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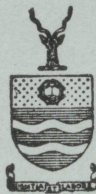
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Rural Economics Survey

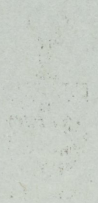
REPORT

OF THE DIRECTOR, ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE
RURAL ECONOMICS SURVEY OF THE UNIVERSITY,
DURING THE THIRD YEAR OF ITS FUNCTIONING.

(OCT. 1, 1943, to SEPT. 30, 1944.)

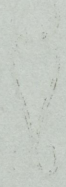


JOHANNESBURG :
H. W. VORENBERG & CO. (PTY.) LTD.
1945.



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N O T E.
concerning
Professor Dr. Alexander J. BOYAZOGLU,
Director of the Rural Economics Survey,
UNIVERSITY OF THE WITWATERSRAND, JOHANNESBURG.

BORN: In Constantinople, 1896.

STUDIES: Elementary and Secondary Public School education at Cairo (Egypt); basical scientific education mainly in France. Studied: Agriculture (at Grignon-France. Highest honours), Economics and Law (Greece and France, Highest honours), Sociology and Philosophy; and obtained his Doctor's degree in Sciences (Nancy-France. Highest honours). For personal studies has visited or stayed in a number of other Countries (Central and Eastern Europe, Northern and South Africa, etc.)

OCCUPATIONS:

Successively or Concurrently: (1) Organization and Management of Agricultural Estates and Rural Industries (for third parties' and for own account) (Egypt, France, Greece); (2) Rural Valuations; (3) State Inspector of Agriculture (Greece); (4) General Secretary of the Chamber of Agriculture, (Thessaloniki - Greece); (5) Since 1932 Professor and Head of the Department of Rural Economics and Policy (Farm Management, Agricultural Valuations, Social Rural Economics and Rural Policy) at the State University of Thessaloniki, (Greece). (6) Two years later founded and was appointed Director of the Agricultural Economics Research Institute attached to the University of Thessaloniki and covering the whole of Greece: (7) During the Italo-German aggression against Greece: Technical Adviser to the Army and Government of Greece. (8) Since October, 1941: Director of the Rural Economics Survey of the University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg. (The Rural Economics Survey has been Established under subvention of the Treasury-for the investigation of the Agricultural Methods, Organisation and Policy of the Union, and a number of Departments of the University are collaborating in the Survey.) (9) In 1942 he has been appointed Counsellor to the Royal Government of Greece, and entrusted with the planning of Post-War Agricultural Reconstruction of Greece.

MAIN SCIENTIFIC PUBLICATIONS:

(A) In Circulation: (1) "Contribution à l' étude de l' Economie Rurale de la Grèce d'après guerre (in French, Berger-Levrault, Editors), Paris 1931, p.p. 270, in 8 vo, with tables, graphs and maps; (2) "La Loi du Rendement Décroissant en Economie Rurale et sa Formule Mathématique" (A communication to the French Academy of Agriculture), Paris 1931; (3) "A few Remarks concerning the Law of Diminishing Returns in Rural Economy" (in Greek - "Review of Social and Public Economics"), Athens 1931; (4) "Agricultural Credit in Poland" (in Greek - "Review of Social and Economic Sciences"), Athens 1932. (5) "Agricultural Credit" (in English, P. S. King and Son, Ltd., Editors), p.p. 304, Demy 8vo, London 1932; (6) "The Agricultural Economy in the Frame of the National Economy of Greece", (in Greek), Thessaloniki 1937; (7) "Greek Tobacco in the British Market" (in Greek - "Review of Social and Public Economics", with summary in French), Athens 1938; (8) "Vine-Growing in Greece" (in English, French and German - "International Review of

/ Agriculture"

Agriculture"), Rome 1939; (9) "The Economics of Greek Viticulture" (in French and German - International Congress of Agriculture), Dresden 1939; (10) "Land Ameliorations in Greece" (in French and German - International Congress of Agriculture), Dresden 1939; (11) "The Social Economics of the Yugoslavian Agriculture" (in "Scientific Annals of the University of Thessaloniki", in Greek with summaries in French and German), Thessaloniki 1940-41. (12) "Agriculture & Science" Paper read to the South African Association for the Advancement of Science, Johannesburg, 1942. (13) "A major problem in Educational Policy: The Nature and the Extent of the Unity of Agricultural Education" Paper read to the same Association, Johannesburg, 1943.

(B) Recently completed: (1) "Evolution and Tendencies of the Agricultural Production of Greece" (in French and English) about p.p. 300; (2) "Methods and Technics in Agro-Economical Researches" - A diagram of exploring the rural Economy of a given District - (in Greek, first appeared as a cyclostyled edition of the University of Thessaloniki, now ready for the printer). p.p. 125.

(C) Under Preparation of Revision (in Greek): (1) "Capital in Rural Economy"; (2) "Self-Sufficiency" (Autarky); (3) "Farming Systems"; (4) "Rural Education"; (5) "Rural Education in South Africa"; (6) "A Rural Economic Survey of South Africa".

EDUCATIONAL WORKS:

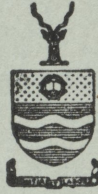
Two cyclostyled editions of his University Lectures (appeared in 1933 and 1937), viz., (1) Introduction to Rural Economics; (2) Private Rural Economics (Farm Organization and Management, etc); (3) Rural Valuations; (4) Social Rural Economics; and (5) Rural Policy.

PRACTICAL ACHIEVEMENTS:

Contribution —during over 20 years— to the conception and application of a comprehensive and rational rural policy in Greece.

HONOURS: Laureate of the French Ministry of Agriculture and of the Academy of Agriculture of France (1931-32); Commander of the Royal Hellenic Order of the Phoenix (1936); Several foreign decorations; Secretary-General of the Union of Agriculturists of N. Greece (since its foundation); Member of the board of the Royal Society of Agriculture, (Athens) etc; Member of the Thessaloniki University Senate-Council (1938); Several scientific missions; participation in several Congresses and Conferences (as representative of Greece); Counsellor to the Royal Government of Greece (1942); Honorary Professor and Member of the Senate of the University of the Witwatersrand-Johannesburg (1942). Fellow of the Royal Society (S.A.)(1945).

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University of the Witwatersrand,
Johannesburg

Rural Economics Survey

REPORT

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(OCT. 1, 1943, to SEPT. 30, 1944.)

1. THE OBJECTS OF THE SURVEY.

In the main, the objects of the Rural Economics Survey have remained the same as originally laid down by the Government and the University, on the 1st October, 1941, and formally confirmed on the 4th December of the same year. They are the investigation of farming systems, and of the organisation and policy directly or indirectly affecting or concerning agriculture as followed in the Union of South Africa. As in the past, among other topics of Agricultural Policy, special attention is being paid to rural education.

These objects, however, were reconsidered and reconfirmed during the meeting held on the 12th October, 1944 (*) at Union Buildings between the Secretary and the Under-Secretary of Agriculture and the Director of the Division of Economics and Markets on the one hand, and the Registrar of the University and the Director of the Survey on the other hand.

* Some time before the submission of this Report.

2. THE METHODS.

(a) The basic principles and procedure followed in carrying out the **Agricultural Survey proper** and studying the existing problems, have been those adopted at the initiation of the Survey. It is only in the application of those principles and procedure that slight alterations were made. However, the methods were rediscussed and approved at the previously mentioned meeting held at Union Buildings on the 12th October, 1944. They are described as follows in my paper "Agriculture and Science": (*)

"In view of the breadth of the field of the Survey, the vastness of the territory to be explored, the amount and nature of previous research in such lines in the Union, the scantiness of the means available and the time limitation, the only course open was the pursuance of the objects of the Survey by successive stages of exploration. And all the above factors have obviously been among the determinants of both the method and procedure of its application.

At first each province is taken separately and an attempt is made at gaining some first hand understanding of its nature and conditions, both as a whole and in its component parts. This is achieved through the tabulation and study of the statistical and other data concerning that province, from printed and other sources, but mainly by a general tour. Then the study proper is planned on these foundations, in collaboration with the public servants concerned. The province is divided into physico-geographical and economic areas — each of which may contain only a fraction of a district, one whole district or a number of districts — and a few typical and representative farms and small holdings are singled out for inspection. These farms are then visited and the best possible study is made of those that are in essence representative of the farming systems of the area ("sample farms"). The study of each of these economic units involves the visit, discussion and collection of relevant information, the examination of balance sheets and accounts (whenever available) and the recording of particulars.

When each area is completed, the integrated impression of the surveyor is noted. In addition, all agricultural and other related establishments (research and other stations, rural industries, co-operative and other societies, etc.) as well as local authorities, are visited and all the relevant information is collected. Finally, attention is concentrated on the centre of the province (i.e. its capital). All persons holding responsible official positions or in any way concerned with

* Vide: Boyazoglu (A. J.), "Agriculture and Science". Johannesburg (University of the Witwatersrand), 1942: pp. 22 and 23.

farming are interviewed, scientists and libraries are consulted, and the information that has been collected is completed and checked."

(b) The methods followed in carrying out the **Survey of Rural Education** also remained basically the same, but more attention was given to international comparisons in the elaboration of the data collected.

The main items for investigation were and still are the following:— the history of the type as well as the individual institutions investigated; their objects (both general and special); the educational standard or standards; the character of the education (cultural, vocational, with a vocational or other bias, etc.); recruitment (area, standard, conditions); types of students coming in — their abilities and disabilities; type of the education — rural or urban; internal constitution and administration; curriculum and time-table; educational methods followed; means (staff, equipment and other); cost of studies; results and possible achievements; research (carried on by the institution, side by side with the educational activities) if any; weak points and problems.

The research procedure and technique that have been followed up to now can be summarised as follows:

The historical background is naturally based mainly on library research; publications are being consulted on the general, economic and educational history of the country; also published reports of Government Departments and of Official Commissions; as well as articles contributed to scientific and professional journals. And, in addition, where necessary and possible, evidence is taken.

Existing data are being collected through direct contact or correspondence with Government Departments and Divisions — through extracts from official publications, from Reports of Commissions, from Government White Papers and from questionnaires submitted by the Survey to Education Departments and schools, but in the main from visits to various types of schools. The help of Departments is also often sought in circularising questionnaires. Unpublished theses and dissertations on different rural educational problems in South Africa are also consulted when available. But most of them having been packed away in the various Departments and libraries of the Universities and University Colleges, are not always easily accessible, particularly on account of the travelling difficulties.

These have been the methods used, in broad outline. They have naturally been constantly and systematically improved in the course of application; and it is hoped that the

process of their improvement will continue. In the same way the questionnaires and the technique are being steadily improved.

3. MEANS AT THE DISPOSAL OF THE SURVEY.

During 1944 the following officers have assisted the Director of the Survey:

- (a) **A. G. S. du Toit, B.S.A.** (Toronto), Senior Professional Officer (Extension), Department of Agriculture and Forestry.
- (b) **J. Joubert, B.Sc.A.** (Oregon), Professional Officer (Extension).
- (c) **J. Venter, B.Sc., M.Ed. (S.A.)**, Transvaal Education Department.
- (d) **Mrs. J. Venter, T2**, (Pretoria), Secretary.

The financial means at the direct disposal of the Director of the Survey were, as in the past, £300 provided by the University and £180 granted by the Department of Agriculture towards clerical assistance, i.e. a total of £480. Further, travelling facilities by car with Extension Officers were provided.

4. DIVISION OF THE WORK.

Mr. Du Toit's services have been utilised on the one hand in elaborating part of the data for the Union as a whole and on the other for special study of Natal and part of the Transvaal.

Mr. Joubert has helped the Director in the Survey of the Western Cape Province, including the South Western Districts.

Mr. Venter has been employed solely on the Survey of Rural Education.

The Director of the Survey has carried out further individual farm surveys, particularly in Natal, in the Transvaal and in the Western Cape Province; the total number of farms visited amounting now to 1,123 since the start of the Survey. He continued the interviews and other contacts, with any person official and unofficial, as stated above under "Methods," and in many cases evidence was taken.

On these trips the Director of the Survey was—in most cases—accompanied by one or other of the above-mentioned officers or by Extension or other officers of the Departments of Agriculture, Lands or Native Affairs.

In exceptional cases, where, owing to unforeseen circumstances, interviews or local surveys of certain small

areas could not be made personally, they were allocated to one of the collaborators of the Director.

5. WORK COMPLETED.

(a) **Agriculture (Rural Economics proper).**

The survey of the Western Province was practically completed after the third tour of the Director which occupied the month of February, 1944. The month of September was devoted to the Province of Natal; during this, the third tour, the study on the spot, of the area was practically finished. The rest of the time was devoted to flying visits to different spots in the various parts of the Union, mainly with the object of checking data already collected and verifying impressions.

The greatest part of the field work has thus been finished in all the four Provinces, except the Central and Eastern Cape Province and the Native Territories (Transkei, Ciskei). At least two more visits will be required to the Western Province and Natal, for checking and completing the already collected material. The Lowveld of the Transvaal, requires some further consideration. As for the rest, flying visits only will be required—during the elaboration of the data—mainly for checking data and impressions and completing them, where necessary. The Native territories under the British Crown, which are either adjoining the Union or, within it, as well as S. Rhodesia and S.W. Africa are to be tackled only when the work connected with the Union proper is finished.

A part of the time of the Director and of his collaborators was spent in writing preliminary reports of sub-areas of the Union and preparatory work on certain branches of agricultural production—such as the sugar and wattle industries, dairying, beef production, etc.

(b) **Rural Education.**

The very restricted travelling facilities at the disposal of the Survey, in particular for this special work, proved a great handicap—among others—in its endeavour to expedite the work.

To complete the data already in hand and to get in closer touch with the present situation in the Union of South Africa, more questionnaires have been sent out to certain types of schools during the year. More schools were visited—in addition to those visited during the previous two years—and a more detailed interview questionnaire was filled in on the spot. Besides this, information was gathered

through letters and circulars. Many questionnaires however, have not been returned, and replies to circulars are still being awaited. As we are handicapped through lack of sufficient travelling facilities important data are still outstanding.

In the meantime, during the year, we went through the greatest part of the available Reports and other documents and sources of information concerning South Africa; also the contemporary literature available concerning Rural Education in America, Australia and other English-speaking countries and some concerning Russia and other countries. Thus a rapid comparative study of the position has been carried out within the framework of existing possibilities.

6. PROJECTED WORK.

(a) **Rural Economics proper (Agriculture).**

- (i) The completion of the Survey of the Lowveld will take 2 to 3 months.
- (ii) The further study of conditions in the Northern-Central Cape will require $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 months.
- (iii) The full study of the Eastern Cape Province (including Transkei and Ciskei) will take 5 to 6 months.
- (iv) The quick survey of Basutoland, Bechuanaland, Swaziland and South West Africa, will take at least another 6 months; and that of S. Rhodesia 3 months.
- (v) The elaboration of the data and notes of the Agricultural side of the Survey will continue. As was stated last year, the time taken in this work will depend upon the amount of assistance which the Director will receive. It is however hoped that under normal conditions, it will be over by the end of 1946, as regards the Union.

(b) **Rural Education.**

(i) Depending upon available assistance and transport facilities, the General Report of the Survey of Rural Education will be ready towards the middle of 1945.

A first draft will comprise 12 to 14 Chapters, nine of which will contain all the basic facts and the criticism relating to them, as conceived at the time of writing. The main facts of these Chapters will have to be revised and embodied in the final form of the Report. Some Chapters will need further slight revision, and alterations and additions will have to be made in the light of facts which may come to hand after the Chapters have already been written.

(ii) The data in hand both on Agricultural Education proper and on Cultural Education (with an Agricultural bias), if and when fully completed, could give enough material for two or more special Survey Reports. But on account of insufficient means as well as shortness of time and other limiting factors, the Survey will be for the time being, restricted to the work covering the General Report. The special study of agriculturally biased education (i.e. school farms), as well as centralised and other forms of primary education and agricultural education proper will have to be left to a later stage.

(iii) Further, also other items of the field covered by this Survey can be developed and studied in the future in depth within the limits of the means at its disposal.

7. ACKNOWLEDGMENT.

The Survey is very much indebted to the Hon. Dr. J. H. Hofmeyr, the Minister of Education and Finance and Chancellor of the University, for his continued and unfailing support, both material and moral.

It is with deep appreciation that the Director acknowledges the encouragement which was received from the authorities of the University of the Witwatersrand.

The sympathetic attitude of the Secretary of Agriculture and Forestry and of his officers, as well as of the Transvaal Education Department, have been a source of great help.

Thanks are also due to the African Explosives and Industries for their personal grant.

Finally, the Director feels that it is his pleasant duty to thank his above-mentioned collaborators, for their valuable assistance.

Professor A. J. BOYAZOGLU, B.A. Agr. (Hons.),
D.Sc., D.Sc. Econ., etc.

Director of the Rural Economics Survey.

