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# *Increasing Understanding of Public Problems and Policies*

1970

*A Group Study of Four Topics  
in the Field of Extension Education*

**The University's Role in Public  
Policy Education**

**Policy Issues for the Seventies**

**Income Maintenance Programs**

**Environment and Quality of Life**

**Farm Foundation**

## Subjects Discussed at Previous Conferences

- \*1955 Taxation in Relation to Changing Demands for Services • Water Problems and Policies • Economic Growth and Stability • Problems of Low-Income People in Rural Areas
- \*1956 The Nature of Education in Agricultural Policy • Agricultural Policy in a Changing Economy • Balancing Supply and Demand • Extension's Role in Rural Development
- 1957 Issues in Agricultural Policy • Appraisal of Agricultural Programs • Experiences in Public Policy Programs • Effective Public Policy Education
- \*1958 Approaches to Solving the Income Problem of Commercial Agriculture • Major Problems and Trends in Farm Policy • Research in Agricultural Policy • Extension Education in Farm Policy • Agricultural Programs Around the World
- \*1959 International Relations and Agricultural Trade • Farm Price and Income Policy Programs • Problems and Trends in Agricultural Policy • Local and State Financing • Land Use
- 1960 Farm and Economic Policy • The Farm Problem—What Are the Choices? • Foreign Agricultural Trade Policy • The Land-Grant System and Public Affairs Education • Economic Growth
- 1961 Extension Education in Farm Policy • Economic Development • Marketing Agreements and Orders • International Trade and American Agriculture
- 1962 Foreign Policy Alternatives • Agricultural Policy Issues • Educational Policies and Methods • State and Local Taxation Policies
- 1963 Economic Development • Foreign Trade and Aid Issues • Evaluation of Agricultural Programs • Improving Policy Education Programs
- 1964 Education in a Democratic Society • Meeting Our International Obligations • Farm Policy Issues—1965 and Beyond • Extension Programs in Public Policy
- 1965 Emerging Foreign Policy Issues • New Directions: Trade, Aid, Farm Policy • Politics and Agricultural Policy • Human Resource Development Issues
- 1966 Meeting World Food Needs • The Food Marketing System • The Crisis in Cotton • Breaking the Poverty Cycle • Helping People Solve Public Problems
- 1967 Southeast Asia Policy Alternatives • Response to World Food Outlook • Policies for Commercial Agriculture • Minimum Family Income Proposals • Community Development Policy
- 1968 Extension Public Affairs Programs • United States' Role in World Affairs • Agricultural Policy Alternatives • Rural Poverty
- 1969 Successful Extension Programs • Inflation and Economic Growth • Competitive Structure for Agriculture • Foreign Trade and Development • The Changing Structure of American Society

*\*Out of print*

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**Farm Foundation**  
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## FOREWORD

This publication presents the major discussions of the twentieth national agricultural policy conference held September 22-25, 1970, at Pokagon State Park, Angola, Indiana. The conference was planned by the National Committee on Agricultural Policy and designed to assist extension workers who deal with agricultural and public policy problems. Ninety-seven representatives from 45 states, the United States Department of Agriculture, and other interested agencies participated in the conference.

The conference provided an opportunity for exchange of experiences and ideas, and the resulting intellectual excitement led to self-renewal. Few individuals in attendance are likely to think the same as before about the subjects of income maintenance, the environment, or the role of the university in education for public decision making. Such self-renewal will have far-reaching impacts on public policy education in the states and counties of the United States.

The reports of the conferences have also helped extend the benefits of the conferences beyond the participants. The conference reports have been made available not only to state and county extension personnel but also to teachers, students, and others interested in increasing understanding of public policy issues. The need is greater than ever before to develop intelligent and responsible citizens who can make informed choices and participate effectively in solving the troublesome and divisive problems that plague our society today.

The National Committee on Agricultural Policy voted to change its name to the National Public Policy Education Committee since its activities have expanded considerably beyond those originally envisioned. The National Committee and the conferences have benefited from the devoted services and interest of a number of people who have participated regularly in the conferences during the past twenty years. Included in this group are Joseph Ackerman, former Managing Director of the Farm Foundation; T. E. Atkinson, Arkansas; G. Max Beal, Maryland; S. Avery Bice, Colorado; J. Carroll Bottum, Indiana; W. D. Curtis, Louisiana; John O. Dunbar, Indiana; C. E. Klingner, Missouri; J. B. Kohlmeyer, Indiana; Arthur Mauch, Michigan; Wallace Ogg, Iowa; M. C. Rochester, South Carolina; and Tyrus R. Timm, Texas. The pioneering efforts of these individuals are responsible in a large measure for the tremendous strides that have been made in agricultural and public policy education.

The Farm Foundation, the Center for Agricultural and Economic Development at Iowa State University, and the Agricultural Policy

Institute at North Carolina State University assisted in developing the program for the conference. The Farm Foundation, following its policy of close cooperation with the state extension services, financed the instructional staff, the transportation of one delegate from each state, and the publication of this report.

R. J. Hildreth, *Managing Director*  
Farm Foundation



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