

About This Issue

IN THIS ISSUE you will find a provocative philosophy of administration substantiated by experience. The author, Richard E. McArdle, is recognized as an outstanding practitioner in administration. Even though he discusses his philosophy in terms of the Forest Service, you will find direct implications for administrative responsibilities at all levels in Extension where human values are paramount.

Houle raises a question of particular interest and concern to Extension in his article "Adult Education and Family Life." He questions the validity of classifying people's educational interests according to their level of income. The inherent danger in such a classification is vividly illustrated by two case studies.

Innovators and those who influence others to accept new ideas and practices may not be the same people according to Lionberger. In "Community Adoption Patterns" he suggests the possible need for approaching these two categories of people in different manners and identifies other implications from research on the diffusion of innovations that can serve as guidelines for Extension personnel as change agents are being promoted for individuals as well as on a community basis.

Generalizations from research are also drawn upon as a basis for exploring how young people may learn through 4-H Club work. In the second part of "A Conception of 4-H," an effort is made to formulate a basis for examining the effectiveness and appropriateness of content and method in 4-H Club work. The question has often been raised as to whether 4-H contributes to or detracts from school work. Salovey reports findings indicating the extent to which school is missed because of participation in 4-H activities. The data presented in her article could well provide the basis for discussing on the county or state level what is happening in relation to school work for members who participate in many and those who participate in no 4-H events.

In order to facilitate more widespread discussion of ideas being explored in administrative circles, the content of three papers that deal with "Extension's Future" have been pulled together for this issue. The alternative courses for Extension identified by Vines represent the thinking of a task force of state Extension directors. Coupled with the possible future for Extension is the kind of competencies needed by Extension personnel. Lloyd Davis, recently appointed Administrator of the Federal Extension Service, identifies the areas he considers essential to the professional stance in all Extension responsibilities in an article "Being Professional."

The Editor