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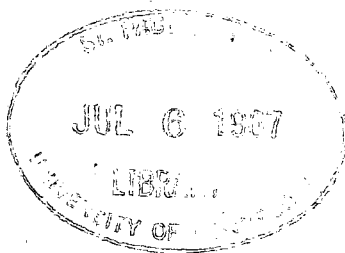
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The Economist and Farm People in a Rapidly Changing World

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THE ECONOMIST AND FARM PEOPLE IN A RAPIDLY CHANGING WORLD

THE Eleventh International Conference of Agricultural Economists was held in Cuernavaca, Mexico in August 1961 with the theme 'The role of agriculture in economic development'. The Twelfth Conference was held at Lyon, France in August 1964 with the theme 'Disparities in the Pace and Form of Agricultural and Rural Development'. Before each conference the key papers were circulated in an issue of this Journal. The intention was to give would-be participants an opportunity to see the nature of the conference theme and the way the main speakers proposed to deal with it. They might then prepare themselves to contribute the more effectively to discussions on the papers and in the work groups.

It has been generally agreed that this procedure has been well worth while and it is therefore being followed for the Thirteenth Conference to be held in Sydney in August 1967.

Under the arrangements planned for the Sydney Conference there will be opportunities for a larger number of people to take part in discussions on the theme papers. Furthermore, these arrangements will provide for all four papers to be discussed together so that the interrelationships of their several subjects may be more fully explored. These circumstances make it all the more desirable for contributors to the discussion to have the leisure to consider the issues well in advance of the meeting.

The eminent contributors of the four papers presented here set out aspects of change as they see them from the standpoint of their respective disciplines. The issues they raise demand the earnest attention of all concerned with agricultural economics in the wide sense in which this Association has always regarded it.

It is with gratitude and pleasure that we present these papers.