North America and Japan, checked and then made available on demand.

Other specialized technical cooperation between OECD countries takes place in the European-American Committee on Reactor Physics (EACRP) which is similar to EANDC in structure and method of work. Among the subjects recently dealt with by this Committee are light water reactor lattices, the physics of thorium-burning reactors, fuel burn-up calculations, and fast reactor physics. International liaisons of lattices have also been set up for the macrohydrodynamic and thermionic methods of direct conversion. These two Committees are now jointly sponsored by ENEA and the IAEA.

Lastly, the importance of exchanging knowledge and experience of reactor safety technology led, in 1965, to the creation of the Committee on Reactor Safety Technology (CREST).

Future Role of Nuclear Power

During the past years ENEA has carried out a series of studies on the future role of nuclear energy in Western Europe. Basically, these studies, which are continuing, are aimed at establishing probable relationships between expanding nuclear power programmes and resulting demands for fuel supplies (uranium and thorium), fuel production capacity, and other services such as enrichment and reprocessing. The studies relating to fuel resources and production, matters on which Europe cannot be considered in isolation from the rest of the world, are made in collaboration with the International Atomic Energy Agency.

Legal Work

From its earliest days, ENEA has been closely concerned with the development of regulations governing such matters as health and safety, transport of radioactive materials, or liability in case of accident. In particular, the first international Convention governing liability in case of a nuclear "incident" — the Paris Convention on Third Party Liability in the Field of Nuclear Energy — was developed under the auspices of the Agency. This Convention, which defined for the first time the underlying principles of all international agreements on nuclear liability, and also of most national legislation in this field, has been signed by 16 ENEA countries, and came into force in April 1968. It is the only international Convention at present operative in this field.

The Future

At a time when many nuclear energy programmes are undergoing substantial reappraisal, it has been particularly encouraging for ENEA that the mandates of all three of its major joint undertakings, Halden, Dragon and Eurochemic, have recently been extended (to December 1972, March 1973 and December 1974 respectively). The future of the Neutron Data Compilation Centre at Sclay and the Computer Programme Library at Ispra has also been confirmed by continuing support from participant countries and ever-increasing demands for their services. Requirements for other specialized services, perhaps operating on a similar basis, are under study, and ENEA is currently examining the whole question of nuclear information and data handling in relation to the recently established "INIS" (International Nuclear Information Service) of the IAEA.

It is clear that the demand for services of this nature will continue to expand. It is also apparent that, although nuclear energy is passing rapidly into the purely commercial stage, there remain certain fields — such as fast reactors — where governmental action may still be needed.

There is also, of course, a growing interest in the problems of radioactive waste management, which by nature are essentially international. ENEA has been active in this field for some years and has, for example, organized two international operations (in 1967 and 1969) for the disposal of packaged solid wastes in the deep Atlantic. Work on problems of waste management is being expanded.

Finally, there is still a great deal of legal work to be done to resolve the many possible sources of conflict between the comparatively recent nuclear conventions (particularly the Paris Liability Convention) and traditional international and national laws.

Meetings

Notification of the following meetings to be held up to the end of December 1970 has been received. The meetings announced are in addition to those advertised in previous issues of Europhysics News. They are listed - date; title; venue; contact for information. Those organized by Divisions of the EPS are printed in bold type and boxed; those sponsored by the EPS are printed in bold type. Europhysics Conferences (see Europhysics News No. 7) are indicated by a star following the date, and will be repeated.

15 - 19 June * Atomic Transport in Solids and Liquids Marstrand, Sweden

A. Lodding, Artikelvägen 5B, S-43280 Hove

24 - 26 June Anelastic Properties of Solids Lausanne, Switzerland

B. Vittoz, Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale 32, av. de Cour, CH-1007 Lausanne

5 - 6 July Annual Meeting of the Israel Physical Society Tel Aviv, Israel

A.J. Greenfield, Secretary, Israel Physical Society, Bar - Ilan University, Ramat-Gan

14 - 17 July 2nd Conference on Atomic Spectroscopy and Related Topics Hannover, Federal Republic of Germany Conference on Atomic Spectroscopy, Institut f"ur Experimentalphysik, Technische Universit"at, Welfengarten 1, D-3 Hannover


4 - 11 August The Motion, Evolution of Obites, and Origin of Comets Leningrad, USSR

G.A. Chebotarev, Institute for Theoretical Astronomy, Mandraolevskaja Linia 1, Leningrad B-164

6 - 7 August The Crab Nebula Jodrell Bank, UK

F. Graham Smith, Nuffield Radio Astronomy Lab., Jodrell Bank, Macclesfield, Cheshire

10 - 14 August External Galaxies and Quasi Stellar Objects Upsala, Sweden

M. Schmidt, Mount Wilson and Palomar Observatories, 1201 East California Boulevard, Pasadena, Calif. 91106, USA

10 - 14 August New Techniques in Space Astronomy Munich, Federal Republic of Germany R. L"ost, Institut f"ur Extraterrestrische Physik, D-8046 Garching/M"unchen

10 - 15 August White Dwarfs St. Andrews, UK

W.J. Luyten, 221 Science Building, University of Minnesota, Minn. 55455, USA

11 - 14 August Gravitational n-body Problem Cambridge, UK

G. Contopoulos, University of Thessaloniki, Thessaloniki, Greece