

MARIAN JERZAK

## THE ADVANCE OF AGRICULTURE IN CONTEMPORARY CZECHOSLOVAKIA

A powerful growth of socialist elements is a characteristic feature of the post-war development in the Czechoslovak agriculture. Although there still exist the three sectors, i. e. the State, the cooperative and the individual sector, nevertheless, the socialization is making a speedy progress in Czechoslovakia. In 1958, the socialized farms amounted to 75.4% of all cultivated land. At the same time large scale programme is elaborated to reorganize the agricultural production. Therefore a plan is worked out to divide the country into several regions producing various articles, namely: 1) the sugar beet region, 2) the potatoe region, 3) the maize region, 4) the mountain region. This scheme is the first step of the further works aimed at the socialization of farming production.

The following figures illustrate the achievements of the Czechoslovak agriculture: (data for 1957) wheat — 20.6 q/ha, sugar beet — 298.3 q/ha, potatoes — 139 q/ha. In cooperative farms the crops are, as a rule, by 10% higher. For livestock the 1957 figures are: 62.6 cattle per 100 ha. in Bohemia and 34 per 100 ha. in Slovakia; while in pigs it was the reverse: in Bohemia there were 89.1 per 100 ha. and in Slovakia as much as 121.7 per 100 ha.

At the same time we can observe a high level of mechanisation in field work. In husbandry this is concentrated chiefly in the transport of pasture and water.

In the progress of the Czechoslovak agriculture an important role is played by the Agricultural Colleges and Scientific Research Stations which are adapting their works and the system of training to the actual needs of the country's agriculture.

BOHDAN KOPEĆ

## THE CHANGES IN THE ECONOMIC STRUCTURE OF THE AGRICULTURE IN THE WESTERN TERRITORIES IN 1938, 1951, 1958

Under the term of economic structure as concerns the agriculture the Author understands the set of three notions: 1) intensity; 2) economic programme, i. e. whether animal or plant production is the basic line; 3) economic direction which establishes the primary of different plant production (corn, vegetables, etc.). These indices have been established for the investigated areas by natural estimates instead of value, e. g. the intensity has been computed by applying labour figures, economic programme and direction according to the structure of tilled land and to the structure of tilled land and to the structure of livestock.

The Author finds that the changes, from 1935 to 1955, mostly concerned the farming structure and demographic relations. The density of population has slightly changed. The 1958 level of intensity was hardly 12% lower than that of 1938 in the voivodeships of Olsztyn and Opole and by 18—19% lower in that of Zielona



Góra and Koszalin. The intensity of farming in the Opole voivodeship equals that of the Poznań voivodeship.

From 1951 to 1958, a considerable increase in numbers of livestock occurred, ranging from 44% in the Szczecin voivodeship to 17% in that of Zielona Góra. It exceeded the growth of corresponding figures for the voivodeships of Poznań and Bydgoszcz. The number of livestock most closely approaches the pre-war figure in the Opole voivodeship.

In all districts we can observe the fall of the share of cattle in the total figure of livestock with a simultaneous growth of pigs and sheep. The number of horses decreased in four northern voivodeships.

In all the voivodeships of the Western Territories we observe the growth of the area under corn and vegetables with a simultaneous fall of the cultivation of roots and tubers. A reverse tendency occurs in the Poznań voivodeship.

With the proceeding stabilization the farming in the Western Territories is also gradually progressing. Neither in intensity nor in directions of production does it differ from the development lines of the neighbouring voivodeships of Poland. This is an honourable evidence for the Polish farmers who, in a relatively short time, succeeded in rehabilitating the agriculture in the Western Territories and are steadily making further progress.

PRZEMYSŁAW MAŁEK

### THE ROLE OF THE Odra IN GERMANY'S ECONOMIC LIFE, FROM 1910 TO 1939

The III Reich had four water systems, i. e. that of the Rhine — Main, of the Weser, of the Odra and the Elbe (upon the Anschluss the Danube waterway joined them). Of these rivers the Odra had the less important role and its share in the total transport ranged from 6%, in 1921, to 9.3%, in 1927. For this purpose it was necessary to employ 3274 barges, what amounted to 18% of the total Germany's floating craft. The Odra was composed of three segments playing each a different role. The upper part, up to the mouth of the Wilhelm Canal, formed a part of the water route Silesia-Berlin. This segment was under special care. The lower Odra, from Hohensaten to Szczecin, was employed mainly for transport from Berlin to Szczecin and return. The third segment, between the mouth of the canal the Odra — the Spree and the canal the Odra — the Havel was the less important. It was used only for direct transports from Silesia to Szczecin and for such which did not play a great role. As illustrated by Table I, demonstrating the transports and their various groups, the waterway from Silesia to Berlin enjoyed the greatest significance, next followed the route Berlin-Szczecin and the last was Silesia-Szczecin. This route, being the last as concerns the traffic in navigation, is of special meaning since it covers the whole course of the river and links Silesia with foreign markets, supplying them with raw materials of Silesian origin. On the other hand, that is how Silesia also received the articles required by this region. This route enjoyed, also, the best ballance as to the cargo transported both ways. The significance of this was underestimated by German economic leaders. Several moves, of economic and political character, hindered the develop-