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Increasing Understanding of Public Problems and Policies — 1977

Federal Policy Process

U. S. Energy Policy

World Food — U. S. Policy Choices

**1977 Food and
Agriculture Legislation**

**Agent Training and
Leadership Development**

Subjects Discussed at Previous Conferences

- 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
- 1970 The University's Role in Public Policy Education • Policy Issues for the Seventies • Income Maintenance Programs • Environment and Quality of Life
- 1971 Who Makes National Policy? • Struggle for Control of the Food System • Where Will People Live and Work?
- 1972 Current Economic Policy • Who Will Control Agriculture? • Rural Development • Property Rights and Land Use • Policy Education
- 1973 Energy Policy Issues • Policy Education Methods • Land Use Policy • Agricultural and Foreign Trade • New Policy Perspectives and Dimensions
- 1974 State of the Economy • Food Policy • Energy Issues • Land Use Policy and Planning • Improving the Performance of Government
- 1975 The U.S. Economic System • Energy and Transportation • World Food Issues • Domestic Food and Farm Policy • Public Policy Education in Perspective
- 1976 The U.S. Political Economy • Food and Agricultural Policy • Impacts of Judicial and Regulatory Decision Making • Energy Policy

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FOREWORD

This publication reports the major discussions of the 27th national public policy conference, held September 11-15, 1977, at The Inn at Otter Crest, Otter Rock, Oregon. One hundred twenty-three representatives from 46 states, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and other interested agencies participated in the conference.

As in other years, the conference included speakers and subjects to stimulate and challenge extension workers responsible for public affairs programs to do a better job of policy education. The conference was planned by the National Public Policy Education Committee.

Specific objectives were: (1) to provide timely and useful information on public issues; (2) to explore different approaches in conducting public policy educational programs; and (3) to share ideas and experiences in policy education.

It is hoped that the increased professional competence of participants will result in improved educational programs. It is hoped, too, that this will lead ultimately to intelligent and responsible choices by citizens in solving public problems at both the local and national levels.

The purpose of this report is to extend the benefits of the conference beyond the participants. The report will be 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 report was edited by a committee consisting of: Arley Waldo (Chairman), University of Minnesota; Robert Jones, Purdue University; William Neely, Extension Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture; and Lavaughn Johnson, University of Georgia.

The Farm Foundation, following its policy of close cooperation with the state extension services, financed the instructional staff and the transportation of one individual from each state as well as publication of this report.

J. B. Wyckoff, Chairman
National Public Policy Education Committee
R. J. Hildreth, Managing Director
Farm Foundation

CONTENTS

PART 1. THE FEDERAL POLICY PROCESS	Page
Recent Changes in the Federal Policy Making Process	Daniel M. Ogden, Jr. 3
Opportunities for Effective Extension Policy Education	W. Neill Schaller 10
.....	Henry A. Wadsworth 12
.....	Barry Flinchbaugh 14
PART 11. U.S. ENERGY POLICY	
A Mideast View of the Energy Crisis	Nosratollah Rassekh 19
The Future of Energy Demand	Walter R. Butcher 24
Energy, Transportation, and Location of Economic Activity	Ken Casavant 31
PART III. WORLD FOOD — U.S. POLICY CHOICES	
The World We Find Ourselves In	John Ferch 41
U.S. Food Policies: The Perspective of Developed Countries	G. Edward Schuh 50
U.S. Food Policies: The Perspective of Third World Countries	A. T. Mosher 62
U.S. Policy Choices — Food and Commercial Trade	John Letiche 72
Implications for Public Policy Education	Everett E. Peterson 87
PART IV. 1977 FOOD AND AGRICULTURE LEGISLATION	
Some Implications of the 1977 Food and Agriculture Legislation	J. B. Penn 91
PART V. AGENT TRAINING IN PUBLIC POLICY	
Experiments in Policy Education	Verne W. House 107
Land Use Planning Education — A Public Policy Issue in Washington County, Oregon	Richard C. Beck 109
Women in Transition — A Case Study of Yakima County, Washington	Ruth Scarlett 112
The Evaluation Process for the Public Policy Education Project	Warren L. Trock 115
PART VI. RURAL LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT	
Kellogg Foundation's Interest in Rural Leadership	Gene Rapp 121
California's Agricultural Leadership Program ..	Rich Russell 122
Montana's Kellogg-Extension Project	Mary Lee Reese 124
Four Kellogg Foundation-Assisted Leadership Development Programs	Robert E. Howell 127

PART I

The Federal Policy Process