

# A Dairyman's Trek to Europe

By F. E. Nelson

The 17th International Dairy Congress was held last summer in Munich, Germany. I attended as a member of the United States delegation.

More than 2,500 men engaged in dairy research, production, processing and marketing in all parts of the world attended. While numerous papers on current research are submitted and printed in the proceedings of the Congress, individual papers are not read; rather, several people summarize important points of the papers, emphasis being on the present state of knowledge in that specific area.

While this arrangement does save time, one does not have the advantage of the specific viewpoints of the individual authors, and discussion frequently is minimized. Control of microbial contamination and prevention of chemical deterioration, particularly of fats, received considerable attention.

## New Machinery Shown

An international dairy machinery exhibition and a book exhibition were held simultaneously with the congress. Each was the largest of its type held in the world. The machinery exhibit was particularly impressive, occupying several large exhibition halls. Particularly impressive were several systems for mechanized cheese making, a number of types of equipment for aseptic packaging of

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F<sub>1</sub> plants of the original cross (now named Composite Cross XXVI) has been distributed to over 50 barley breeders in the United States and abroad.

A portion of this F<sub>1</sub> seed was planted at Mesa, Ariz., in the fall of 1964. The resulting F<sub>2</sub> crop segregated for male sterility and fertility. About 8,000 male sterile plants were tagged at flowering time and seed from them was bulked at harvest. About 65 pounds of hybrid seed from natural pollination was produced on these plants, a portion of which was planted at Mesa in 1965-66. The increase is now available for distribution to barley breeders.

Previous studies with composite crosses indicate that the extremely large number of new combinations in World Composite Cross XXVII may

continuously sterilized fluid milk products, and a wide variety of new packages for milk and milk products.

Whereas much of the developmental emphasis in the United States is on plastic bottles, the Europeans are beginning to use flexible plastic bags ("pillow packs") or are forming containers from rolls of properly treated paper immediately before the filling operation. While European equipment for pasteurizing and handling milk and milk products usually is beautifully made and has the reputation of functioning well, American exhibitors reported that they sold much equipment, often because they could produce and deliver more rapidly than could most of the Europeans.

Following the congress, I had the privilege of observing some aspects of the food industries in Switzerland, Austria, The Netherlands, Denmark, Sweden and Norway. All of these countries import considerable amounts of concentrates for animal feeding, because both of climate and local demands for human needs limit the local supplies. Interesting was the extensive industrial support provided for the various laboratories that do research and development work, even though the laboratories are also supported to some degree by various governmental agencies. This situation has resulted in many of these laboratories being unusually well staffed and equipped.

hold valuable potential for any winter barley growing area of the world, due to its wide germ plasm base. It can be grown at a given location in bulk from successive crops with relatively little time and expense. Natural selection for a period of generations will tend to favor types that are adapted at that location. Certain characters will be eliminated more rapidly at some locations than at others.

Composite Cross XXVII should contain a large number of recombinations not present in CC XXVI. No more cycles of crossing are planned of this material for distribution purposes, but reserve hybrid seed will be increased in subsequent years as needed. It is expected that the CC XXVII will not be used directly for commercial production, but as a source from which plant breeders may select superior strains.

## Fewer "Convenience Foods"

Use of partially or completely processed convenience foods is much less common in Europe than in the United States, but is increasing rapidly. Ice cream is becoming much more popular and more available than it has been. However, general use of frozen foods must be preceded by more general availability of home freezers for holding these products prior to use. Home gardens still are very popular, and fresh vegetables are found in great quantity and variety in the various markets. The great variety and general high quality of European bakery products made it very difficult to pass by these shops. However, a good steak or a good beef roast as we know it is extremely hard to find, as they have no beef production of consequence, other than the slaughter of cows no longer useful for dairy production.

Much of Europe, and particularly the Scandinavian area, appears to be suffering from inflation and high taxation. Sales taxes are as high as 12 percent and special taxes may more than double the costs of such things as automobiles, coffee, cigarettes and beer in some areas.

"Bargains" for the American traveler are increasingly difficult to find, particularly in the urban centers frequented by tourists. Where prices remain low, a government subsidy, such as that for buses and trains, frequently is involved. One hears considerable comment about the high costs, but the people still support the governments that are taxing them to support the socialistic programs.

Un contenido de 3.50 a 3.75% de calcio en la ración de las aves es suficiente para que pongan huevos con cáscara de buena calidad. Además, la eficiencia del alimento (kilos de alimento necesarios para producir una docena de huevos) es algo mejor con este sistema de alimentación (calcio incluido en la harina) en comparación con el antiguo sistema de suministrar 2.25% de calcio en la harina más harina de conchas de ostión para consumo a voluntad.

DOS TIPOS DE HORMONAS, el estrogénico que producen los ovarios y el gonadotrópico que se compone de extractos de la pituitaria y otros que actúan sobre los ovarios se han empleado para tratar la esterilidad de la vaca. Por los resultados obtenidos, se estima que quedaron cargadas un 60% de las vacas tratadas.