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*Increasing Understanding  
of Public Problems and  
Policies - 1971*

## Subjects Discussed at Previous Conferences

- \*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
- 1970 The University's Role in Public Policy Education • Policy Issues for the Seventies • Income Maintenance Programs • Environment and Quality of Life

*\*Out of print*

# Increasing Understanding of Public Problems and Policies - 1971

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**Who Makes National Policy?**

**Struggle for Control of the  
Food System**

**Where Will People Live and Work?**

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## FOREWORD

This publication presents the major discussions of the twenty-first national public policy conference, held September 13-17, 1971, at the State Game Lodge, Custer, South Dakota. The conference was planned by the National Public Policy Education Committee and designed to assist extension workers who deal with agricultural and public policy problems. One hundred 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. Few individuals in attendance are likely to think the same as before about the subjects: who makes national policy, struggle for control of the food system, and where will people live and work. The self-renewal resulting from the intellectual excitement at the conference will have far-reaching impacts on public policy education in the states and counties of the United States.

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 need is greater than ever before to develop intelligent and responsible citizens who can make informed choices and participate effectively in solving the problems that confront our troubled society today.

Not contained in this publication, and available separately from the Farm Foundation, are reports of methodology work groups which met Tuesday afternoon, September 14. The work group sessions were devoted to case studies of how public policy education is conducted in four subject areas: state-wide planning (Chairman, T. H. Sidor); environment (Chairman, Charles P. Gratto); state and local government affairs (Chairman, Alvin E. House); and farm policy (Chairman, Martin K. Christiansen).

The Farm Foundation and the Center for Agricultural and Economic Development at Iowa 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 individual from each state, and the publication of this report.

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

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