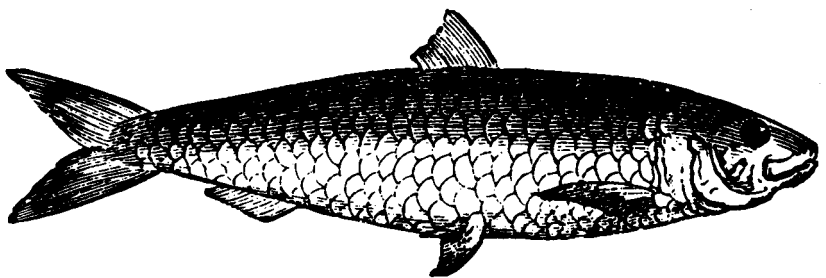
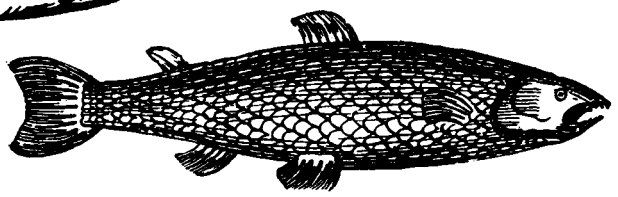
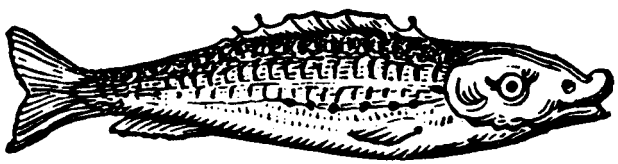
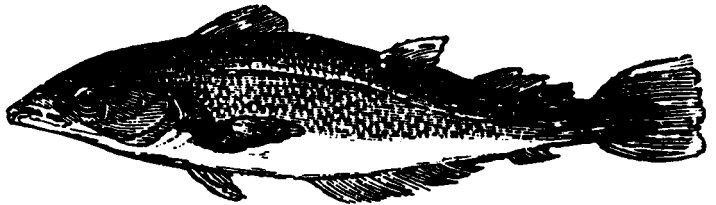
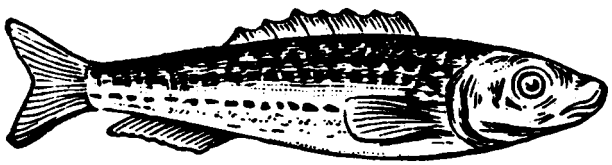


# European Community

No. 5

May 1978

## Where the fish are





European Community is published on behalf of the Commission of the European Communities.

London Office: 20 Kensington Palace Gardens, London W8 4QQ Tel. 01-727 8090

Cardiff Office: 4 Cathedral Road, Cardiff CF1 9SG Tel. (0222) 371631

Edinburgh Office: 7 Alva Street, Edinburgh EH2 4PH Tel. (031) 225 2058

Dublin Office: 29 Merrion Square, Dublin 2. Tel. 76 03 53

Intended to give a concise view of current Community affairs and stimulate discussion on European problems, it does not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Community institutions or of its editor. Unsigned articles may be quoted or reprinted without payment if their source is acknowledged. Rights in signed articles should be negotiated with their authors. In either case, the editor would be glad to receive the publication.

Printed by Edwin Snell printers, Yeovil, England  
European Community also appears in the following editions:  
30 Jours d'Europe, 61 rue des Belles Feuilles, 75782 Paris Cedex 16. Tel. 553 5326  
Comunita Europea, Via Poli 29, 00187 Rome. Tel. 68 97 22  
Europa Gammel Torv 4, Post Box 144, 1004 København K. Tel. 14 41 40/14 55 12.  
EG Magazin, Zitelmannstrasse 22, 53 Bonn Tel. 23 80 41  
Europese Gemeenschap, Lange Voorhout 29, The Hague. Tel. 070-46 93 26  
Comunidad Europea, 200 rue de la Loi, 1049 Brussels. Tel. 35 00 40  
Europaiki Koinotis, 200 rue de la Loi, 1049 Brussels. Tel. 35 00 40  
Avrupa Toplulugu, Bogaz Sokak No. 13, Kavaklidere-Ankara. Tel. 27 61 45-27 61 46  
European Community, 2100 M Street, NW, Washington DC 20037 Tel. 872 8350

# Contents

Politics

Community and Commonwealth Pledge to Asia fulfilled pp 3-5

Economic Affairs

Promoting Investment Community loans plan moves ahead p 14

Social Affairs

Europe fighting poverty The Community's pilot programme pp 6-7

Books

Books p 15

Fisheries

Where the fish are And where they go to pp 8-12

Culture

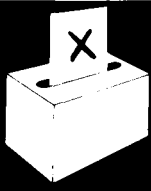
Europe for the people Plans for the European Foundation p 16

Fisheries

Fishing together Local international teamwork p 13

## The Community in June

Foreign Affairs Council	June 6
Transport Council	June 12
European Parliament	June 12-16 (Strasbourg)
Finance Council	June 19
Agriculture Council	June 19/20
Foreign Affairs Council	June 27
Social Affairs Council	June 29



# Community and Commonwealth

## Pledge to Asia fulfilled

Cricket balls and coir matting were often in the news in the days when Britain was still negotiating to join the Common Market. Asian Commonwealth countries — especially India and Pakistan, of which Bangladesh was then a part — feared their economies would suffer if the UK preferential tariffs were taken off.

### Declaration

There were those who questioned the worth of the EEC's commitment given in the Joint Declaration of Intent annexed to Britain's Treaty of Accession, to India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Malaysia and Singapore, that the EEC would be 'ready from the date of accession to examine with those countries such problems as may arise in the field of trade with a view to seeking appropriate solutions, taking into account the effect of the Generalized Tariff Preference Scheme and the situation of the other developing countries in the same geographical area.'

Today the evidence is that the EEC and its members have made strenuous efforts to fulfil their treaty pledges.

In a general sense almost all the developing countries of Asia along with the other developing countries which are members of the Group of 77 benefit from the Generalized Scheme of Preferences (GSP) which allows their non-agricultural manu-

factured and semi-manufactured goods to enter the Community tariff free, and offers tariff reductions on a large number of processed agricultural products.

The Six original members of the EEC were the first to pioneer a scheme of this nature which they suggested in GATT in May 1963 and again at UNCTAD II in New Delhi in 1968.

### Non-discriminatory

The EEC's GSP system is non-discriminatory and applies to all developing countries of whatever political complexion. It is an offer initiated by the EEC and is not the result of negotiations between the EEC and the countries that benefit from it. Nor are those countries expected to make concessions in return — apart from giving EEC members the same favours they give to non-members.

The commitment, however, is not an unlimited one. Beneficiary countries' exports of industrial goods to the EEC must not normally exceed 'ceilings', the levels of which are calculated from the value of imports in a previous reference year, and no beneficiary country can exceed its allotted percentage of the total ceiling for each product. With few exceptions the ceilings are raised each year by adding 5 per cent of the value of imports from the EEC into

the beneficiary states in a reference year (which need not be that used for fixing the original ceiling).

One exception is the ceiling on textiles which, in view of the critical state of the textile industry in some EEC regions, will be the same this year as last, except for carpets.

## **Spread**

The available textile concessions have now, however, been spread more evenly to favour the least well-off exporters at the expense of those already enjoying a higher standard of living and more EEC trade.

The ceilings for iron and steel products, petroleum products, footwear and plywood are also unchanged from those of 1977. Nevertheless, despite the continuing recession, the total GSP ceilings are above those for 1977 and 'least developed countries' are not charged tariffs even when they exceed their allotted ceilings.

There are also a small number of products, regarded by the EEC as 'sensitive' — and therefore worthy of protection by tariff quotas — because of the weak competitive position of the EEC industries in these sectors. But the number of sensitive products which numbered 53 in 1971, has been reduced to 13.

Meantime the EEC provides aid as well as trade to developing states. For example in June 1977 it undertook to contribute 385 million US dollars towards a 1,000 million US dollar aid programme which the industrialized countries pledged to the developing states within the framework of the 'north-south' Conference on International Economic Cooperation. Earlier, 292 million US dollars from the EEC and 430 million US dollars from EEC members went to developing countries most affected by the 1973-1974 oil crisis.

But, apart from concessions of a general nature, the EEC has negotiated individual agreements of particular benefit to Bangladesh, India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. For the people of Bangladesh, formerly East Pakistan, the main problem which arose after Britain joined the EEC was that, while raw jute entered the EEC duty free, jute products faced a tariff running in some cases as high as 22 per cent.

## **Agreement**

The trade in jute products benefited to some extent from an agreement signed in January 1971 between the EEC and Pakistan; Bangladesh, after independence, signed an improved pact, valid for 1972, which granted partial tariff suspensions and lifted quota restrictions on jute products entering the Community in return for some self-limitation of exports by Bangladesh. A follow-up agreement for 1973-1975 gave gradual 50-60 per cent reductions in the EEC tariff products by the end of 1975, with free entry maintained into the UK and Denmark.

The current agreement which runs until the end of 1979 has given an 80 per cent cut in the tariffs on a wide variety of Bangladesh jute products as from January 1, 1977. A full suspension of the duties on all jute products was originally planned for July 1, 1978 but has since been put into operation six months earlier, that is from January 1, 1978.

Duty-free quotas are also in force for silk and cotton handloom and handicraft products from Bangladesh, and, during the years since the EEC pledge was given, Bangladesh has almost doubled her exports of cattle and goat leather products and tea, and has built up a useful side-line trade in prawns and shrimps. Many new products qualifying for

preferential customs treatment have been added to the list following requests from Bangladesh, India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka and the number of items has now risen to 305 — more than double what it was when Britain joined the Community.

## **India**

India, which had already signed voluntary restraint agreements on jute and coir (coconut fibre), has also benefited from tariff suspensions on these items and, like Bangladesh, has enjoyed the 100 per cent tariff suspension on jute as well as on coir from January 1, 1978. India's quota of handicraft products entering the EEC duty-free was doubled when the Community was enlarged.

Pakistan, too, has improved its trading position with the EEC since Britain became a member and has a favourable trading balance. Two thirds of its exports to the EEC consist of carpets, woven cotton goods, leather goods and clothing; sugar, honey, raw tobacco, raw vegetable products and shrimps make up another fifth. Fur, skins and wool are the chief remaining items.

Since 1973 Pakistan's duty-free EEC import quotas for handwoven fabrics of cotton and of silk have been more than doubled, and the

same goes for handicraft products. In November 1977 a new agreement was signed providing for a controlled rate of increase of Pakistan textiles imported into the EEC. Increased quotas have been granted for footwear and sports goods, and Virginia flue-cured tobacco is among the list of new products for which quotas have been introduced.

## **Future**

There are good hopes, also, for the future. Singapore and Malaysia have declared in favour of closer relations with the EEC through the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) of which they are members, while India, Pakistan, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka have signed individual Commercial Cooperation agreements with the European Community. Under these agreements the EEC undertakes to furnish information on new development opportunities and the sources from which financial backing might be forthcoming. Signatories can consult the EEC on commercial and trading problems and receive recommendations on marketing methods, and help in organizing trade fairs and other forms of promotion aimed at increasing the volume of scope of their trade with the EEC.

## **Quotation of the Month**

'In 1977 there were just over ten and a half thousand Commission staff, compared to about two million central government civil servants in the United Kingdom and 330,000 in Ireland. Over the last three years the United Kingdom civil service has grown at an annual average of 7 per cent, while the Commission — from a vastly lower base, and in an expanding field — has grown by 3.8 per cent. Moreover, within the Commission, under half (5,262) are administrative civil servants, as they would be conceived in Britain. 30 per cent of the staff are translators and interpreters, and the rest engaged on scientific research. In short, the numbers are tiny.'

*Roy Jenkins, speaking in Edinburgh on March 2, 1978.*



# Europe fighting poverty

## The Community's pilot programme

In the grounds of a North London technical college a group of mothers and social workers is running an experimental day care centre to help student mothers look after their children without having to abandon their studies. In a renovated Victorian villa on the other side of London an association of one-parent families has set up a new style of play centre to care for school age children in that awkward 1½ hours between the end of school and the end of the adult working day, so keeping their parents in work and off Supplementary Benefit. Both ventures are financed 50 per cent by the EEC Commission. Both are part of the European Programme of Pilot Schemes and Studies to Combat Poverty.

This programme covers 20 projects (one project can operate in several locations through several agencies) scattered over the Community from the West of Ireland to Northern Italy. It was launched in 1975 for an initial period of two years and just before Christmas 1977 the Council of Ministers agreed to renew the programme for a further three years. At the same time the programme budget was increased to allow a limited number of new schemes to be adopted, the first of which, an 'Area Resource Centre' run by the London Council of Social Service, was approved in the same month.

The purpose of the scheme is, in the words of the Council decision of July 1975, 'to test and develop new methods of helping persons beset by or threatened by poverty in the Community'. Of course there have been anti-poverty projects, to use the American parlance, in several member nations of the Community for more than a decade. The European programme attempts to raise this research above the national level so that nations can learn from each others' experiences.

### Improving social services

The schemes have been classified in three groups. Projects in one group focus on particular social welfare services and experiment with new ways of improving them for the benefit of the poor. The largest scheme in the programme is of this type, involving a complete reorganization of the social and health services of the city of Padua, near Venice. The smallest project falls in the same category; based at Wolverhampton, England, it is an experiment in training volunteers without legal qualifications to assist appellants at Supplementary Benefit and other tribunals. In Northern Ireland a study has been completed to assist in the allocation of resources between districts in Belfast and a welfare rights project has been proposed in the same city.

## Helping communities

The second category of schemes focuses on particular geographical communities and works with the people through a range of activities towards a general improvement in the area. One such scheme is on the EEC Commission's own doorstep in Brussels. The largest scheme of this type which the Community supports in the UK is at Craigmillar, a housing estate in Edinburgh. A notable variant on the traditional community action style is contained in the Area Resource Centres in the UK which do not work directly with individuals but support local groups, adding the Centre's technical expertise and 'hardware' (duplicating facilities, etc.) to local enthusiasm and commitment. Three centres participate in the European programme, in Glasgow, South Wales and London.

Community action schemes mostly work 'from the bottom up', encouraging local people to act for themselves and if need be to put pressure on the authorities for change. The organizations promoting this activity are thus usually quite distinct from the public authorities even though they may receive public money. It is not inconceivable, however, for a local authority to incorporate the community action approach into its method of government. Such an experiment is being conducted in four districts of Edinburgh by the two levels of local government concerned, with EEC support.

### Special groups

The third type of project concerns particular categories of people, such as families with young children. London has a complex of six 'Family Day Centres' including the two mentioned in the opening paragraphs of this article. A seventh associated scheme operates in Liverpool.

In addition to these action-research

enterprises the Commission includes in its programme a small number of research projects of a more conventional nature. In 1977 the Commission published the results of a public opinion survey on attitudes to poverty under the title 'The Perception of Poverty in Europe', based on interviews with 8,600 people in nine nations. The Institute of Community Studies in London has also been carrying out a three nation comparison of poverty and social policy based on interviews carried out in London, Paris, Cologne and three rural areas.

### The other half

The agencies that carry out these projects are diverse, representing novel forms of partnership between the Community and its citizens. In the UK a total of 15 agencies are involved, from the Home Office to the Croydon Gingerbread Association. The Committee employs its own staff which operate the four main projects in the country but a certain amount of activity is carried out through contracts with other agencies, such as the Dublin Women's Aid group. The funds to match the Commission's 50 per cent again come from a variety of sources although the great majority is from central government. In the UK local government money is involved in the Edinburgh project and money from the Gulbenkian Foundation in Glasgow.

### The future

The programme has now been extended to 1979. Useful interim results are already beginning to appear from the projects and the Commission proposes to publish digests of these from time to time. The projects themselves will arrange for the full results to be published. The final comparative analysis of the rich experience thrown up by the projects will be a matter for the 1980s.



# Where the fish are

## And where they go to

Many species of fish caught by fishermen in the waters of Western Europe migrate over great distances during their life cycles. This fact makes it essential for any fisheries conservation policy to extend far beyond the waters of any single European country, for mature fish which may be caught under the jurisdiction of one country may well have been spawned or have matured in the waters of another.

The attached maps illustrate the scale of migration. They show particularly the spawning and feeding grounds for five of the main species. The fact that the spawning and feeding areas are often well away from the fishing grounds of the mature fish underlines the need for the European Community to develop a fisheries policy based on a careful management of fish stocks at all stages of their life cycle.

The migrations occur at brief and specific periods during the fish life cycle. The most common are those between spawning and nursery grounds. There are also less predictable movements over very wide areas, usually in search of the planktonic organisms which make up their diet.

Breeding grounds are often extremely localised, presumably occurring where conditions for

growth and development are optimal. Each fish species has its own needs, as comparison between the maps will indicate.

It is in these spawning areas that the effects of overfishing or damaging fishing techniques are most apparent. The balance between recruitment of new stock and fish mortality is an extremely fine one; if tipped in the wrong direction it can take many years to reverse.

The fish most seriously hit by over-exploitation is the herring — hence the Commission's proposed ban on the fishing of herring in the North Sea and the Celtic Sea for the whole of 1978.

Cod is a fish which spawns in many different areas — off the west coast of Iceland, for example, near Spitzbergen and in various sites on both sides of the North Sea (the Ling Bank, Dogger Bank, Moray Firth, Forties, etc.). Some cod migrate over great distances to their spawning grounds. For example, those of the Barents Sea spawn off the North Norwegian coast, returning later in the year via the Finnmark coast and the continental shelf around Spitzbergen. During the juvenile stage there is a high concentration of fish on the Ling Bank and in inshore waters off the Dutch, German and Danish coastline.



# The species in question

## Notes on the maps on pages, 10, 11 and 12

### **Herring**

#### **Maps i & ii**

There are three basic herring stocks, spawning in various zones off the coast of Britain (see map i). The northernmost group seems to be composed of two independent sub-groups, one spawning on the west coast of Scotland around the Outer Hebrides and the other on the east coast around the Orkneys.

The other two stocks are the Central and Southern, which spawn in localised grounds off the eastern and southern coasts of Britain. As map i indicates, the position of these grounds has changed in recent years and in some of the traditional areas it has been some time since spawning last occurred.

There are seasonal differences in spawning times, with the Northern group in spring and autumn, the Central group in autumn and the Southern group in autumn and winter. In the larval stage many of these fish drift westwards towards the Danish, German, Dutch and Norwegian coasts. After maturing there (see map ii) they return to their respective spawning grounds in their third or fourth year. They are highly vulnerable to damage during this juvenile period.

### **Plaice**

#### **Map iii**

The most important spawning ground for plaice is the Flemish Bight and the southern parts of the North Sea. After spawning there from December to February, the plaice disperse on feeding migrations, leaving the eggs to drift to coastal areas where they hatch and develop. The map shows distribution of the nursery grounds for this stock in the sandy inshore waters on both sides of the North Sea.

### **Sole**

#### **Map iv**

This species has similar requirements to plaice, spawning in winter and early spring in sandy inshore areas off the coasts of Britain, Netherlands, Germany and Denmark.

### **Haddock**

#### **Map v**

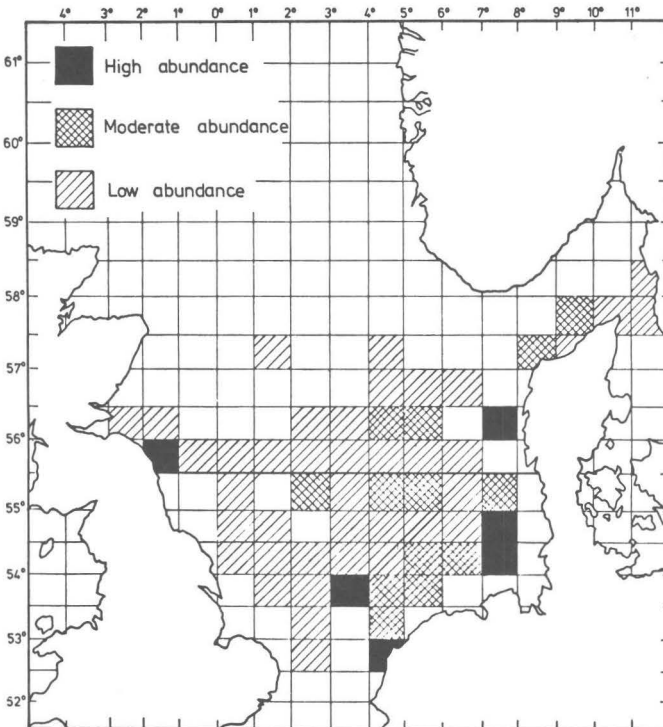
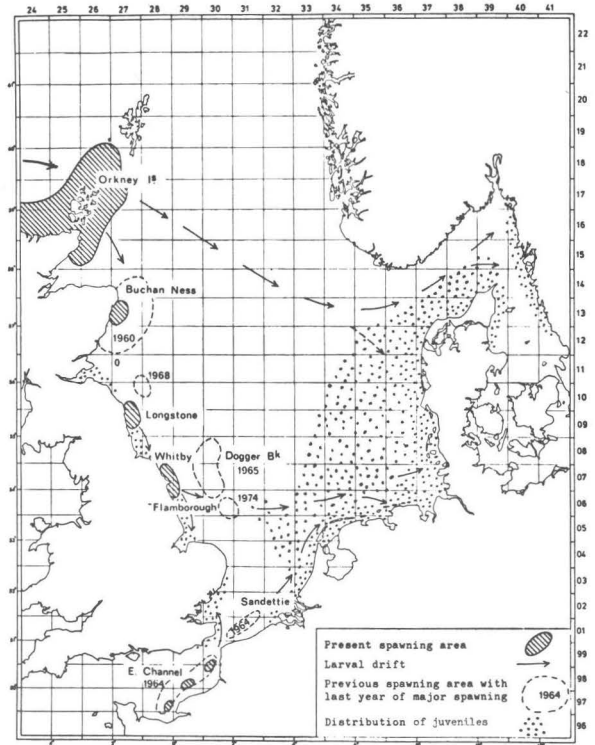
This species spawns over an area around Spitzbergen and the Norwegian coast, with another spawning area off the Shetlands.

### **Whiting**

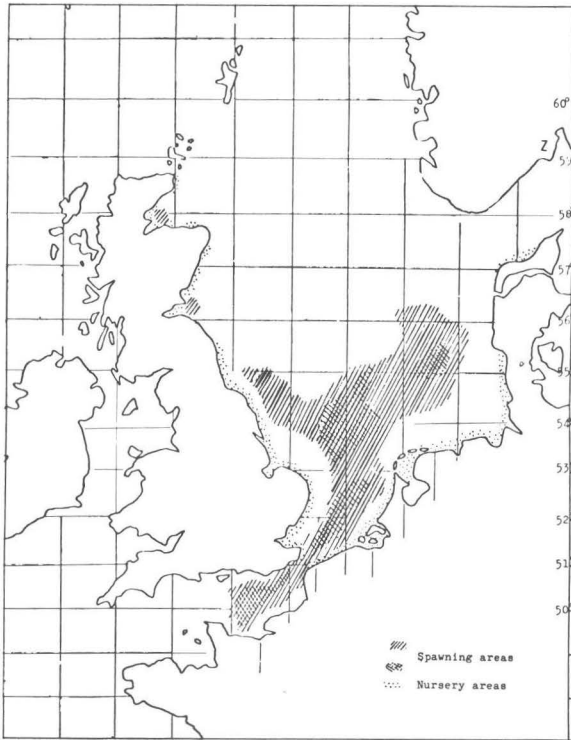
#### **Map vi**

As the map indicates, this species is widely distributed, but it appears to spawn in certain highly localised waters on both sides of the North Sea.

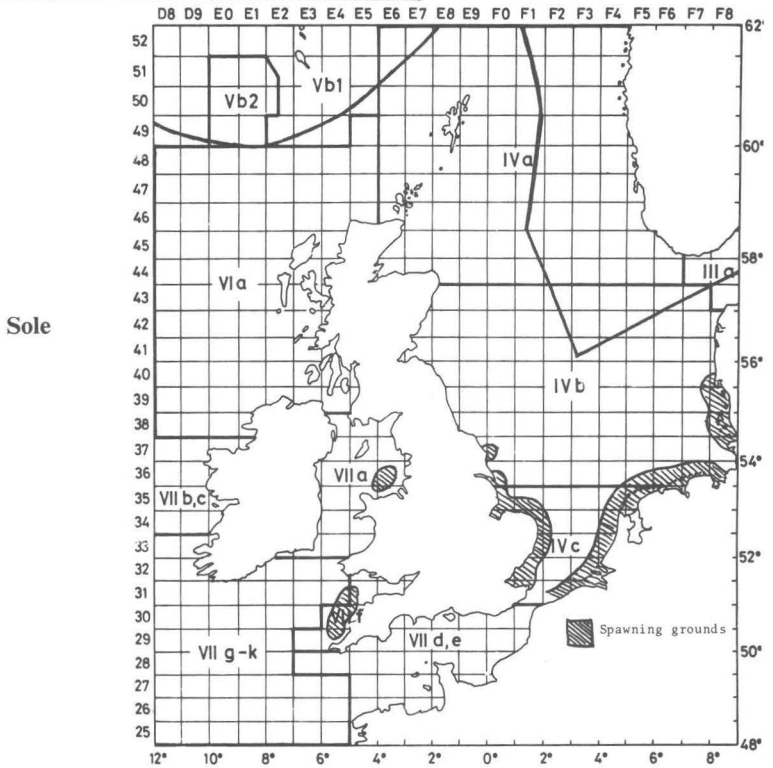
**Herring**  
including the West of  
Scotland spawning stock



**North Sea Herring**  
Distribution of Juveniles

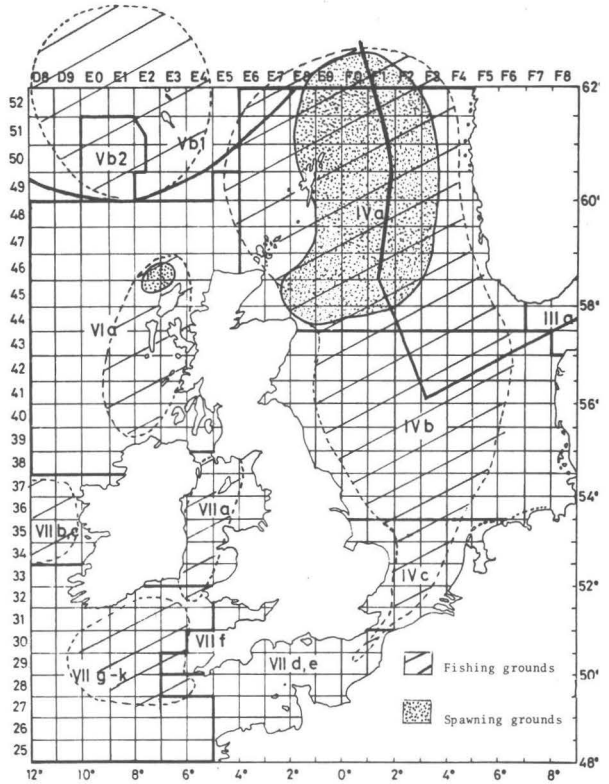


**North Sea Plaice**  
Nursery and spawning areas

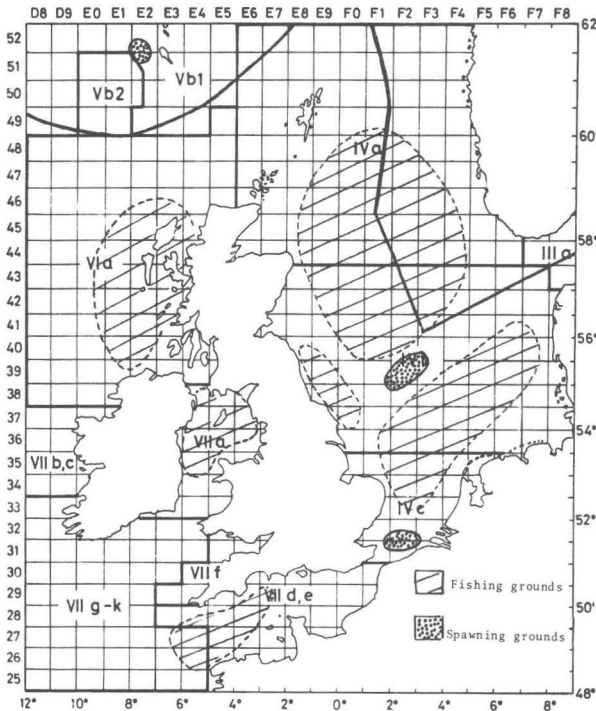


**Sole**

### Haddock



### Whiting





# Fishing together

## Local international teamwork

It may seem strange to know that at a time when accusations from all parts of Europe fly around about the failure of fishing talks in Brussels, some European fishermen are actually fishing together in the same boats. Thirty young fishermen from the peripheral regions of Europe, from Brittany, Scotland, West Ireland, Wales, Devon and Cornwall, Tuscany, etc., are now following language courses in preparation for four months 'team' fishing later this year.

### Pilot

With financial backing from the European Commission, the young fishermen will work together as a pilot project for six months from now until the end of June. The idea is to form trawler crews of different nationalities and learn some of the technical and practical methods of fishing in different European countries.

### St. Malo

The plan was first proposed at a conference at Saint Malo, Brittany, in 1973 when an action programme was proposed to help develop contacts between people in the outlying areas of the Community. Since then there have been meetings in Inverness, Galway, Sardinia, Bari and Brussels and as a result this exchange of young fishermen looks like becoming a regular event.

### Details

Details of the next conference of the 'Conférence des Régions Périphériques Maritimes de la Communauté Européenne' can be obtained from:

*22, Rue Hoche, 35000 Rennes, France.  
Tel: 33(99) 30 92 90.*

### The participating regions are:

Nordjylland,  
Schleswig Holstein,  
Niedersachsen,  
Scottish Regions,  
West Ireland,  
Mid West Ireland,  
Wales,  
Campania,  
Puglia Sardinia,  
Marche Tuscany,  
Aquitaine,  
Poitou Charentes,  
Pays de Loire,  
Brittany,  
Devon and Cornwall.

At the moment fishermen following the course are studying in three different centres: Exeter (Devon), Keel (North Staffordshire) and Lorient (Brittany).



# Promoting investment

## Community loans plan moves ahead

The low level of investment in the Community has worried both the Commission and member governments. The share of gross fixed capital formation in the Community's gross national product (GDP) has fallen from an average rate of 23 per cent for 1970-1973 to 20.5 per cent in 1977.

In a Communication to the Council of Ministers last June the Commission pointed out that it was already using existing instruments to the maximum it was allowed, but restrictions imposed on direct budget financing, on the EIB, the European Coal and Steel Community (ECSC) and Euratom, prevented extension of investment commitments beyond certain thresholds. A new mechanism was needed that would allow the Commission greater recourse to borrowing in capital markets, where Community creditworthiness in its own right is high.

This did not mean, the Commission emphasized, that the Community could take the place of investment action by industry or by governments. But in *well defined areas* the Community could *facilitate or advance* the financing of projects useful to the Community as a whole, and act as a catalyst.

At length, the Commission's proposals were adopted in principle by the European Council at its December meeting, but on condition that the loans should be handled by the EIB.

At its meeting on February 20, 1978, the Council of Finance Ministers broadly accepted the Commission's detailed proposals for establishing the borrowing mechanism and, subject to some further examination of the technical aspects, asked that the proposals should be referred to the European Parliament.

### Detailed proposals

Noting that under Article 235 of the Rome Treaty, and subject to unanimous agreement by the Council of Ministers, the Community can introduce new instruments designed to meet its overall objectives, the Commission proposes that it should be authorized to borrow up to a limit of 1,000 million units of account (approximately £650 million) on the capital market.

Subject to this ceiling, and Council approval, the loans would be introduced a block at a time and used towards financing structural investment in priority Community projects, especially in the fields of energy, certain key industries and infrastructure, with a special bias in favour of regional development.

Funds borrowed would be deposited with the EIB and invested on a temporary basis if need be. The Bank would have a general mandate on behalf of the Community to make loans in consultation with the Commission. The Council would be regularly informed.



# Books

## Monnet's Memoirs

The *Memoirs* of Jean Monnet, are now available in English, and will be reviewed in a future issue. They are published by Collins at £13.

## Higher Education

*Higher Education in the European Community: A Handbook for Students* is the title of a book recently issued by the Commission, and edited by Manfred Sassen in co-operation with the Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst (DAAD), Bonn-Bad Godesberg. It is available from HMSO price £2.60.

## Bureaucracy

*Organisational effectiveness in a multinational bureaucracy*, by Hans J. Michelmann is a case-study of five Commission Directorates-General: it awards its palm to those dealing with agriculture and competition. A book for systems analysts rather than the general reader, it makes fascinating reading for Eurocrats. The price is £8.50 from Saxon House.

## Contemporary Europe

This is the title of a symposium edited by Salvador Giner and Margart Scotsford Archer and subtitled *Social Structures and Cultural Patterns*, to be published in June 1978 by Routledge and Kegan Paul at about £6 in hardback and about £3 in paperback.

## Britain and the EEC

Under the title *Britain and the European Economic Community*, D. E. S. Lewis, Senior Lecturer at the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst, has produced a useful little summary, mainly for 'A' level students, in the 'Studies in the British Economy' series published by Heinemann Educational Books, at £1.40.

## Europe 2000

This is the title of a report made by the European Cultural Foundation and edited by Peter Hall. It covers many facets of Europe's future and is published by Duckworth at £4.95.



# Europe for the people

## Plans for the European Foundation

How can the Community make an impact on the ordinary citizen, not merely as the arbiter of the price of butter, but as a real community of peoples as the founding fathers desired? With no flag, no common currency and no, as yet, common passport, the Community has no physical focus to give people a sense of belonging.

To remedy this lack, Mr Leo Tindemans, in his report on European Union two years ago, urged the setting up of a *European Foundation*, to be independent of existing Community institutions, and designed to promote 'greater understanding among our peoples'. 'The fact that our countries have a common destiny is not enough', he wrote; 'This fact must also be seen to exist.'

Towards the end of last year the Commission sent a report to the Council of Ministers discussing the practical implications of Mr Tindeman's proposals. In early December the European Council of Heads of State and Governments approved the establishment of the Foundation. In April 1978 they agreed on a framework for its structure and financing, and decided that it would be in Paris. Formal discussions on its establishment were to start soon.

The Commission believes that the Foundation should start in a modest way, but with clearly defined objectives. To begin with its activities should be concentrated within the

Community, and priority given to improving contact between groups and individuals not normally offered such opportunities. Such activities should be closely linked with improved language training although here, as in other programmes, the Foundation's role would be to initiate rather than manage them directly.

In practical terms this means that the Foundation would support schemes involving residential courses, summer schools, job-to-job exchanges, voluntary service in Community countries, and town twinning arrangements, with the prime object of developing greater appreciation of their common heritage.

The Commission envisages that the Foundation would also help journalists and others working in the media interested in its aims, with particular emphasis on the learning of Community languages.

At first, however, the Foundation would concentrate on providing exchange opportunities for young people, particularly early school leavers and young workers, and the handicapped.

The Commission recognizes that to start with the Foundation will have to experiment and that its activities will be modest. As it pointed out in its report last year, however, there are many areas in the exchange of ideas where the Foundation could play a useful and stimulating role.