Ladies and gentlemen --- It is indeed a pleasure for me to greet members of the Council on Consumer Information. It is nice to have you in Minnesota and particularly here on the campus of the University where just seven years ago several of you took part in the planning that culminated in the formation of this organization.

I am always just a little amazed at the spirit of dedication exemplified by this group. As I look over this audience I recognize representatives from California to the West, and New York to the East, from Canada to the North and Tennessee to the South. Within these boundaries, the states of Kansas, Colorado, Missouri, Illinois, Ohio, Wisconsin, Iowa, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, Oregon, Utah, Maryland, and our national capital Washington, D.C. are represented.

In addition, I am more than a little proud of the accomplishments of this organization that is concerned with problems of our economy, considered from the point of view of the ultimate consumer. The Council on Consumer Information believes consumers need information to help them play a responsible role as citizens so that the tremendous potential of our economic system will be channeled into goods and services that maximize the welfare of all.

Your publications program consisting of eleven pamphlets, proceedings of former conferences, and a most informative newsletter is an achievement of which to be proud. In fact, this is the only truly national consumer organization now in existence dedicated to a program of serving consumers through conferences and pamphlets. In a real sense I see here a relatively small group of people devoted to the tremendous task of informing the other 180 million consumers at a time when the need was never greater.

President Troelstrup, may I again say we are delighted to have you and your organization here.