

Special attention should be directed to fermentation as a means of preservation that is suitable for use in many countries where modern preservation techniques are too expensive or unavailable.

The intricate interplay that takes place between a succession of microorganisms during the process of converting and preserving milk curd, bean curd, vegetables, wastes, etc., needs to be studied in the field, possibly by mobile biotechnical laboratories.

Another essential area would be the upgrading of sewage-allowing its recycling back into food and feed.

PRODUCTIVITY AND QUALITY

Placing of emphasis on coordinating nutrition with biological productivity brings to attention the need of balancing the nutritive criteria with both the quantity and quality of produced organic matter. So far, quantity has largely been given priority over specified nutritional needs. The ratio, protein content, and the aminogram emerge as crucial criteria. After consultation with the Subcommittees on Production Processes and Human Adaptability, we propose the formation of a task force to develop a symposium on food production that would have particular reference to the ratio and the amino acid composition.

CONFERENCES

The Subcommittee is sponsoring the convening of an international Working Conference on the Waste and Losses of Food and Feed to be held at Michigan State University. Emphasis is to be placed on methods of making appraisals. There is a need to understand the causative factors as affected by environmental conditions. Agreement on methods are essential in order to move from ad hoc studies and allow valid comparisons between commodities, climates, and regions. This study would include (1) the relations between the activities of insects and those of microorganisms; (2) the penetration of parasites into man, food-producing animals, and crops; and (3) the conveyance of pathogens from animals and crops to man.

As mentioned above, a symposium to review agricultural production in terms of human food is planned. Focus will be on the quantity and quality of protein. Genetical effects on amino acid com-