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This book of readings in agricultural development is a reflection of the growing interest of economists and agricultural economists in the relation of the agricultural sector to overall economic development. This book, however, will not provide a blueprint for the development of world agriculture. A more modest goal is in mind. We have sought to bring together some of the ideas that are currently being discussed in the agricultural development field through the inclusion of a number of carefully selected papers and articles. We view the nations in the world as being situated somewhere along a development continuum rather than in developed or underdeveloped categories. As a result, we have selected articles and papers which examine the general process of agricultural change and which should therefore be of interest to readers in all parts of the world today, regardless of their present level of per capita income.

The volume is international in scope; the readings emphasize some of the common tools and approaches in explaining, initiating, and accelerating agricultural change in nations at various points along the development continuum. It is designed to provide a systematic exposure to agricultural development literature and thereby be useful in (1) supplementing senior-level undergraduate and graduate economic development courses in departments of economics in advanced and in less developed countries, (2) serving as a text in agricultural development courses in departments of agricultural economics at home and abroad by complementing materials readily available, (3) serving as a reference book for research and action workers in development, and (4) supplementing texts and case studies used in specialized training courses such as the World Bank's Economic Development Institute in Washington, D.C., and the Institute of Social Studies at The Hague.
It is appropriate to point out the rationale, organization, and criteria used in selecting the articles and papers reprinted. There is no need to underscore the growing intellectual interest in the process of economic development. As this field continues to expand, the general development literature is being made increasingly available on an international level through development journals, books of readings, bibliographies, and abstracts. Topics such as the theoretical aspects of growth and development, wage policies and labor problems in development, and economic history have been fairly adequately covered in books of readings. Moreover, the numerous development texts are serving wider audiences through translations. It is an empirical observation, however, that virtually all the development texts and articles reprinted in books of readings assign little attention to the agricultural sector in the development process. Since this sector in a typical less developed nation occupies half or more of the labor force and generates from one-fourth to one-half of the gross national product, it is important to analyze how agriculture can induce or facilitate overall development and to investigate the equally important adjustments agriculture must make as a consequence of overall development. This structural interdependence of the agricultural and nonagricultural sectors in development is a guiding theme of many of the articles and papers reprinted. Numerous empirical examples of agriculture in United States development are cited in the book and help to illustrate these two facets of overall development, which may enable us to understand better the process of agricultural development in less developed countries.

In view of this background, we have been encouraged by economists to prepare a framework for studying agriculture in relation to overall development and to bring together a group of papers and articles to supplement the standard economic development textbook. That is the first objective of this book.

Agricultural economists are being called on in increasing numbers to give attention both to broad considerations of the agricultural sector in development and to more detailed discussions of marketing, land, or production policy in less developed nations. These are both national and international issues. Agricultural economists have worked to improve the functioning of agriculture in the United States under the labels of farm management, production economics, and marketing for many years; but it is only relatively recently that agricultural economists in universities in advanced countries have turned to an analysis of the interaction between the agricultural sector and the overall economy. T. W. Schultz's *Agriculture in an Unstable Economy* (1945) is an important contribution in this area. Also, agricultural economists are now examining how agriculture can support economic development and studying the adjustments agriculture must make as a consequence of economic development.
Schultz's *Economic Organization of Agriculture* (1953) was a move in this direction. Nicholls, Schultz, Heady, Mellor, Mosher, and many others have been instrumental in helping to shift the agricultural economics profession to a more systematic and long-range interest in research and teaching in the less developed nations. Through this growing interest in international problems, most departments of agricultural economics in the United States now include a course in agricultural development in their graduate and, in some, their undergraduate curriculum. That is the second objective of this book. This book may help the teacher to organize courses in agricultural development which will serve as a complement to general development courses rather than as an isolated and independent study. This is an important issue because of the increasing fractionation of development teaching into a wide range of area-oriented, community-development, and regional-development courses. We are suggesting that the economics of agricultural development be taught within the framework of overall economic change and development.

Another important objective of the book is that of bringing together a highly selected list of the major postwar contributions to the literature of agricultural development for students in less developed nations with limited library facilities.

The plan of the volume is as follows. Part 1 analyzes agriculture and economic development in historical perspective: The observed regularities in the development process in the eighteen to twenty-four advanced countries for which quantitative data are available are used to explain their development process, to construct or test growth hypotheses, and to suggest the interaction between agriculture and the overall economy in nations at various points in their history. In Part 2, the measurement problems involved in agricultural development are discussed. In Part 3, we show that agriculture has been rediscovered in the theoretical literature appearing in journals in recent years. These writings are scattered among various journals and thus are not usually included in general development courses. Even though some of the theoretical aspects and models are controversial or nonoperational in development planning, and some are inconsistent with others, it is felt that they should be introduced to the reader. References to the theoretical literature are included in editorial comments and in the bibliography.

We move from economic history, measurement, and theory to applied problems in Part 4. Only a few aspects of initiating and accelerating agricultural change are included. Some of the problems involved in introducing change in agriculture are discussed, as are some of the non-agricultural problems occurring in various parts of the world which influence agricultural development policies in other countries. We stress the interdependence of all nations in the introduction of change.
Attention is also given in Part 4 to agricultural development policy in less developed nations, with the emphasis on moving away from the simplistic notion that land reform, more education, or some other variables are preconditions for development. Instead of looking for obstacles to development and forming policies and plans to remove the obstacles, the editors urge readers to examine Gerschenkron's and Hirschman's comments about expecting the latecomers to skip certain stages and sequences of development rather than follow the same path as the advanced nations. Gerschenkron poses the relevant question: In what way and through what devices can and do latecomers substitute for the missing prerequisites?

This volume encompasses only selected aspects of agricultural development and, as a result, does not provide simple answers showing how agricultural development can be initiated and accelerated. Since much of the development literature is either poorly conceived or tied to a specific institutional and cultural setting, we are reprinting only a small number of papers and articles which make an original contribution or which review and criticize our current state of knowledge. Other equally important articles were not included because they were widely available here in other collections or had been translated and reprinted in foreign books or journals. Four original articles were commissioned to fill some gaps in the literature. With the exception of several selections, we reprint complete articles rather than bits and pieces. In some cases original articles were updated.

Since agricultural development occurs within a sociopolitical milieu, community development, institution building, the transfer of technology, and agricultural planning are all influenced by social, cultural, and political variables. However, these influences were not covered in this book because articles making a major contribution were not personally known to the editors or their many advisors.

As an aid to students, we have prefaced each part with editorial comments in order to establish the connection between the part under study and the book as a whole, and to review the rationale for the articles selected. Comments will also serve as a guide to the literature relating to the topics under discussion. A bibliography has been added to aid in preparing courses and undertaking research.

The editors owe a heavy debt to the authors who kindly agreed either to reprint their papers and articles or to prepare original articles, and to publishers who granted us reprinting permission. Individual acknowledgments are made at the beginning of each article. Special thanks, however, are extended to the following people who shared their inventory of the literature and thereby aided in the selection process: James Bonnen, Alexander Eckstein, Bert Hoselitz, Subbiah Kannappan, Saul Katz, Wilfred Malenbaum, John Mellor, Arthur Mosher, William
Nicholls, Martin Pond, Philip Raup, Theodore W. Schultz, and Paul Strassman.

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We are especially grateful to Charles Kao and William Miller, who assisted in the library research and helped us with a wide variety of tasks to complete this endeavor.

Finally, we wish to thank our wives, Joanne and Lucille, for their enthusiastic support and participation in our international teaching, research, and travel.