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RESEARCH INSTITUTE FOR AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

Bulletin No 67

PAPERS ON HUNGARIAN AGRICULTURE

Special issue for the Fifth Congress of the
European Association of Agricultural Economists,
Balatonszéplak, 31 August – 4 September 1987

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PREFACE

The fifth congress of the Federation of European Agricultural Economists will be organized in a critical changing period of agricultural sectors of national economies. The conditions and requirements for the growth of agriculture significantly changed during the past decade. The settling of those problems is put into the focus at the congress which are to be solved in new ways, by adjusting to the expectably transforming present and future conditions. Adjustment is not an easy process but a contradictory one from several respects. A number of dimensions are yet unexplored even in the scientific research and not at all unambiguous in practical economic policies. The contrasting of the different conceptions, the getting acquainted with and the discussions about the research findings will render assistance to the furthering of research work of the task that science should suggest feasible alternatives for economy. I am convinced that in the development of agriculture we shall find the way passing on which we shall be able to surmount the difficulties and to outline the prospective future features of efficient agricultural economy.

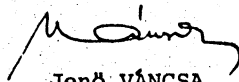
I am sincerely pleased with the fact that the congress will be organized in Hungary. We followed also the previous congresses of the Federation with keen interest. Several Hungarian agricultural economists take part in the activities of the Federation from its foundation on. But now the congress program in Hungary will offer an opportunity for the Hungarian agricultural economists to get acquainted in increased number with the approaches and conceptions of the European researchers. This should have an exhilarating effect on domestic research and should enlarge its horizon.

The congress in Hungary makes me glad also since - partly at least - I may attribute it to interest manifested in respect with Hungarian agricultural economy. The participants of the congress arriving from a great number of countries - at least cursorily - will have the opportunity to be informed about the advance, troubles

and problems of Hungarian agriculture. The congress period is short and its program is jampacked: even in the best case not more but a sample can be presented from the Hungarian agricultural research and practical experience. I recommend this publication to those who are interested in this field since they can find here a good selection of the papers of Hungarian agricultural economists, dealing with agricultural and cooperative political economic, developmental and economic political problems. Beside this the volume also allows to examine the activities of the major workshops of agricultural economic research and specifies the respective available publications in English and/or in Russian languages.

The mutual exchange of informations and the evolving of scientific discussions are furthering the research work and responsible thinking. And if research work advances then it may provide assistance for the formulating of the agricultural policies of the diverse countries - and so among them of Hungary.

Budapest, July 1987



Jenő VÁNCSA

Minister of Food and Agriculture