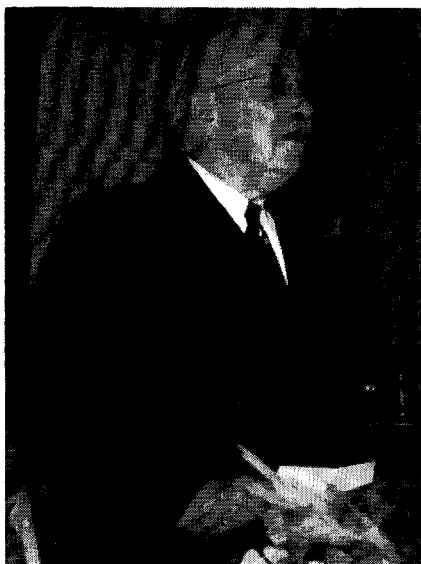


Large Segment of Population Still Poorly Nourished

CHICAGO.—This country is in an almost unbelievable position with a so-called surplus of food of high nutritive value and a population that is far below the economic and health level that could be reached if we had an adequate nutrition education program under way, Charles Glen King, scientific director of the Nutrition Foundation told the board of Trustees of the foundation here April 21.

Dr. King said that even today in the Northwest section of the country, for example, only one fourth of the people get adequate nutritional diets as recommended by modern specialists. The fact that through sound nutrition science has nearly eliminated rickets, scurvy, and pellagra, and is now making great progress in combating tooth decay, does not lessen the urgency of continued and wider education in nutrition, he said. Dr. King declared that a balanced diet for essentially all of our population is within

At the Nutrition Foundation's luncheon, University of Alabama president, O. C. Carmichael, lauded the foundation's fundamental research and education programs as of vital interest and direct value to public health and welfare



our grasp if we undertake the job of education in nutrition in a way commensurate with its importance.

O. C. Carmichael, president of the University of Alabama praised the foundation's research and educational programs. He said that the foundation is unique in American industry and among American institutions as its research is not "project" or *ad hoc* research, but is

basic research of direct value to public health and welfare. Dr. Carmichael recalled President Eisenhower's praise of the foundation during his term as president of Columbia when he complimented the foundation on having a program not only of research but also of education.

George A. Sloan, president of the foundation, which is wholly supported by the food industry, reported to the board that grants totaling \$3,172,000 have been made by the foundation for basic research in nutrition. These grants, he said, have gone to 75 universities and colleges.

Speakers Disagree on Effects of 1975 Population on Food Supply

WASHINGTON.—Must we prepare to tighten our belts or will we still have plenty to eat in 1975? Two views of the problem of population and food supply in the future were presented to the agricultural luncheon of the U. S. Chamber of Commerce which met here recently.

We'll have to tighten our belts according to Paul B. Sears, Yale University. He said that most geologists, biologists, and students of population seem to be gravely concerned about the future of the present economy of plenty in the U.S.

While our farm land is limited there appear to be no limits to the potential of population growth, and Dr. Sears pointed out that we have lowered the efficiency of our farm lands by poor conservation practices and at the same time we are increasing our demands for agricultural products.

Dr. Sears acknowledged that: "Scientists themselves are divided on the question as to whether or not we can maintain the economy of plenty for the indefinite future." Although technological advances may result in greater yields it is only at the expense of the land that these increases are made. He said that despite many of our advances in knowledge, the per acre yield of Ohio farmland was only being maintained with difficulty. The increased productions realized from hybrid seed corn are, according to Dr. Sears, only

being obtained at the expense of soil fertility.

As for the hope of technology providing artificial substitutes for agriculture, he takes an equally dim view. Here he sees that this "last promise of the bright new world" will mean an increasing dependence on highly specialized technology. Dr. Sears says that each complication in the food production chain increases our vulnerability to outside pressures, and he feels that we can expect stresses for a long time to come.

To point up his theme, Dr. Sears said: "If we continue to exploit the land and disrupt the great cycles of water energy and nutrient minerals under conditions of increasing consumption and population, some genius with a slide rule may see how to maintain the American way of life. I do not."

A more optimistic outlook was presented by Charles E. Kellogg of the USDA. Dr. Kellogg did not brandish a slide rule before the luncheon guests but he discussed some technological advances which he feels will solve our future problems of food supply.

He said that the farmers of the nation now have almost 400 million acres of land planted to crops, but that if the need arises this could be increased to 600 million acres by careful planning and shifting land use. He believes that land supply will not be a limiting factor in future food production.