growth. Soil moisture investigations involve techniques for measurement of soil moisture, effect of various soil conditions and management practices on soil moisture movement and availability. The engineering aspects of irrigation research are not included in the amounts shown for soil moisture studies.

U. S. Dept. of Agriculture expenditures for soil, fertilizer, and irrigation research total $3,063,605, 9.94% of total expenditures for agricultural research. Expenditures by Soil Conservation Service and by the Bureau of Plant Industry, Soils, and Agricultural Engineering for soil survey and soil management, fertilizer, and irrigation are shown separately. The totals include expenditures at Washington and Beltsville, Md. In the case of the soil survey, Beltsville expenditures include that for map drafting and editorial work on soil survey reports for all regions. All fertilizer technology research and much of the Bureau's basic research in soils and plant nutrition is also at Beltsville.

Probably the most striking thing about the data is the relatively small sum of $5,455,666 devoted to soil, fertilizer, and irrigation research in the United States.

The expenditures seem inadequate when compared to the importance of soils and soil research or scope of the work needed. More than 5,500,000 farmers depend on soil and fertilizer research to help solve their soil management problems. Some 145,000,000 people in the United States, and many in Europe, depend on our soils for food and fibre. The importance of the nation's soils is generally recognized as indicated by federal "action" programs costing hundreds of millions of dollars annually in recent years. Despite this, the evidence is quite clear that research in this subject matter field is not adequate.

The National Soil and Fertilizer Research Committee believes this situation merits careful consideration of administrative officials in state experiment stations and in the U. S. Dept. of Agriculture.

National Soil and Fertilizer Research Committee:

F. E. Bear W. R. Paden
R. W. Cummings C. O. Rost
K. D. Jacob D. W. Thorne
W. T. McGeorge F. W. Parker, Secretary
M. L. Nichols H. C. Knoblauch, Chairman

THE NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY SERVICE IN ENGLAND AND WALES

There has recently been a considerable change in the organization of the Agricultural Advisory (or Extension) Service in England and Wales. Until 1946, the service was arranged partly on a county basis, and partly on a provincial basis. The county officer and his staff dealt with general farming problems within his county and was the servant of his County Council, which received financial grants from the Ministry of Agriculture to pay the staff. The counties were grouped into 13 advisory provinces, and at each provincial centre, which was either a university or an agricultural college, was a