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Increasing Understanding of Public Problems and Policies

1959

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

International Relations and Agricultural Trade
Farm Price and Income Policy Programs
Problems and Trends In Agricultural Policy
Local and State Financing
Land Use

Farm Foundation
In cooperation with
The Center for Agricultural
and Economic Adjustment

**Subjects Discussed at Previous
Conferences on Increasing Understanding
of Public Problems and Policies**

- 1951 International Affairs • Inflation • Agricultural Production Policy
• Interrelationships of Agriculture and Other Segments of Our
National Economy
- 1952 The Farmer's Stake in Foreign Trade • Taxes and the Federal
Budget • Farm Price and Income Supports
- 1953 Wheat Price Policy in the United States • A Price-Support Policy
for Farm Commodities • Old-Age and Survivors Insurance • How
the Political Process Works
- 1954 Expanding Outlets for American Farm Products • Alternative
Methods of Stabilizing Farm Income • Increasing the Effective-
ness of Public Policy Education
- 1955 Taxation in Relation to Changing Demands for Services • Water
Problems and Policies • Economic Growth and Stability • Prob-
lems 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 Agri-
culture • Major Problems and Trends in Farm Policy • Research
in Agricultural Policy • Extension Education in Farm Policy •
Agricultural Programs Around the World

The 1951, 1953, 1955, and 1958 reports are out of print, but a limited supply of the reports for other years is available upon request from the Farm Foundation.

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Local and State Financing
Land Use

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FOREWORD

This publication reports the major discussions of the ninth national agricultural policy conference planned by the National Committee on Agricultural Policy and sponsored by the Farm Foundation. Eighty-six representatives from 44 states, the United States Department of Agriculture, and other interested agencies participated in the conference.

This report supplements the material included in the proceedings of the eight previous policy conferences. The purpose of these annual policy conferences is to assist extension workers who deal with agricultural policy problems through: (1) presentation of timely and useful information and (2) discussion of effective techniques for presenting this information to groups. This year special emphasis was again given to the development of discussion guides for use in state and local extension programs (contained in Part II).

The exchange of experiences and ideas at these conferences is designed to broaden the knowledge of participants, stimulate their thinking, and extend their horizons, thereby increasing their competence in dealing with the complex and multiple aspects of agricultural policy issues.

The Farm Foundation, following its policy of close cooperation with the state extension services, assisted in developing the program for the 1959 conference, financed the instructional staff, provided a portion of the necessary expenses of those in attendance, and agreed to make this report of the conference available to all the states. The Center for Agricultural and Economic Adjustment, Iowa State University, provided funds for the work groups to meet prior to the conference to prepare resource materials and also helped finance the printing of this report.

Joseph Ackerman, *Managing Director*
Farm Foundation

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