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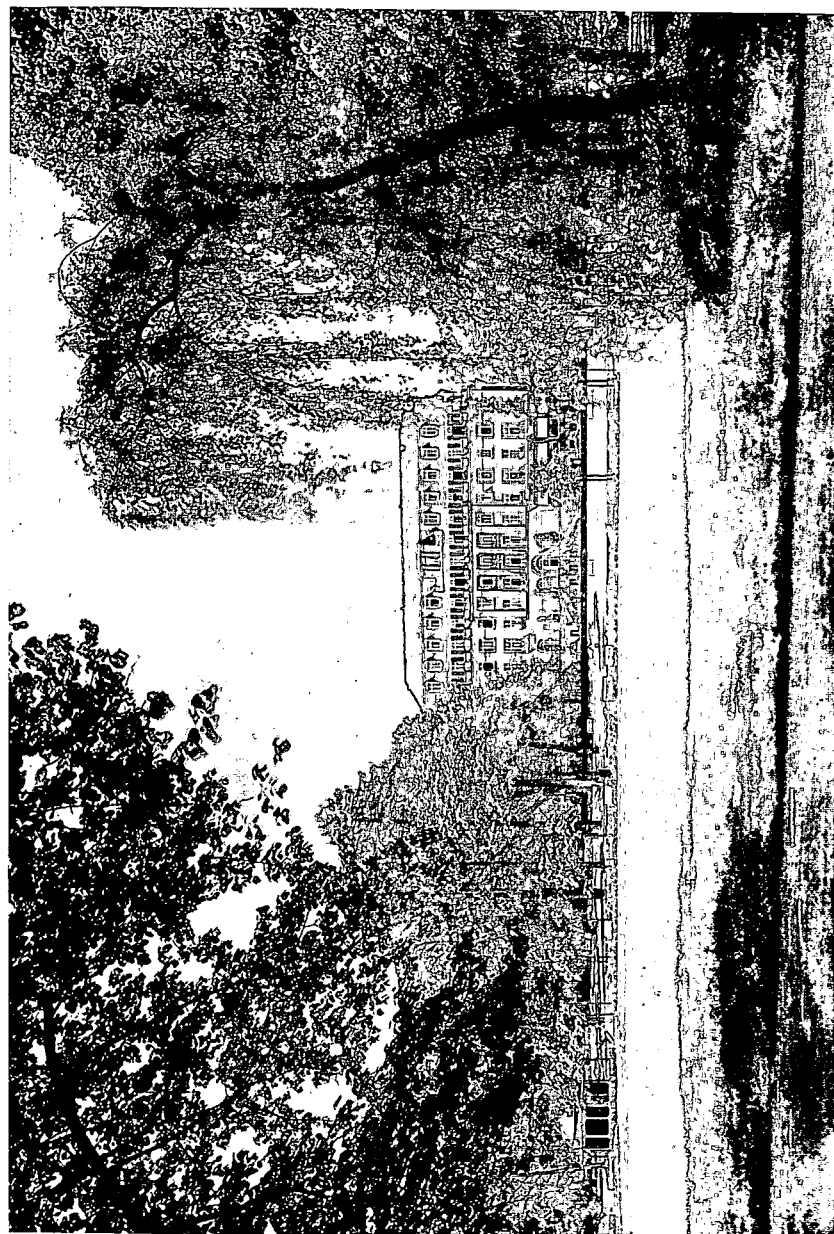
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PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
THIRD INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
OF
AGRICULTURAL ECONOMISTS



The Fürstenhof, Bad Eilsen

PROCEEDINGS
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THIRD INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
OF
AGRICULTURAL ECONOMISTS

HELD AT
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P R E F A C E

THE Third International Conference of Agricultural Economists, held at Bad Eilsen, Germany, at the end of August 1934, had several features of particular interest. Chief among these, however, in the minds of those who took part, was the free and unprejudiced manner in which the Conference discussed problems which have in recent years caused acute disagreement among nations, such as the protection of a nation's agriculture in face of the depression in agricultural importing countries, international debt and monetary problems, and the development of regional trade agreements. The success of the Third Conference in this respect was all the more gratifying since the programme was designed to deal exclusively with matters of national and international policy.

It is one of the most valuable characteristics of the International Conference of Agricultural Economists that, while the subjects with which it has to deal have come more and more within the sphere of politics and government control in recent years, its membership is composed of individuals and academic societies, and not of official representatives of governments, although the Conference numbers several past and present Ministers of Agriculture and many distinguished public officials among its members. This scientific and non-political character of the Conference is a feature which it is most necessary to preserve, especially since the matters for discussion have social and political as well as economic and scientific implications.

The Third Conference was held in Germany at the invitation of the German Group, and the Conference is deeply indebted to Professor Max Sering for directing the enormous labour of the arrangements for the Conference, and to the other German Members of the Council, Professor Zörner, Professor von Dietze, and Dr. Seedorf, for their work in organizing the accommodation of the Conference and in arranging and conducting the tours through Germany before and after the meetings. The proceedings of the Conference were conducted simultaneously in German and English, and special thanks are due to Dr. Rolfes, without whose help the bilingual procedure would not have met with such marked success.

The Conference also owes a deep debt to Mr. J. R. Currie and his office for their services in the preparing of the road for the conference, and to J. P. Maxton, who has acted as editor of the *Proceedings*.

It was the main objective of this Conference to draw out the divergent philosophies and policies of rural life in the various countries as well as to learn of the schemes devised nationally and internationally to assist agriculture.

The peoples of the overseas agricultural countries cannot afford to neglect the aspirations of the rural populations of Europe, nor can the industrialized countries neglect the prosperity of those countries whose existence depends on exporting agricultural products. The papers in this volume contain much that is of vital interest to agriculturists and economists all over the world. I feel sure that its comprehensiveness will make it a most valuable publication in the hands of many besides those specialists who describe themselves as agricultural economists.

LEONARD K. ELMHIRST

President.