

look at this period in more detail, however no definitive results can be expected. A summary of the studies taken from Erikssen (1952) is given in Table 1.

Atmospheric (1955-1975)

In the late forties, atmospheric chemistry became a recognized branch of atmospheric studies. As a part of this interest in chemical cycles in the atmosphere, measurements of precipitation chemistry were begun in Europe under Professor Rossby. This interest spread to North America where the first continent-wide network was established by C. Junge. This network only lasted one year; other networks were established but soon were discontinued mainly because of the lack of support. Table 2 summarizes the work done during this period. Some of these efforts have continued through the present time. Initially precipitation chemistry had been studied mainly from the atmospheric viewpoint but as ecologists in the early seventies began to document the effects of acid deposition, the thrust of precipitation chemistry work began to change. This concern culminated in the first major international meeting on acid deposition in North America (Dochinger and Seliga 1976).

Ecological (1975-Present)

Though several of the networks mentioned in the previous section were aimed at evaluation of ecological effects, a major thrust in this area was begun with the establishment of the National Atmospheric Deposition Program (NADP). Though