EC aeronautical research programme.

Major European companies are already involved in industrial collaboration in this field, and EC-wide collaboration between industry and research centres will avoid duplication, the Commission points out.

The technological objectives for the helicopter sector are to widen the scope for the use of helicopters in the civil field by improving fuel economy, safety, instrument flight capability and reducing noise and vibration.

The airframe proposals are aimed at increasing structural life and reducing maintenance costs through a better understanding of fatigue and fracture mechanics in metal and composite structures.

Recently, discussions have started between EC Commission representatives and the Canadian Government in order to examine the possibilities for industrial cooperation under the EC-Canada Framework Agreement in the field of aeronautics.

Agriculture

Beef: New Plan to Boost Sales

The Commission Vice-President responsible for agriculture, Finn-Olav Gundelach, has announced a new system of operating the Community beef market — to reduce the beef "mountain" and boost consumption.

The package of proposals includes a less generous buying-in intervention scheme, variable premium payments (similar to the original British system of deficiency payments), which prop up farmers' incomes without pushing up prices and hitting consumption, financing aid for private stockpiling, and the prospect of emergency slaughter premiums in times of shortage.

Politics

UK Labour Party Wants "In"

At the Labour Party's annual conference in Brighton the long-standing question of continued British membership of the EC was finally put aside.

In a debate on the EC, the crucial decision was to remit to the Party's National Executive Committee a motion that would have committed the Government to withdraw from the Community unless basic reforms were achieved.

The decision, which had the effect of defusing the argument, followed a letter from Prime Minister James Callaghan to the NEC a few days before the conference began, offering talks on a series of EC issues causing anxiety. In this letter Mr. Callaghan called for greater UK participation in the Community and stressed the need to reassure Britain's EC partners over direct elections to the European Parliament.



Social policy

Easier Integration for Migrant Children

It is going to be easier for the 1 1/2 million children of migrant workers in the EC to adjust to their host country.

EC Social Affairs Ministers have adopted a directive to ensure that schools take into account the special needs of these children. Although the directive applies specifically to the 1/2 million children of EC nationals,

ministers expressed a desire to see all migrant children included.

Schools will make a special effort to teach migrant children the language of the host country, as well as instructing them in their native language.

Labour

Beer 'n' Butter Blues

The British and Irish labour longer for a libation than their fellow EC citizenry.

The average Irishman toils 28 minutes, 30 seconds for his litre of stout, and the Briton 24 minutes, five seconds for an ale, while the lucky Luxembourger has earned his litre of lager after only nine minutes, six seconds. The Luxembourger, however, won't butter his bread on both sides, as he labours 53 minutes and 50 seconds for one kilogram of salted, pasteurized butter, and the Italian almost two hours, while the British butter their bread after only 35 minutes and 20 seconds.

These figures, from a Commission reply to a European parliamentarian's question, should be interpreted with some caution; the reply also quotes figures for milk, gasoline, whisky and beef.

European Nurses

Within two years the Community's 700,000 nurses will be free to look for work in any EC region of their choice. The Community has managed to get member countries to recognize one another's nursing diplomas and has coordinated national provisions governing the profession.

A minimum level of training will be guaranteed in every Community country and will comprise general school education of at least ten years and specific professional training for three years or 4,600 hours. Currently training lasts from two to three and a half years.

Consumers

Food Additives: Stricter Controls Sought

To supplement and revise existing rules, the EC Commission has proposed that member states introduce stricter controls on emulsifiers, stabilizers, thickeners, and gelatinous products used in foodstuffs.

The proposal says their use should be permitted only where there is no danger to human health and where there is a proven technological need.

EC Major Importer of Wood

The European Community currently provides 40-45 per cent of the wood and wood products it needs. Its annual trade deficit in wood and wood products is between \$9.6 million and \$12 million. Wood and wood products are the second largest deficit item in the EC's foreign trade, surpassed only by petroleum products.

Community-wide demand for wood and wood products is expected to grow by around two per cent a year in 1970-90; Community production is likely to grow by about one per cent a year over the same period. The Community's imports of wood and wood products are therefore bound to rise.

Of the nine EC member states, France has the largest portion of the Community's forest land, possessing 45 per cent of the EC total of 31 million hectares. Germany has 23 per cent, Italy 20 per cent and the United Kingdom six per cent; the five other member states account for six per cent of the total.

The percentage of member states' land area covered by forests fluctuates around the Community average of 20 per cent. Luxembourg leads the way with 32 per cent, followed by 29 per cent in Germany, 25 per cent in France, four per cent in Ireland, seven per cent in the Netherlands and eight per cent in the United Kingdom.

EC Diary

August

23. EC condemns apartheid at UN conference in Lagos.

September

16. British Columbia Premier William Bennett visits Brussels for trade talks with EC.

20. EC adopts code of conduct for EC firms operating in South Africa.

22. EC and Comecon agree to negotiate closer economic links next spring.

24. Canadian Fisheries Minister Roméo Leblanc in Brussels for talks with EC Commission on fisheries.

28. EC Commission proposes negotiations for trade agreement with China.

October

7. European Patent Convention enters into force.

EC in print

The following EC publications are available free of charge, in French and English, from the European Community Information Service, 350 Sparks Street, Suite 1110, Ottawa, Ontario K1R 7S8.

Working Together. The Institutions of the European Community. A detailed description of the institutional system of the EC. 1977.

Towards a European Education Policy. 1977.

The European Community and the Developing Countries. 1977.

The European Development Fund: Access to Contracts. 1977.

Newsletter on the Common Agricultural Policy. Mediterranean Agricultural Problems. #5, May 1977.

Euro Abstracts. Coal and Steel Research Programmes and Agreements. Section II. Scientific and Technical Publications and Patents. Volume 3, February-April 1977. Monthly.

Information Notes

Canada and the EC.

The EEC and the USA: Recent Trends in Trade and Investment.

The EEC System of Generalized Preferences.

Freedom of Lawyers to Provide Services in the Community.

India and the EC.

Japan and the EC.

New Zealand and the EC: Notes on the Commercial and Economic Aspects.

Relations between the EC and EFTA Member Countries: Austria, Switzerland, Norway, Sweden, Finland and Iceland.

Relations between the EC and Portugal.

The following selection of official EC publications can be obtained from the Office of Official Publications of the European Community, Post Office Box 1003, Luxembourg.

Unless otherwise indicated, the publi-

Underwater Eurocrats

Who said bureaucrats lead a sedentary life?

A leaflet explaining to EC officials how they are covered against accidents and occupational diseases says injuries resulting from boxing, karate, underwater fishing and parachuting are covered only if they occur "in the course of or in connection with performance of official duties".

It also reveals that "the following shall, inter alia, be considered accidents:.... the unexplained disappearance of an official."

cations are available in French and English.

The Evaluation of Vocational Training in the EC. Results of a seminar conducted at the University of Manchester, Great Britain.

1975 \$ 3.50

Practical Guide to the Use of the European Communities' Scheme of Generalized Tariff Preferences. May 1977 \$ 4.70

Comparative Tables of the Social Security System in the Member States of the European Communities. General System. July 1976 \$ 4.75

The Development of Cooperation Policies of the European Community for 1971 to 1976. April 1977 \$ 1.75

Overcoming the Language Barrier. Third European Congress on Information Systems and Networks. 2 Volumes. EC Directorate General for Scientific and Technical Information and Information Management. 1977 \$60.00

Eurostat. Balance of Payments. Geographical Breakdown. 1971 to 1975 \$13.40

Eurostat. National Accounts. Detailed Tables. 1970 to 1975 \$18.

Euro Abstracts. Section I. Euratom and EEC Research, Scientific and Technical Publications and Patents \$29.30/year.

Others

Tax Planning for Business in Europe. Roy Saunders. Butterworths, London. 1977.

Europe and the World: External Relations of the Common Market. Edited by Kenneth J. Twitchett. London: Europa Publications. 1976.

Periodicals

International Perspectives. A.W. Craig. "Britain, Canada and Europe Face Resurgent Regionalism". July/August 1977.

International Journal. Charles Pentland. "Linkage Politics: Canada's Contract and the Development of the European Communities' External Relations". Vol. XXXII. Spring 1977.

Canadian Journal of Political Science. Roger A. Reiber. "The Future of the European Community in International Politics". Vol. 19. June 1976.

Virginia Journal of International Law. Patrick Derom. "The EEC Approach to Groups of Companies". Vol. 16, no. 3. Spring 1976.

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octobre/novembre 1977

L'énergie et l'élargissement préoccupent la C.E.



Le président de la Commission de la C.E., Roy Jenkins, reçoit le ministre grec de la Planification économique, Pahayotis Papaligouras.

L'élargissement possible de la C.E. de même que l'affaiblissement continu des économies européennes provoqué par l'inflation et le chômage demeurent deux points d'importance capitale pour toute action future de la Communauté, déclare le président de la Commission de la C.E., Roy Jenkins.

S'adressant au Parlement européen, M. Jenkins a dit qu'un rajeunissement économique et que l'élargissement étaient aussi des points décisifs afin de stimuler l'intérêt de l'électeur européen en vue de l'élection au suffrage universel du Parlement européen prévue pour l'an prochain.

Sur la question de l'accession prévue de la Grèce, du Portugal et de l'Espagne au cours des années 1980, M. Jenkins a dit qu'une "réponse acceptable politiquement" devrait inclure une réforme des institutions de la C.E. "déjà ébranlées", une approche particulière envers l'agriculture méditerranéenne et la reconnaissance des problèmes économiques et structurels impliqués.

Qualifiant le malaise économique actuel "un des maux politiques les plus démoralisants dont on ait souffert depuis le début de la Communauté", M. Jenkins a proposé deux solutions pour le combattre: "soit la pseudo-solution du protectionnisme national — et l'on sait où cela a conduit dans les années 1930 — soit une approche disciplinée de la part de la Communauté".

Le président a souligné qu'une meilleure coordination des instruments financiers communautaires et qu'un programme prévu d'emprunts de plus de \$1 milliard sur les marchés des capitaux internationaux devraient fortifier l'approche communautaire.

Une mission de la Colombie-Britannique en visite à la C.E.

La Colombie-Britannique espère accroître avec l'aide de la Commission de la C.E., sa production et ses exportations vers la C.E. de métaux non-ferreux, de produits forestiers et de charbon métallurgique. Ceci fait suite à la visite d'une mission commerciale de la C.B. dirigée par le premier ministre William Bennett au siège de la C.E. à Bruxelles en septembre.

L'équipe de la Colombie-Britannique, incluant le ministre des Finances Evan Wolfe et le ministre au Développement économique Donald Phillips, a rencontré le président de la Commission de la C.E., Roy Jenkins et le commissaire Etienne Davignon, de même que divers hauts-fonctionnaires de la Commission.

Il a été convenu que les deux parties examineraient la possibilité pour des firmes de la C.E. d'aider à développer les réserves de la province en charbon et en métaux non-ferreux de même que la capacité de traitement des pâtes. Cette coopération servirait de fait un double but: d'une part assurer un approvisionnement à long terme pour la C.E., et d'autre part garantir un marché pour les produits de la Colombie-Britannique.

L'évaluation de projets spécifiques serait effectuée par la Commission mixte de coopération et les deux sous-commissions instituées par l'accord-cadre C.E.-Canada.

M. Bennet a également rencontré, durant sa mission de deux semaines en Europe, les premiers ministres James Callaghan de Grande-Bretagne, Léo Tindemans de Belgique et Raymond Barre de France.

Le premier ministre de la Colombie-Britannique a déclaré à une conférence de presse tenue à Paris: "Nous avons constaté que dans la plupart des cas, les hommes d'affaires européens, à l'exception bien sûr de ceux ayant déjà des intérêts dans notre province, connaissent très peu la Colombie-Britannique. Ils pensent automatiquement à nous comme des commerçants opérant dans la région du Pacifique et non avec la C.E., principalement à cause des distances que cela implique. Dans la plupart des cas, ils connaissent très peu le Canada même, à l'exception de l'Ontario et du Québec."

"Toutefois, ils ont besoin de marchés pour leurs produits et une activité économique accrue dans notre province élargira le marché, et ils en sont conscients."

Lancement au Canada d'un magazine d'intégration européenne

Un magazine d'intégration européenne a été lancé par le Centre d'études et de documentation européennes (CEDE) de l'Université de Montréal. Publié trois fois l'an, ce magazine est édité par Panayotis Soldatos, de l'Université de Montréal, et Charles Pentland, de l'Université Queen's.

Les abonnements (\$14 par an) sont disponibles auprès du CEDE, 5255 avenue Decelles, Montréal, Québec H3T 1V9.

La C.E., marché principal pour les exportations agricoles canadiennes

La C.E. a constitué l'an dernier le marché le plus important pour les exportations agricoles canadiennes, prenant \$890 millions des \$3.6 milliards. Selon Agriculture Canada, les autres marchés se répartissaient comme suit:

— Japon \$778 millions, — Etats-Unis \$574 millions, — Union Soviétique \$361 millions et — Chine \$144 millions.

Les exportations de légumes et de pommes de terre ont augmenté de \$33 millions pour passer à \$115 millions, principalement à cause de la carence en Europe de l'Ouest à la suite d'une sécheresse, provoquant un accroissement de la demande en pommes de terre.

Une coopération C.E.-Canada dans le domaine de l'électronique

La C.E. et le Canada sont à évaluer divers moyens de promouvoir la coopération industrielle dans le domaine de la péri-informatique. Il s'agit d'une des premières initiatives concrètes résultant de l'accord-cadre C.E.-Canada signé en juillet 1976. La péri-informatique inclut les mini-ordinateurs, le traitement des données de même que les terminaux et équipement connexe.

Ce programme a pour but de rassembler des partenaires éventuels dans ce domaine en expansion et les deux parties espèrent que les petites

et moyennes entreprises canadiennes et européennes cherchant de nouveaux marchés, seront particulièrement intéressées à une telle coopération.

Le ministère canadien des Affaires extérieures et la Commission de la C.E., en rapport avec les associations industrielles nationales et communautaires, établissent présentement des listes de candidats possibles.

Pourparlers C.E.-Canada sur la pêche

Le ministre canadien des Pêcheries, M. Roméo Leblanc s'est entretenu à Bruxelles le 29 septembre avec le commissaire de la C.E. responsable de la pêche, M. Finn-Olav Gundelach et avec des hauts-fonctionnaires de la Commission, sur un accord C.E.-Canada sur la pêche et sur la réunion à Ottawa du 11 au 21 octobre de l'ICNAF (Commission internationale pour les pêcheries de l'Atlantique Nord-Ouest). Tous les Etats membres de la C.E. (sauf le Luxembourg, la Belgique et les Pays-Bas) étaient déjà membres de cette Commission de 18 participants, mais maintenant la Commission de la C.E. s'est vue confier l'autorité pour agir en leur nom.

L'Allemagne et la France sont les pays de la C.E. les plus actifs dans la zone canadienne à l'intérieur de laquelle les pays de la C.E. ont été autorisés à pêcher cette année, suivant les quotas délimités par l'ICNAF et appliqués par le Canada dans sa propre zone. Quant à la France, elle fait l'objet de dispositions intérimaires particulières à la suite de l'accord bilatéral qu'elle signa avec le Canada en 1972 régissant la pêche dans les eaux entourant le département français de St. Pierre-et-Miquelon. Le Canada y possède des droits de pêche traditionnels et les prises annuelles se chiffrent à quelque 70,000 tonnes. Les droits de pêche futurs dans ce secteur constituent un des points à l'ordre du jour dans les négociations C.E.-Canada.

Deux Canadiens à Bruges

Deux fonctionnaires de la Fonction publique du Canada ont été choisis pour accomplir une année d'études sur l'intégration européenne au Collège de l'Europe à Bruges, en Belgique.

Les deux candidats pour 1977/78 sont Louise Fréchette, employée du ministère des Affaires extérieures, et Jean-Marc Duval du ministère de l'Industrie et du Commerce.

Il s'agit en fait d'une première pour la Fonction publique du Canada désireuse de perfectionner les qualifications des fonctionnaires canadiens en matière européenne.

A la lumière du rapport préparé par les deux signataires à la fin de l'année académique, il sera décidé si une telle coopération avec le Collège de Bruges sera étendue à l'année suivante.

Les bébés phoques: aucune démarche auprès du Canada

On trouvera encore des bébés phoques sous forme de fourrures et de bottes d'après-ski dans la Communauté européenne.

En réponse à une question posée au Parlement européen, la Commission a déclaré qu'elle n'avait pas fait de démarche auprès du gouvernement canadien à propos de la protection des bébés phoques. Les phoques ne sont pas considérés comme une espèce en danger et la Commission n'a nullement l'intention, dans l'immédiat, d'interdire l'utilisation de la fourrure des bébés phoques.

Energie

Selon Brunner, la C.E. doit limiter les importations de pétrole

Afin de réduire la dépendance de la C.E. envers l'énergie importée et plus particulièrement le pétrole importé, la Commission a recommandé de limiter les importations communautaires à 500 millions de tonnes pour 1985.

Le commissaire à l'Energie Guido Brunner, s'adressant à une réunion de l'Agence internationale de l'Energie tenue à Paris en octobre, a dit que les Neuf ont mis sur pied un schéma d'urgence de partage du pétrole en vue de réduire davantage la vulnérabilité de la C.E. en cas de difficultés d'approvisionnement en pétrole et qu'ils étaient sur le point d'adopter des mesures afin de réduire la consommation dans une situation d'urgence.



Le Commissaire à l'Energie de la C.E. Guido Brunner

M. Brunner fit remarquer que les propositions de la Commission pour un approvisionnement plus diversifié pour 1985 inclurait une baisse de la part du pétrole à 50% de 55% en 1976, une augmentation de la part du charbon, un approvisionnement supérieur en pétrole et en gaz de la Mer du Nord et d'ailleurs à l'extérieur de la Communauté, et enfin une augmentation de la part de l'énergie nucléaire devant atteindre près de 10%.

La C.E. finance l'exploration de l'uranium

La Commission de la C.E. a alloué quelque \$6 millions sur une période de trois ans à 13 projets de prospection d'uranium dans la Communauté.

La C.E. dépend essentiellement — environ 80% — des fournisseurs d'uranium à l'extérieur de la Communauté et l'uranium est, comme on le sait, un produit brut essentiel pour son programme nucléaire. Les fonds de la Commission aideront des projets en Irlande, Belgique, Allemagne, Groenland et Italie.

La Commission a également proposé un programme de recherche et de développement multi-annuel afin de faciliter les découvertes de dépôts d'uranium à l'intérieur et à l'extérieur de la Communauté, en développant les méthodes et les techniques de prospection afin d'extraire l'uranium des dépôts à faible teneur.

Economie

Urgence d'un code des valeurs mobilières

La Commission de la C.E. a recommandé la mise en oeuvre d'un code régissant les opérations boursières. Elaboré par des spécialistes du marché des valeurs et des activités financières, le code fait partie du programme d'intégration des marchés des capitaux dans la C.E. Les dispositions fondamentales applicables aux transactions devraient graduellement éliminer les disparités des techniques transactionnelles et contribuer à accroître la confiance du public envers les institutions boursières. C'est d'ailleurs ce que soutient la Commission.

Celle-ci propose donc, principalement, que:

- * des renseignements précis, compréhensibles et opportuns sur toutes les valeurs soient mis à la disposition du public;
- * tous les actionnaires jouissent d'un traitement égal dans une situation donnée;
- * les commissions de surveillance, les administrateurs et les directeurs des sociétés garantissent de justes transactions, même si en satisfaisant aux dispositions du code ils doivent renoncer à des bénéfices rapidement réalisables.

Les principes énoncés sont déjà bien accueillis dans toute la C.E., mais le code servirait à éclaircir leur interprétation.

La C.E. étudie la pauvreté

Un peu plus de la moitié (52%) des habitants de la C.E. disent qu'ils ont à économiser régulièrement, 11 pour cent disent qu'ils doivent même économiser sur la nourriture, révèle un sondage d'opinion fait par la C.E. Cette enquête était l'un des 21 projets