teaching, but there is still a problem of the best going abroad to better paying jobs. It would seem that there is much that could be done through exchange programmes to encourage a two-way flow. Agreements exist, but their implementation is far from satisfactory and an effort should be made to collaborate with the European Science Foundation to see how an improvement could be brought about.

In the eastern European countries, despite the turn-over of physicists being planned, in practice it is a ceiling that is established and this is never attained. As a result, the shortage is chronic.

Discussions on education at the Conference were inevitably very generalised as systems differ in their detail, but all suffer from huge inertias and from historical attitudes. One desirable change since Erice to be noted however was the reduction to 26 for the average age of gaining a Ph.D. Except in the UK this used to be over 30.

An improvement in relations between industry and the universities was also recorded, but the academics in many countries bewailed the widening difference in salary levels between the two domains. Whereas industrial salaries have kept pace with inflation, university salaries have not and the gap is now very marked. This must result in major problems for the universities as their budgets get tighter and it is difficult to see how in the future they will be able to hang on to the best people once they have obtained their doctorates. In the short term, the opportunities for the young bright physicist look very promising, but the danger is that we are mortgaging our future.

Further discussions on the conclusions of the Study Conference will take place in Helsinki at the 7th EPS General Conference in August. The full Report totalling 174 pages will be published shortly by the EPS. Participants will receive copies free of charge; further copies may be obtained from the Secretariat at the cost of Sw.Fr. 50.– per copy. For bulk orders (over 10 copies) a discount of 50% will be given.

Fig. — Estimated number of physics graduates per year based upon birth numbers in the country groups I to V and of Europe, excluding Turkey and the USSR.