

ANNOUNCEMENT

EUROPEAN MECHANICS COLLOQUIA

AN ELABORATE network of conferences has grown up over many years, serving various branches of science and forming several layers, from national meetings of scientific institutions to international symposia on specified subjects and large world-wide conferences such as the International Congress of Applied Mechanics. Recently, another layer has been added to this structure, at the bottom of the size range, the European Mechanics Colloquia. These are small informal specialized conferences concerned with current research in theoretical and applied mechanics and draw participants from countries in Europe (extending eastward as far as Poland and Rumania).

EUROMECH Colloquia provide scientists and engineers in European countries with opportunities for discussing their current activities on specified topics in mechanics with a minimum of administrative preparation. The topics chosen are advanced, alive, and sufficiently specialised to interest a definable group of people. Participants are invited for their known active work in the subject and not as representatives of organisations, and they find their own financial support. The number of participants should not be more than fifty; it might often be less. Ample time is left for discussions and opportunities are provided for participants to get to know each other personally. Contributions to the Colloquia are informal and in a spirit from which considerations of prestige are absent. The conduct of a Colloquium and the choice of participants is in the hands of the Colloquium Chairman and a committee which he forms to assist him. No proceedings are published but the Chairman may report on the scientific outcome of his Colloquium in a suitable Journal (see *J. Fluid Mech.* 23, 801 (1965) on EUROMECH 1; and *J. Fluid Mech.* 27, 369 (1967) on EUROMECH 2).

The need for such small working meetings, in view of the ever-growing formality and size of existing conferences, was discussed first by the British National Committee for Theoretical and Applied Mechanics, and subsequently at an informal meeting of delegates from various European countries to the last International Congress of Applied Mechanics at München in September 1964. Agreement was soon reached and an Interim Committee was formed to organise some colloquia on a trial basis. The Royal Society of London undertook to provide the secretarial services.

Six Colloquia have now been held, each lasting about three days and with participants from many different European countries: EUROMECH 1 on the "Coanda Effect", at Berlin in April 1965 (Chairman Professor R. Wille); EUROMECH 2 on "Three-Dimensional Boundary Layers", at Liverpool in January 1966 (Chairmen Professor J. H. Horlock and Dr. J. F. Norbury); EUROMECH 3 on "Supersonic Flows with Heat Addition", at Aachen in February 1966 (Chairmen Professor A. Naumann and Professor H. Kühn); EUROMECH 4 on the "Structure of Turbulence", at Southampton in March 1967 (Chairman

Professor P. O. A. L. Davies); EUROMECH 5 on "Vibration of Buildings", at Southampton in April 1967 (Chairman Professor B. L. Clarkson); EUROMECH 6 on "Stability in Continuous Systems", at Norwich in April 1967 (Chairman Professor P. Chadwick); and EUROMECH 8 on "Thermoelasticity" at Jablonna, near Warsaw, in October 1967 (Chairman Professor Nowacki).

These Colloquia have justified the expectations set on them. They have demonstrated the value of an informal discussion on a suitable chosen subject arranged by a Chairman who is keenly interested in current work and its furtherance and who is able to provide surroundings conducive to lively exchanges.

As a consequence, it has been agreed that the running of EUROMECH Colloquia should now be put on a more permanent basis. The general planning of Colloquia is to be supervised by a EUROMECH Committee of four members drawn, on rotation, from the participating countries. For each Colloquium the Committee appoints a Chairman who organises it in accordance with the general principles laid down. The Committee makes contact with scientists and engineers in each country mainly through the representative national body, and it reports its activities to IUTAM. A small number of EUROMECH Correspondents in each country help the Chairman by suggesting names of suitable participants to be invited.

The members of the EUROMECH Committee elected for the first term are as follows:

Professor G. K. Batchelor (Chairman), Department of Applied Mathematics and Theoretical Physics, University of Cambridge, Silver Street, Cambridge, England.

Professor J. F. Besseling, Technische Hoogeschool, Delft, Mekelweg 2, Netherlands.

Professor R. Wille, Technische Universität, 1 Berlin 12, Müller-Breslau Strasse 8, Germany-West.

Dr. D. Küchemann (Secretary), Aerodynamics Department, Royal Aircraft Establishment, Farnborough, Hampshire, England.

The following further Colloquia have been planned:

EUROMECH 7. Mechanics of Liquids Containing Bubbles, at Grenoble University from 23 to 26 April 1968, with Professor A. Craya as Chairman;

EUROMECH 9. Aerodynamics of Rarefied Gas Flows, at Paris University, from 7 to 9 February 1968, with Professor E. A. Brun as Chairman;

EUROMECH 10. Aerodynamics of Flows with Large Velocity Fluctuations, at Liblice Castle, near Prague, from 27 to 30 March 1968, with Dr. J. Jerie as Chairman.

The Secretary will be pleased to provide further information upon request.