

OPENING REMARKS

*G. B. Wood, Chairman
National Committee on Agricultural Policy*

It is my pleasure, on behalf of the National Committee, to welcome you to this sixteenth national conference on agricultural policy, sponsored by the Farm Foundation. This is the second time that we have had the privilege of meeting at the Lake Hope conference grounds. I know that you will find the fellowship, hospitality, and environment most conducive to a successful conference.

These are very interesting days in the field of public policy. It is becoming increasingly difficult to predict just what the critical issues will be three months from now, let alone a year from now. Within this context, I feel that the program committee has put together a very timely and meaningful program. You submitted excellent suggestions last year, and you will note that many of these have been incorporated into the program for this conference. We hope that you will continue to provide this guidance to the National Committee as it develops succeeding programs for your consideration.

One of the most striking things this morning as I face this audience is the number of new persons who are here as professionals in the area of public policy. I extend to you a very special welcome. I believe your association with this group will be one of the most stimulating experiences that you will have in your professional career. Fortunately, the hard core of this group is dedicated to improving the effectiveness of people working in the public affairs field. I urge you to become acquainted with your colleagues at this conference. You will find them most willing to give you a helpful hand.

The program committee deserves special commendation for its fine efforts in structuring our conference program. One of the major problems is obtaining top people for specialized program assignments who have not already been utilized in other programs around the country to which we are exposed. We feel fortunate in having some new and capable people at this conference to examine some critical issues. I hope that this meeting, with its exchange of ideas, will be a very rich and rewarding experience for you.

PART I

*Meeting World Food
Needs*

