

# Welcoming Address

**KARL W. FANGAUF**, Conference President, and Director,  
American Soybean Association, Hamburg, Germany

As chairman of the Conference, it certainly is a great pleasure and honor to welcome you here today and to thank you for your interest in the subject of the Conference. The topicality and importance of the subject of today's Conference is confirmed by participation of over 1100 delegates from 45 countries.

My welcome extends particularly to those ladies and gentlemen who have come to Europe from other continents. I very much hope that you will be able to make use of this opportunity, not only to broaden your technical knowledge, but also to gain further impressions of current life in Europe, its eventful ages of the past, and the economic impulses gaining momentum today from a continent becoming united.

The situation in the protein market this year, too, was certainly the reason many delegates came, just as it was the reason for us asking you, U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Earl Butz, to talk to us. We welcome you, particularly, as well as the three American senators, Hubert Humphrey, Carl Curtis, and Walter D. Huddleston. By your presence here, you are giving special support to the efforts of American soybean producers. Thank you in the name of the American Soybean Association for your interest and your visit.

Ladies and gentlemen, the number of honored guests who are able to be with us today is gratifyingly large. This also applies to the number of lecturers, discussion speakers and other Conference participants. To all of you, I offer our especially hearty welcome.

The aim of the Conference is clearly before us. It is intended to give all members an opportunity to gain comprehensive and detailed knowledge about the specialized subject, "Soy Protein in Human Nutrition," in order to obtain inspiration which will be reflected in future improvements in nutritional science for the whole of humanity.

We are hoping for a greater exchange of ideas between manufacturers of soy protein products and the consuming food industry which is constantly concerned with the development of new food preparations. The giddy pace of the times we live in demands quick changes in production and constant new developments, for which the raw material protein is also particularly indispensable.

Both the food industry and institutional users of foods

are dependent more than ever on low-priced protein in order to follow the recommendations of accepted nutritional science. But our discussion here should not only be considered as a problem of quantity. We place the main importance on questions of function and technology.

If the aim of the Conference is concentrated particularly toward the food industry, and consequently toward countries with a highly developed food industry, this does not mean that the developing countries are being neglected, but it is the logical transfer, step-by-step, of new knowledge from a laboratory stage toward practical applications.

We would like to ask you, R.T. Milner, as director of the Protein Advisory Group of the United Nations, New York, and the gentlemen present from the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), Rome, and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, Vienna, to understand the direction in which the Conference is aimed. We believe the extremely large protein gap prevailing in developing countries can be much more easily closed with a basic food product which has already proven itself in the western world and, above all, has found a use in products consumed every day.

Obviously, even this objective is still a long way ahead. But this distance will decline as quickly as our society can show more courage in issuing positive statements to new developments after carefully examining them. It is not unusual for the progress of our society to be measured by nutritional standards, and for this reason a considerable part of our program is taken up by political aspects of nutrition. The results are intended to serve as decision aids and guidelines for future legislative measures.

The city of Munich, ladies and gentlemen, has planned to make your stay a pleasant one. I know Munich as a splendid host, and the Bavarian atmosphere invites one to cultivate that tradition which ought to be upheld in order to find, in the hectic times of today, one's indispensable relaxation.

It is my personal wish that you will get to know as much Munich life as possible in your brief amount of free time.

Ladies and gentlemen, we have a lot of work before us!

Let us get down to it, and let us discuss topics, sine ira et studio!

# Proteins in a World of Change

**W.B. TILSON**, President, American Soybean Association, Hudson, Iowa

On behalf of the American Soybean Association which represents the many farmers of America who produce soybeans for the world market, I take great pleasure in welcoming all of you to the first World Soy Protein Conference.

I think it is appropriate that this first Conference should be held in Europe, where the use of soy proteins in western-style foods was first pioneered in the 1920's. It was also here that soy was so extensively used in foods, although with many problems, during the 1940's.

The fact that this Conference is being held in 1973 also seems to me to be most appropriate. This is the year when the value of proteins both as food and feed ingredients has been reassessed by the world market. The long-standing surpluses of grains, milk products, and other foodstuffs

have disappeared from the surplus-producing countries. New monetary relationships have been established. New standards of food consumption have come into being in the developed and the developing countries alike as a result of these dramatic changes. The world has come to realize that food proteins are, indeed, more precious than gold, or energy fuels, or millions of manufactured products, for they are the very touchstone of human life and health.

History records that those who stood at the very center of great historic events and changes seldom realized the far-reaching consequences of those events nor of the influence which their own decisions would have on the future of man. Such is the case, I believe, with most of us who are engaged in the soy protein industry at this particular time in history. Almost unnoticed in the clamor

of national and international political and military events, the world is establishing a whole new relationship with food, and particularly with food proteins. A few decades from now, history will show the decisions you have made and things you have done during this particular time as having far-reaching consequence on the political, social, military, and economic structures of the nations of the world, as well as on the food technologies, food habits,

health and well-being of her people. I sincerely hope that your deliberations at this Conference will be as thoughtful, as profound, and as constructive as this distinguished group of delegates can make them, for the results of your efforts will be heard around the world for years to come.

Again, our welcome, and Godspeed with your work during these next three days.

## Welcome Address

J. BALTES, President,

Deutsche Gesellschaft für Fettwissenschaft e.V., Munster, West Germany

As President of the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Fettwissenschaft, I am honored to welcome you to the World Soy Protein Conference.

The great response to this Conference of the American Soybean Association is evidenced by the number of participants, over 1,100 from 46 countries, and also by the many committees and corporations, which are listed in the Conference program. This unusual response, I attribute to the importance of the topic of the Conference and also to the distinguished experts who are participating in this meeting.

I think that the individual participants, as well as we sponsors, are full of expectations, expectations for the future use of soybeans, not only on an economic basis, but on scientific and social bases. To illustrate these expectations further, please allow me to review the history of the agricultural economy.

The American Soybean Association is 53 years old; its previous annual meetings and conferences mainly were addressed to American farmers and producers of soybeans. Now here is a Conference with an economic, scientific, and technically important program being held in Germany! I think that one of the reasons for this is the long tradition of processing soybeans in this country. Ca. 40 years ago here in this country, more than 1 million tons of soybeans were processed, far more than in the U.S. At that time, Germany was known as the country with the largest oil milling industry in the world. Of course, all of this makes this Conference especially welcome to us. However, I do not want to talk about old times; I want to outline the present great importance of the soybean.

All of you know the role of the soybean in the industrialized countries of North America and Europe as the dominant protein source for animal feed and as the most important source of vegetable oil. In eastern Asia, it is one of the most important foodstuffs. Ca. 90% of the annual world production takes place in the U.S. and China. The world demand increases ca. 7% each year which means a doubling within 11 years. We can view U.S. soybean exports as a barometer for this increase. They have grown phenomenally since the early 1960's from a few \$100 million to more than \$2 billion in 1972. No other product

has exceeded this, not even the high technology products, like computers and jet aircrafts; and the demand continues to grow, as we can see from the prices.

How can we meet this rising demand? In comparison to other cultivated plants, like wheat, corn, etc., which since 1950 have shown an annual 4% increase in yield per/acre/year, the soybean has shown an average of 1% increased yield. To harvest more soybeans means to plant more soybeans; this is what happened in the U.S. this year. The production increase since 1950 has grown 400% and was obtained basically through expansion of the acreage, which means that this year 1/6 of the total U.S. acreage was planted with soybeans. In July, we heard that a reduction of the acres planted for 1974 was not intended. However, not long ago, Lester B. Brown at the Overseas Development Council (*Science*, 182:227) reported that the U.S. Department of Agriculture had indications that there would be a reduction of the planted acreage in 1974, supposedly as a result of this year's record crop. If this should be the case, there will undoubtedly be further price increases, with or without the U.S.S.R. as customers.

How and where can we solve the problems inherent in this situation? Obviously an attempt can be made to try to use high grade protein from soybeans more efficiently than is possible in animal feed. This is the main subject of this Conference which we, especially we European skeptics, should demonstrate, if possible: how to make the soy protein available for human consumption. Basically, this is not new to us, because in eastern Asia this has been done for centuries. For the western world, there is the added responsibility of adapting soy protein to the nutritional requirements of the modern society, in other words, making it a desirable food product and making it equally acceptable as meat. The solution to this problem is important, and we have heard much about it and about what remains to be done. Now we would like to hear about it all first hand.

This, I think, is what the sponsors and, of course, the participants expect of this Conference. Hopefully this Conference will have productive results. We wish great success to all in achieving this objective.

## Remarks by Senator Carl T. Curtis

CARL T. CURTIS, U.S. Senator from Nebraska and member of the Committee on Agriculture

Representing a soybean-producing state as I do in the U.S. Senate, my concern naturally is for the well-being of the producers of this most vital commodity.

In our efforts to provide the people of the world with the products of this small bean, which contains the protein

so vital to human health and well-being, we must not forget the producer.

We must work from the premise that these individuals who take the economic risks associated with any type of agricultural production deserve a decent wage for their