

Country - France

Subject - Background Information on the European Federation of Chemical Engineering

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Date of Information - 1950-June 53

1. The first organized meeting of the European Federation of Chemical Engineering was scheduled for 20 June 53 in Paris. 25X1A9a
2. Jean Gerard, vice-president of Société de Chimie Industrielle, has been working on the idea for about three years. He first mentioned it to some foreign chemical engineers at a meeting in Paris in 1950. In 1952, at a meeting in Frankfurt, a group called the Comité Européen des Arts Chimiques was set up. This committee was composed of 30 men who are prominent in the chemical industries of France, UK, Germany(Federal Republic), Italy, Belgium, Switzerland, Spain, Portugal, Finland, Sweden, Yugoslavia, Greece, Turkey, the Netherlands and Norway. The committee, in turn, set up a working group composed of Gerard plus the following:

H. Bretschneider, Secretary-General of the Council of Administration of Dechema, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Chemisches Apparatswesen, Germany (Federal Republic).

H. C. Egloff, President of Schweizerisches Register der Ingenieurs der Architekten und der Techniker, Switzerland.

F. A. Freeth, UK. (no identification).

A. R. Matthis, Delegate of La Societe Royale Belge des Ingenieurs et des Industriels, Belgium.

Luigi Morandi, President - delegate of the Section Lombarde della Societa Chimica Italiana, Italy.

This working group met in Paris in November 1952 to arrange the June 20th meeting of the new European Federation of Chemical Engineering. Plans were made to draw up a charter and start work.

3. The Federation will not be limited to the 15 nations named above - those are the nations represented on the Comité Européen des Arts Chimiques. Invitations to join the Federation of Chemical Engineering have been sent also to Denmark, Austria, Luxembourg, Iceland and Eire.
4. The purposes of the Federation are not yet specifically defined. Generally, it will try to promote exchange of information and technical ideas among European chemical engineers, to coordinate international activities in the field of chemical engineering, and to encourage expansion and improvement in the educational facilities for training chemical engineers. European engineers feel that their rate of technical progress in this field is not so rapid as that of the US and that the Federation can help speed up progress.

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