Denver Meet  
Touches Many Issues

"Welcome to Denver and the 24th Annual Meeting of ARI," said T. J. Army, ARI President, in his opening address at the recent meeting. "It was only a few years ago . . . that any reference to production research was considered taboo," he told the 150 people attending the meeting.

Things are different today. "... The Wall Street Journal is carrying a series of articles on the front page about widespread food shortages . . . scholars are predicting that in the coming decades food scarcity will be the normal condition of life on earth," Army said.

The retiring ARI president called for more effort in agricultural research to help avert food shortages ahead. He also emphasized the role of ARI in identifying vital areas of research. "There are no simple answers—research results are not obtained with the snap of the finger," he said. "The ARI is the only organization that I know of that has as its sole objective the promotion of the quantity and quality research."

Great Western Spends  
Millions in Pollution Fight

Great Western Sugar Company officials in Colorado declare that pollution-control devices, when functioning properly, remove 98.75% of factory pollutants from waste water. This is helping the company erase the stigma of being the biggest polluter of the South Platte River Basin.

Federal water pollution regulations demand that several sugar factories halt all effluent discharge by 1983, a target GW believes it can hit. Removing that last 1.25% of water pollutants will cost another $5.5 million. Air pollution controls yet to be installed will add $2.5 million, pushing the total beyond $40 million.

Great Western officials have little quarrel with most changes dictated by water-pollution laws. Indeed, $20 million of the $33 million spent to date has resulted in additional financial return through new products or better recovery of sugar.

Dr. Thomas Army, vice president for research, is one Great Western official who would like to be rid of pollution problems so he could concentrate on other things. "Too much of the research budget has been devoted to water and air pollution," Army says, "and not enough to improving our product and getting more sugar out of the beets." (condensed from Denver Post)