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WD-7/56

MINUTES OF MEETING OF WESTERN EXPERIMENT STATION DIRECTORS
July 16, 1956
Bozeman, Montana

Roll Call

Meeting was called to order at 8:15 a.m. by Chairman Curry.
The following men were present:

<u>Name</u>	<u>State or Agency</u>
H. A. Wadsworth	University of Hawaii
Lowell W. Rasmussen	Washington Agricultural Exp. Station
H. M. Briggs	Wyoming Agricultural Experiment Sta.
J. E. Kraus	Idaho Agricultural Experiment Station
Paul F. Sharp	Berkeley, California
H. C. Knoblauch	S.E.S.D., Washington, D. C.
David A. Burgoyne	Utah Agricultural Experiment Station
Wynne Thorne	Utah Agricultural Experiment Station
Harold E. Myers	Arizona Agricultural Experiment Station
Ralph S. Hawkins	University of Arizona, Tucson
C. E. Fleming	University of Nevada, Reno
Ronald Ensign	University of Idaho
S. S. Wheeler	Colorado A & M College
F. E. Price	Oregon State College
R. W. Henderson	Oregon State College
Albert S. Curry	New Mexico A & M College
M. M. Kelso	Montana State College
H. G. Cochrum	Montana State College
J. A. Asleson	Montana State College

Minutes

Kelso reviewed plans for extra curricula activities and the trip to Dubois. Henderson reported that Wadsworth's name had been omitted from the roll call of the February meeting. With this correction the minutes were approved.

November meetings

Curry reviewed plans for meetings in Washington, D. C., in November. Reservations for 18 at the Directors' dinner were ordered.

National Foundation
Seed Project
Representative

Dr. Chester L. Canode was approved as replacement for Dr. Cowan on National Foundation Seed Project subject to his remaining an employee of one of the western experiment stations.

New Members

The following new members were introduced and properly inducted: Joe Asleson and Harry Cochrum of Montana, Harold Myers of Arizona, and Lowell Rasmussen of Washington.

Theme of 1960
Yearbook

Wheeler moved and Fleming seconded that our group endorse the proposal to have the 1960 Yearbook of Agriculture devoted to the subject of "nutrition."

Western Utilization
Lab Collaborators'
Meeting

Discussion of meeting of collaborators of Western Utilization Laboratory. Director Copley suggested six possible topics for the 1957-58 meeting. (Letter from Copley to Curry May 7, 1956, and Curry letter of May 12, 1956, to Western Directors.)

Price moved and Rasmussen seconded that we recommend the following topic for the next collaborators' meeting: "New evaluation methods for agricultural commodities and products." It was suggested that the program be spelled out more specifically before collaborators are selected. Thorne and Myers suggested that emphasis be placed on quality and organoleptic methods rather than nutrition aspects. Wheeler urged consideration of methods for determining consumer preference. Kelso urged a review of methods of evaluating quality in agricultural commodities, including consumer acceptance aspects. Kelso's suggestion was substituted for Price's wording and the motion was carried. (Secretary is to write to Copley and advise him of group's recommendation.)

Function of ARS
representatives on
technical committees

Briggs suggested that where ARS is listed as a cooperator that ARS turn in contributing projects. Wheeler reviewed problem that W-1 faced in determining recommendations for state allotments without knowing what ARS budgets will be in this area.

Knoblauch reported as result of previous discussion of this problem by Wheeler and Thorne with Shaw, ARS will advise each Director in advance of the beginning of the fiscal year regarding the allocation of ARS funds to each state by projects.

In discussion of question of whether or not an ARS employee can hold office in a technical committee, Henderson reported that on W-40 an ARS man was serving as chairman but held that office as the official representative of the Nevada Station rather than as an ARS employee. No objection was raised to this procedure.

Transfers of 9b3
Funds

Attention was called to the unusually large number of transfers of funds between stations, projects or states. Briggs urged that number of transfers be held to a minimum and that essential transfers be made as early as possible and in accordance with regulations.

During fiscal year 1956 there were 91 transfers of regional research funds totaling nearly \$93,000, 37 being within-station and 54 between-station transfers. Many of these transfers were for quite small sums, some amounting to as little as \$15.00.

Regional research fund transfers involve a considerable amount of time and detail and it is urged that they be held to a minimum. At times they are necessary but it is believed that by careful budgeting and accounting the over-all number of transfers can be reduced. In many instances within-station transfers can be avoided by adjustment of state or Federal-grant funds supporting a contributing project.

When transfers are necessary, consideration should be given first to within-station adjustments. Such transfers are simpler and do not involve returning funds to the Treasury and subsequent reallocations.

Writing Short Course

Curry discussed letter of July 11, 1956, from Dr. Roy E. Huffman, Chairman of WAERC, suggesting that short course for agricultural economists be held every three years and that short courses in writing for workers in areas other than agricultural economics be held. In the future, short courses will have to be self-supporting since funds for national communication project will not be available.

The suggestion has been made that a permanent center for such short courses be established at Laramie. Discussion followed regarding contribution of the workshops. Several Directors were quite critical of the relative contribution made by these regional workshops.

Kelso suggested that we look with disfavor on subject matter writing workshops as a specific undertaking, but look forward to a regional effort to improve our communication skills.

Kraus moved and Myers seconded that we go on record as not approving communication workshops during the next three years, but that we evaluate the progress that is being made within the states during this period and its relationship to the NPAC program in Extension. Carried. (Secretary is to convey this action to WAERC.)

Progress report on Committee on Special Guarantees of the Association of American Fertilizer Control Officials

Thorne reported on progress to date. He said that he had heard of no direct opposition to proposals to report fertilizer on basis of elemental content. Committees have been established to develop an active program to get the change made. Many companies won't report on elemental basis until legislation makes it necessary.

Price moved that we study this situation in our own states and report to Director Thorne within the next year. Seconded by Fleming and carried. Thorne will write to each Director reminding him to make report. A model law has been developed by a committee in OAAC. Thorne will get a copy of this law and send to each Director.

Upper Colorado River
Plans

Director Thorne advised that an effort has been made to officially bring the land-grant colleges into the planning of development of plans for river development. Procedure for participating has not been spelled out. He suggested that some of the funds made available for feasibility studies be made available to state experiment stations. The following resolution was proposed:

"Whereas President Eisenhower has indicated in his letter of January 19, 1954, that appraisal of the economic justification of the agricultural phases of river development projects is the joint responsibility of the Bureau of Reclamation, the U. S. Department of Agriculture, and State Agricultural Colleges; and

"Whereas the Agricultural Experiment Station Directors of the Eleven Western States and Hawaii recognize the responsibility of agricultural experiment stations in representing the stations' and states' viewpoint in appraisal of agricultural phases of river project development; and

"Whereas Section 6 of public law 566 provides funds to the U. S. Department of Agriculture for reviewing and making recommendations on agricultural aspects of river project development;

"Now, therefore, be it resolved that the Directors of the Agricultural Experiment Stations of the Eleven Western States and Hawaii in their meeting of July 16, 1956, request the Secretary of Agriculture to allocate adequate funds to state agricultural experiment stations for investigations needed to meet the respective state agricultural college responsibilities in project investigations."

Myers expressed concern about adequate financing. For example, if land-grant colleges only had one man working on the project, the contribution of the colleges in relation to the contribution of other agencies that are adequately stopped might be quite feasible. Price raised a question on philosophy of whether expense of state investigation should be borne by Federal Government or by the state.

Thorne moved approval of the resolution which would be sent with covering letter to the Secretary of Agriculture. Seconded by Myers and carried. Thorne will prepare letter for Chairman Curry's signature.

Discussion of
Capehart Bill

Sharp reviewed Senator Capehart's proposal. A statement was prepared by Director Hawkins of Oklahoma and presented at a hearing July 6, 1956, by Mr. Thackeray.

Report of Chairman
on Legislative
Committee

Sharp reported on hearings before the Senate and House on appropriations. He reviewed discussion at hearings relative to ratio of appropriation between USDA and payments to states. He stated the committee is actively working on a proposal to get Federal funds for construction of research facilities, possibly on a matching basis.

Material on research accomplishments should be sent to S.E.S.D. and Hawkins by mid-August at the latest. Off-the-record discussion followed.

Animal Disease
Laboratory

Ensign reported that Ames, Iowa, has been selected for the Regional Animal Disease Laboratory. He added that some pressure is developing for establishment of a branch laboratory in the West. No action taken.

Space for Federal
Cooperators

Wheeler and Sharp reported on status of this problem. Price observed that both State and Federal people have accepted the idea that Federal aide to the cooperating states is the practical solution to the problem of providing laboratory and office space for Federal employees stationed at the land-grant colleges. Sharp stated that there is general agreement that the program should be based on the State's matching the Federal contribution. ESCOP plans to develop the idea in greater detail before presenting it to the Executive Committee of the Association of Land-Grant Colleges and Universities.

Philosophy about this is now to consider this as a request parallel to the payments to the states for research - one fund for providing facilities and another bill for operation of research. Special problems at individual stations in relation to administration of such a program should be called to Sharp's attention.

Status of Memorandum
of Understanding
relative to Soil and
Water Research

Thorne reported for a committee to the effect that the memorandum should be followed informally on a trial basis for another year. The memo provides for including water research as well as soils research. (Thorne is to distribute another copy of the memo to the Directors.) Engineering phases of water research would be included. Each state would have two representatives but would have only one vote.

Ensign expressed concern over the large number of soils research committees that have been established and the large amount of travel involved. Other Directors concurred in the need for critical evaluation of the importance of these groups. Several thought that work groups should all meet at one time to avoid large expenditure of time and funds in travel.

Future of NPAC

ESCOP publication committee, ECOP and ACE are giving consideration to the future of this program after February 1958 at which time the appropriation expires.

Briggs moved and Wheeler seconded that if Western Region needs representation on NPAC that Price serve in that capacity. Motion carried. Price will reply to Hultz' memo of May 29, 1956, to members of the Board of the National Project in Agricultural Communications. Kraus and others urged that in replying to Hultz' memo that he urge continuation of the Kellogg grant for NPAC after February 1958. In discussion it was brought out that NPAC has stimulated the initiation of research projects at state experiment stations in the communications field.

Reports by S.E.S.D.
on Expenditure in
Various Research
Areas

Curry and Knoblauch discussed need for having accurate figures to present at legislative hearings relative to the allocation of state and Federal research funds to various research areas.

Complications in developing satisfactory classifications were discussed.

Myers Appointed

Wheeler moved and Kraus seconded that Chairman Curry appoint a committee to investigate feasibility of developing some statistics on research expenditures in soil and water conservation. Carried. Myers was appointed to make this investigation if other regions take similar action.

Committee of Nine
Report

Briggs reviewed information contained in Fromme's letter to Curry dated July 5, 1956.

He called attention to need for periodic review of progress being made on each regional project.

Report from S.E.S.D.
by Knoblauch

Consolidated appropriation legislation has been very helpful.

No ruling has been made regarding percentage of Federal-grant funds that can be used for administration. A major increase in the amount spent for administration would not be advisable.

Twenty of the 44 summaries of Federal-grant research in selected areas have been prepared. An index will be prepared and sent to Directors. ARS will develop a similar series covering ARS research.

Federal-grant payments to states no longer have \$15,000 limitation on use for construction of buildings or purchase of land. S.E.S.D. would appreciate opportunity to consider with states the use of Federal-grant funds for physical facilities.

Question was raised regarding whether it is necessary to keep more detailed records on each individual regional project than on each Hatch supported project. S.E.S.D. will be glad to review suggestions for simplification of this procedure.

He reported that ARS expenditures by locations will be made available to states in the near future.

Report of Project
Review Committee

Kelso discussed report of new project review committee submitted May 14, 1956.

The committee (Kelso, Thorne, Briggs) recommended against a system of broad advisory committees and proposed an alternative system. (See Kelso's May 12, 1956, report.)

Myers and Henderson urged that provision be allowed for opportunity for screening of proposals by department heads.

Kraus moved and Henderson seconded that we put into operation the recommendation as given in the review committee report of May 12 with the understanding that modifications will be necessary as experience shows need. Carried.

Chairman Curry appointed Ensign, Alexander, and Sharp to the three new positions on the expanded project review committee.

Federal-State
Relations Committee
Report

Kraus reported for the committee, discussing April 24, 1956, report of the Joint ARS-AMS-ESCAP committee on Federal-State relations. (Kraus will write to each Director requesting suggestions on specific questions raised by joint committee.)

ESCAP Report by Curry

A detailed report has gone to each station.

ESMRAC Report by
Kelso

ESMRAC will meet jointly with State Department of Agriculture representatives to confer on problems relative to Title II program.

There should be \$185,000 - \$200,000 available for Title II projects in 1959 but very little money for new projects in 1958.

Cost of Reprints
Study by Publications
Subcommittee of ESCAP

Price reported that a survey by editors showed that some journals were charging more for reprints than it would cost the station to print the article. Constructive effort is being made to work out problems. After facts on problems have been assembled the committee expects to make some policy recommendations.

Meeting recessed at 5:30 p.m.

Meeting reconvened at 8:15 a.m., July 17, 1956.

Reports from Federal
Agencies

Dr. M. L. Upchurch spoke on the general topic of opportunity for adjustments in farming to fit prospective markets. He stressed need for a continuing cooperative research program with the land-grant colleges to appraise the opportunities of adjusting the numerous farming systems to meet changes in market demands. He presented a proposed outline for a work program entitled "Appraisal of Opportunities." (A copy of the outline is attached.) He proposed that each state assign one man to devote full time working with a representative of his office in a cooperative inter-regional attack on the problem.

Kelso led the discussion of Dr. Upchurch's proposal. He suggested that states undertake cost and return studies of each of the farming systems.

Price raised question whether to solve surplus wheat problem we are going to have to give up on trying to do it through painless economic evolution and resort to revolution.

Parts of the study outlined by Upchurch could qualify as marketing research in the opinion of Dr. Knoblauch. The proposal will be referred to the project review committee. In the meantime, it should be reviewed by each Director with their agricultural economists.

Staff and Fiscal
Changes

Dr. Karl S. Quisenberry, Director of Crops Research of ARS, reviewed staff changes and appropriation increases.

Any time there is a major change in cooperative programs there will be an exchange of correspondence between his office and the Director in the state involved.

National Seed Storage
Facility

The national seed storage laboratory will be placed at Fort Collins. A policy setting group will be needed. All crops that are reproduced by seed will be involved in the program. Forest tree seeds will not be included.

Inferior Wheat
Varieties

A new list of non-desirable varieties has been prepared. Quality is only factor used in preparation of list.

Increase of New
Varieties in South
in Winter

By utilizing facilities in Arizona and California and Mexico for winter increase, release of new varieties has been speeded. ARS is adding personnel to this program to assist in increase. Facilities at Florida and Puerto Rico can be useful in this program.

Bankhead-Jones Laboratories He discussed policy relative to advisory groups for such laboratories as the Salinity Lab, soybean lab, etc. At some of the laboratories technical committees are replacing collaborators in the advisory capacity.

Seed Certification Will try to develop a statement on seed certification.

Alfalfa Aphid More money is going into program immediately.

Squaw Butte transfer This station, located near Burns, Oregon, is being transferred without increase in budget from Bureau of Land Management of USDI to ARS of USDA.

Report for WAERC by Dr. L. S. Thompson Dr. L. S. Thompson, representing WAERC, led discussion of procedure to be followed in handling regional funds for printing.

Discussion of Printing Policy Briggs, Kelso, and Knoblauch were appointed by Chairman Curry to make a recommendation for handling of printing allotments on WM projects.

Fleming moved and Price seconded that report of committee be adopted and incorporated in minutes. Carried.

"We recommend that the following plan be adopted relative to the allocation of special funds for the publication of W or WM manuscripts:

1. That for fiscal year of 1957 publication funds for WM projects be placed in the state allotment of the state that has the trust fund.
2. That after fiscal 1957 there shall be no allotment of funds especially designated for publication. When a manuscript for either a W or WM project is completed and ready for the printers the technical committee of a project may vote a special allotment from its project allotment for the next fiscal year to the state that will do the printing. This will be in addition to the funds that the state would be allotted for routine research on the project.
3. A technical committee may publish at any time by other means of financing, if satisfactory arrangements can be made and are approved by the administrative advisor.
4. This action shall be sent to all administrative advisors and the chairmen of all technical committees by the secretary.

Report from Forest
Service by Joe
Pechanec

Fairly sizeable increases in appropriations will permit strengthening of programs in each of their divisions.

Price-reporting work on forest products will be delegated to the Forest Service by AMS.

Major strengthening will take place at 5 points in the West including Oregon, California, Utah, Nevada, and Arizona.

Estimates indicate that both in 1975 and 2000 we will be short in quality and quantity of timber.

The suggestion was made that steps be taken to more closely coordinate activities of Regional Project WM-31, "Farm Forest Products," with Forest Service program.

Report on Utilization
Research by Dr. J. R.
Matchett

Capehart Bill

Dr. Matchett of ARS discussed Senator Capehart's \$100,000,000 proposal for research on utilization of agricultural products. In hearings there was no evidence of partisan opposition to the bill. A substitute bill proposed for administration of the bill by USDA rather than by White House "Czar." Tone of hearing was almost all on favorable side. Similar legislation was presented in the House as the "Harvey" bill and hearing was scheduled for July 19, 1957.

Senators were quite interested in replacement crops as well as utilization research.

About 21 crash programs have been proposed. One of these would be to seek out uses for a material now available as a result of development of a new and economical method of oxidizing starch to produce dialdehyde starch.

Another example is based on the knowledge that rubber can be synthesized from starch by micro-organisms. Another is related to the manufacture of high protein feeds from cereals by finding an organism that can synthesize lysene and other essential amino acids.

A complete list of the proposed crash projects is appended, along with a brief description of 18 of them.

Senators have in mind bringing industry into this program as well as ARS and state experiment stations. Response of industry is difficult to predict.

Dr. Matchett also made available the attached statement relative to use of ethyl alcohol in motor fuel as an outlet for surplus grain.

He also discussed some provisions of Soil Bank legislation relative to utilization of agricultural products. A special commission will be named to handle this phase. The staff of this commission will be officed and serviced in ARS. About \$150,000 will be available.

He reported budget increases in areas of cereal grains, animal products, horticultural crop processing, fibers, and new plants. The program with new plants is being integrated with the Crops Research Branch program with new crops.

Appreciation by ARS

In behalf of the ARS representatives Dr. Knoblauch expressed appreciation for the opportunity to meet with Directors. Chairman Curry acknowledged this expression of appreciation and thanked ARS representatives for their contribution.

Shift in WM-26
P & C allocation

Moved by Ensign and seconded by Kelso that \$7700 of the other Trust of WM-26 be added to California state allotment as a special fund for surveys in other states and the \$1200 P & C be shifted from California to Idaho where the administrative advisor is located. Carried.

Briggs moved and Burgoyne seconded that the schedule submitted by Dr. Fromme July 5, 1956, as corrected be approved. Carried. (Knoblauch is to convey this information to Fromme.)

Discussion of W-47
Proposal

After a lengthy discussion Sharp moved and Hawkins seconded that project W-47 be approved. Vote was 6 yes and 5 no. Carried.

Knoblauch suggested that W-47 be restricted in objectives to only cover the objectives of the active contributing projects. Briggs pointed out that W-47 has more objectives than covered by the three contributing projects.

W-48

This technical committee will meet soon and have project ready for approval at the November meetings.

New Project
Proposals

Chairman Curry called for a listing of abbreviated titles of proposed new projects.

The following titles were suggested:

- WM-X Organization and financing of farmer cooperatives
- WM-Y Effects of agricultural policy on market organization, practices, and structures
- Adjusting farming to prospective markets
- Biochemistry of herbicide action
- The role of nematodes in root diseases of economic plants
- Small fruit viruses
- Utilization of agricultural products
- Poultry management
- Drainage design for irrigated agriculture
- Quality of cotton cloth
- Seed technology

Poultry disease repository
 Efficiency of feed utilization
 Amino acids
 Dodder control
 Histology and ecology of insects of grasses
 Technology of dairy marketing

Reports on active projects

Each administrative advisor was called on for brief reports on status of their projects. Satisfactory progress was reported on all projects. Special comments on projects W-1 and W-45 follow.

W-1

Regional project outline has been revised and contributing project outlines for all states except Hawaii and California have been revised.

W-45

Sharp discussed problem of coordinating work in four regions and read the following from a letter from Stanley B. Freeborn, Provost of the University of California, to Director Sharp dated July 9, 1956:

"I have been called on for a report by Gus Guterman of what transpired when we brought back the information to the Western group concerning the Pesticide Subcommittee, and the desires of the Western group. He tells me that the other three regions were opposed to a central abstracting agency and the general consensus was that the USDA be asked to compile a list of active workers in residue analyses by Regions, indicating crops and pesticides being studied currently and during the last five years. Thus, if such a list were available, the individual workers from any region could write to the people actively conducting the work.

"I know that you brought this problem up at my suggestion at the Western Regional meeting, but I have never heard exactly what the consensus of the Directors was. I would appreciate it if you would let me know in order that I may write direct to Guterman."

Sharp moved and Briggs seconded that the group approve the following statement as an amendment to W-45 (as revised) of February 10, 1956:

"Interregional coordination will be accomplished so far as possible by correspondence and by the attendance of the chairmen of the technical committees at interregional meetings. If the chairman is unable to serve, another member of the technical committee will be designated by the Executive Committee. Expenses of attendance at interregional meetings may be paid from the Trust Fund for Planning and Coordination."

Carried. This revision was signed by Sharp and Curry and the technical committee chairman and will be submitted to the Committee of Nine.

WM-14

Will probably be completed this year. Is to be reviewed by new screening committee. Sharp believes it needs revision.

Preliminary Project Allocations for 1958

Curry reviewed Fromme's letter of July 5, 1956, in relation to development of preliminary estimates for 1957-58. Discussion followed relative to item for new IR projects if no increases are available.

Seed Technology IR Project Proposal

Price presented case for the proposed interregional seed technology project. He pointed out that because seeds are marketed in other regions standardization is necessary. It would be difficult to get another region to adopt standards not developed jointly.

Wheeler spoke in favor of development of the project first on a regional project basis.

Price moved, Myers seconded, that we do not approve the seed technology interregional project proposal as drawn, but we would be willing to appoint administrative advisors and technical committee representatives to work with other groups in an attempt to develop an acceptable project. Carried by 7 to 4 vote.

Price Named as Administrative Advisor

Price was named to serve as administrative advisor representative of western region and Louisa Kanipe Jensen as technical representative. Secretary is to advise Fromme of action.

Sharp moved and Briggs seconded that Price discuss with representatives of other regions the possibility of handling this in a satisfactory manner on a regional basis.

Poultry Disease Repository Proposal

Price inquired regarding status of this proposal as an inter-regional project and was advised that it is dead. Sharp reiterated stand taken previously that this is the type of service that USDA should provide.

Discussion of Fund Allocations

Sharp moved that for table on page 11 of agenda we use 1956-57 allotments for "no increase", 3M and 6M columns. Seconded by Kelso. Carried.

Thorne urged that we initiate more work in the utilization field.

Thorne reported that the technical committee of WM-23 wanted a survey and description of the wool marketing arrangements in the West. Wheeler expressed the opinion that this would be a waste of time. Price and others questioned whether economists have become sufficiently familiar with the

technology phases to work effectively. The need for technologists to work together was reiterated. Some of the survey data have been collected by technologists in a form that could not be effectively used by the economists, according to Curry.

- Consideration of Seed Technology as Regional Project
Relative to seed technology project, Price asked for reaction to earmarking some funds for a regional project instead of an IR project. Sharp suggested that we tentatively allocate \$12,000 to a non-economic regional project in seed technology if the \$50,000 is released from the IR fund. Briggs moved that in case IR proposal for seed technology is not approved that we place the money that accrues to this region from the \$50,000 IR reserve fund on a regional seed technology project, providing increased funds are available. Seconded by Wheeler and carried.
- Proposed Increase for W-23 Denied
Henderson urged consideration of an increase for W-23 to permit activation of a contributing project on isolation requirements of leguminous seed crops recommended by W-23 technical committee.
Henderson moved and Ensign seconded that we rescind the action taken relative to page 11 allocations. Motion lost.
- Proposed Increase for W-27 Approved
Kelso moved and Wheeler seconded that allotment for W-27 be reconsidered. Carried.
Kelso moved and seconded by Wheeler that we increase W-27 allocation at \$3M and \$6M level to \$37,500. Carried.
- Pro and con on Nematode Proposal
Wadsworth moved and Hawkins seconded that we consider \$15,000 for the nematode proposal at the \$3M and \$6M levels. Carried.
Sharp expressed opposition on the basis that California has a well financed project under way.
- Adjusting Farming Practices
For the project on adjusting farming practices, group agreed to consider allocation of \$15,000 at \$3M and \$30,000 at \$6M.
Kelso led a discussion relative to the merits of this project. His comments were as follows:
"This project offers fruitful opportunity for collaborative research between the several states and the ARS. In fact, if it is to be fully fruitful all states should be involved in it along with the Production Economics Research Branch.

"It would seem that the USDA (possibly AMS) should contribute to the project by making intensive studies of projections and analyses of future demand for agricultural commodities and estimates as to the course of economic development and its bearing on probable demand for agricultural products both nationally and within major regions such as the West and the South. Any study of perspective opportunities for adjustments in farming can be made only within the context of the over-all situation as we see it relative to national and broad regional markets. This is a particularly important place for the USDA in this type of research.

"It next seems to me that the state experiment stations should take over primary responsibility for and should play a major role in an expansion and intensification of the 'costs and returns' studies of major type of farming areas by size classes which the Production Economics Research Branch now has under way in scattered areas over the country. Studies of this kind should be made in every major type of farming area in the United States and can be pursued most effectively by state experiment stations partly because they should cover the major type of farming areas within their several states and because they can make them more pertinent to local conditions.

"After the expansion of the cost and return studies within the several states, the state groups together with ARS personnel can then make projections of possible and probable changes in farming size and costs and returns for various alternative systems of farming that might take the place of those now underway within these type of farming areas. These projections could be in terms of what is feasible in the light of projected demand and economic development in the country and might also be in terms of what will actually occur in the way of changes in these type of farming areas.

"The next obvious step then is to consider policies that would bring into line the thinking of what will happen with what ought to happen in these areas. This latter step could be a combination activity by state personnel together with personnel in the USDA who are familiar with the over-all situation so far as future demand and economic growth are concerned.

"What the above adds up to is that the states will work on the type of farming areas important to them individually and the ARS will integrate and aggregate the findings of these individual type of farming area studies and will supply the aggregative assumptions as to price and demand, etc. relative to the over-all market prospects.

"If the project is set up somewhat along the lines suggested above, it will be desirable, of course, that every state in the Western Region participate in it. The Production Economics Research Branch has indicated that it has received enough additional funds for this type of research to be able to add a man to the staff of every state experiment station to assist in this line of activity. It seems to me that this would make an excellent regional research project."

List of Rejected Proposals

The following new project proposals were dropped from the list after discussion pro and con: ~~_____~~

1. Amino acids
2. Seed technology (To be added if IR proposal is defeated.)
3. Quality of cotton cloth
4. Water quality
5. Poultry disease laboratory repository
6. Dodder
7. Organization and financing of farmers cooperatives ✓
8. Effect of farm policy on markets ✓
9. Efficiency of feed utilization ✓

Approved New Proposals

Myers moved and Thorne seconded that we vote on the following projects one by one as to project but not as to allocation. Each was approved.

- ✓ WM-33 Utilization of agricultural products.
- W-50 Stresses of altitude and temperature in egg production and egg quality.
- W-51 Drainage design.
- W-52 Herbicidal action.
- ✓ WM-34 Dairy technology.
- W-53 Insects and mites of grasses.
- WM-23 Wool marketing.
- W-54 Adjusting farming to prospective markets.
- W-55 Small fruit viruses.
- W-56 Nematodes.

WM Allocations at "no increase" level

Sharp moved that for "no increase" level we approve allocations proposed by WAERC as listed on sheet A dated July 2, 1956. Seconded and carried.

W and WM Allocations at 3M Level

It was moved by Myers and seconded that \$3M allocations of \$1,124,000 for W projects and \$336,230 for WM projects be approved, making a total of \$1,460,230. Carried.

WM Allocations at 6M Level

Sharp moved and Myers seconded that sheet B less WM-X and WM-Y be approved. This would be a total of \$252,700 for the WAERC projects at the \$6M level. (The Council's \$3M recommendation less projects WM-X and WM-Y would then be the basis for the \$6M level allocations.) Carried.

Myers moved and Ensign seconded that allocations for non-marketing projects be approved as shown on attached summary. Carried.

Briggs moved and Kelso seconded that Chairman be authorized to make any changes that may be necessary to make figures balance out. Carried.

The administrative advisors listed on the summary were approved.

The project numbers listed were approved.

The \$12,215 needed at "no increase" level is to be taken off at \$1000 each from the 12 largest projects from W-31 to W-48 inclusive as shown on summary. The \$215 item will be taken off at discretion of Chairman.

Sharp moved that we recommend to Committee of Nine that it consider the possibility of taking IR funds out of new funds only. Curry is to write to Committee of Nine. Carried.

The group voiced its appreciation to Kelso, his wife, colleagues and their wives, and to Montana State College for the warm, informal hospitality and for the use of facilities.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:30 a.m., July 18, 1956.

On July 19, 1956, the group reconvened at the Dubois sheep breeding station and reviewed its program and conferred with Dr. Bierly and other ARS personnel relative to cooperation between the sheep station and the various states.

Respectfully submitted,



R. W. Henderson, Secretary