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1.01 Izvirni znanstveni članek

FONDS OF AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVES IN MEĐIMURJE AND KOPRIVNIČKA PODRAVINA AFTER 1945

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Abstract:

The article deals with issues of agricultural cooperatives in the regions of Međimurje and Koprivnička Podravina between 1945 and 1953, and their reorganisation. The reorganisation itself had a large impact on creation of the archival collection of the agricultural cooperatives. Agricultural cooperatives were established in 1945 and in the 1950s and were active through the 1960s when they were abolished. Their records were acquired by the State Archives in Varaždin during the 1960s and 1970s. While about 30 archival fonds of agricultural cooperatives are preserved in the State Archives for Međimurje, only a few are preserved in the State Archives in Varaždin, Collective Center Koprivnica. The importance of such fonds lies in the fact that records provide information about agricultural production in a certain territory and information about its management.

Key words:

Archives, archival collection, cooperative, agriculture, collectivisation

Izvleček:

Fondi kmetijskih zadrug v Medžimurju in Koprivnički Podravini po letu 1945

Prispevek predstavlja historiat kmetijskih zadrug na območju Medžimurja in Koprivniške Podravine od leta 1945 do njihove reorganizacije leta 1953 ter njihovo arhivsko gradivo. Reorganizacija leta 1953 je imela velik vpliv na oblikovanje fondov z gradivom omenjenih zadrug. Del kmetijskih zadrug je nastal neposredno po letu 1945, del pa pozneje v 50. letih. Delovale so do začetka oziroma prve polovice 60. let, po ukinitvah pa je njihovo gradivo v 60. in 70. letih prevzemal takratni Državni arhiv v Varaždinu. V Državnem arhivu za Medžimurje je v hrambi okoli 30 arhivskih fondov kmetijskih zadrug, medtem ko v Državnem arhivu v Varaždinu, Zbirnem centru Koprivnica hranijo precej manjše število fondov. Ustvarjalci, kot so kmetijske zadruge, nudijo pomembne informacije o kmetijski proizvodnji kakor tudi upravljanju na določenem območju.

Ključne besede:

arhiv, arhivski fond, zadruga, kmetijstvo, kolektivizacija

1. INTRODUCTION

For ease of reading, it is necessary to give an explanation of the meaning of key words listed in the abstract to this paper: *archives*, *archival records*, *agriculture*, *collectivisation* and *cooperative*. *Archives* refers to a legal person or organisational unit within a legal person (archives within the system). The general purpose of the archives is to preserve, develop and allow the use of documentary and archival records pursuant to the provisions of the Law on Archival Records and Archives (2018). The *archival records* are chosen from current records because of their lasting value for culture, history, science and other social activities: archival records are permanently preserved for the protection of the rights and interests of individuals and the community (Law on Archival records and Archives, 2018). *Agriculture* is an activity concerned with farming and soil exploitation (agriculture, horticulture, fruit growing) and with the breeding of larger or smaller animals; poultry (livestock farming, poultry) (Hrvatski enciklopedijski rječnik, 2004). *Collectivisation* refers to voluntary or forced farm grouping with the goal to create a common organisation and to control economic and other activities based on common property, management and solidarity for the members of the collective (<http://enciklopedija.hr>). *Cooperative* refers to a specific legally governed economic organisation. There are three types of cooperatives, based on their founders and function: manufacturing, consumer or savings and credit cooperative; established in order to protect their members from the economic domination of large capitalist organizations and banks; cooperation promotion; solidarity and members common interests (<http://enciklopedija.hr>).

Considering all accessible sources and published materials dealing with the Međimurje and Koprivnička Podravina region, it appears this topic has not yet been dealt with. Issues concerning agricultural cooperatives in the regions mentioned may possibly be found in the historiographical monographs of some cities and districts as a part of the economic and political context during the socialist period. There were some authors who dealt with the issue of agricultural cooperatives in the rest of Croatia, e. g. M. Maticka, P. Mihalj and Ž. Mataga.¹

Mataga (2005) analyses the development of agricultural cooperatives in Croatia in the period from 1864 (when the first cooperative was founded in Korčula) until 2004. The status of cooperatives in Croatia is described through four historical periods: from its inception to the beginning of the First World War, the period between the two World Wars, the period following the Second World War until 1990, and from 1990 to 2004. The paper refers to the fact that since 1945 the cooperative lost its principles and content. From a free and voluntary association, with main principles such as the development and betterment of the farms of all cooperative members, it became an institution of the State as well as common property; an instrument for forced peasant and farm production communisation. According to Mihalj (1998), this is the consequence of long-term impact. The agricultural reform after 1945 denied land property as it was a main measure for a capitalist production mode. The concept of agricultural politics in the former Yugoslavia was based on the creation of big socialist agricultural properties (known as conglomerates). Two new radical measures were introduced: collectivisation and an obligate founded on agricultural products, as a measure for a the transformation of socialist villages and agricultural production, had a negative impact on agriculture. The goal of new measures was defined by an accumulation in agriculture to make for industrial socialism, in order to develop the spirit of socialist solidarity as egalitarianism. Maticka (1990) in his monograph dedicated to landowner relationships in Croatia from 1945 to 1953, describes and analyses some processes happening from 1945 until 1953.

¹ Bibliographic references will be given in the sources and literatures list.

According to him, the period from 1945 to 1948 was characterised by agricultural reform and colonisation with a focus on the opposition between the private and common property. In the period from 1949 until 1953, the process of agricultural cooperation creation as a form of common property to make bigger state control in agrarian production and with a base for a socialist village transformation was in progress. In 1953, the concept of agricultural cooperatives was abandoned, and a social ownership was formed on a part of agricultural areas. In the following section, the process of collectivisation and farmer cooperatives such as the formation of agricultural cooperatives, will be clarified.

2. COLLECTIVISATION AND AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVE CREATION

After the Second World War was over, many changes in public, political and economic life in the new State, the Federative People Republic of Yugoslavia, arose. After the establishment of peace and the political takeover in the spring of 1945, the Communists Party of Yugoslavia (CPY) very quickly became the sole, dominant party. At the end of 1945, elections for the members of the Assembly of the Democratic Federative Republic of Yugoslavia were held. In 1946, the National Assembly adopted the constitution. A year before, in 1945, laws such as the Law on property confiscation and confiscation were realised (June 9, 1945) and Laws on agricultural reform and colonisation (August 23, 1945) had already been passed. The State seized and nationalised the property of all those who were considered enemies of the new order (rich citizens, German nationals, members of the former regime), and it was all enabled by the aforementioned laws (Radelić Z., 2006, 179–187; Povijest Hrvata, 2007, 318–321). In accordance with Marxist theory (Radelić Z., 2006, 179–187), common property and state entrepreneurship represent the basis of a socialism and its economic system. By CPY's concept, state property and planned production should enable production rationalisation and agricultural mechanisation. On July 18, 1946, the National Assembly of Yugoslavia passed the foundational law on cooperatives with several cooperative types: agrarian cost-selling, worker consumers, agricultural production processing, artisan production, processing, credit, housing, health and peasant labour cooperatives. Peasant work cooperatives formed part of Agrarian and processing cooperatives (Basic law on agricultural cooperatives, 1949). There were four types of peasant working cooperatives. Three types were similar, in which a cooperative member kept ownership of his land and could withdraw from the cooperative after a certain amount of time. The fourth type of cooperative corresponds to the Soviet *kolkhoz*; members brought their land, livestock and tools into the common property.

After the Second World War, the agrarian cost-selling cooperative was the most common founded cooperative. That kind of cooperative was charged with the purchase and distribution of products to peasants. Such a cooperative was formed from the production sector, common land and machines, cooperative property, as well as organised artisan activities and common cooperative work as principal of labour cooperative. From the beginning, there were not many agrarian peasant labour cooperatives. Their number began to increase when the Basic law on agricultural cooperatives was passed on May 28th, 1949. After the passing of this law, the Communist Party of Yugoslavia began forced collectivisation into cooperatives according to the Soviet model. The same year, 1580 agrarian peasant labour cooperatives were established in Croatia (Radelić, Z., 2006, 196).

Forced collectivisation provoked a strong resistance from among the farmers, which manifested in the hiding of livestock and crops and even armed resistance.

Communist Party members were supposed to join cooperatives and serve as an example to other farmers, but even they refused to join. Government institutions answered collectivisation resistance with many repressive actions such as compulsory purchase, the forced overtaking of crops with the assistance and presence of the representatives of political repression (police), and cutting and improper tax levying, which farmers could not pay. Other repressive actions included accusing and insinuating that certain farmers were national enemies, with the following consequences: property seizure, expulsion from the CPY, community service, stigmatisation, and even imprisonment. Most Agrarian labour cooperatives were in Slavonija, especially in the districts of Osijek, Beli Manastir and Podravska Slatina. At the same time, in the North-West of Croatia, it is unlikely that cooperatives existed in the North-West of Croatia. (Radelić, Z., 2006, 195). Cooperatives, with their productivity and efficiency, were losing their meaning and did not achieve their purpose. In the spring of 1953, the Government decreed that agricultural cooperatives be reorganised, and soon after all cooperatives were closed. Peasant labour cooperatives were liquidated by the resignation of rural households, with some of them conferred the status of common farm. Since 1954, peasant labour cooperatives do not exist as a form of common property. (Radelić, Z., 2006, 196-197). We can learn from preserved records and information of the cooperatives how the same process unfolded in Međimurje and Koprivnička Podravina. This subject will be discussed in the following sections.

3. AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVES IN MEĐIMURJE COLLECTION

The National Archive in Međimurje preserves 32 archival fonds created by agricultural cooperatives (Register of archival fonds and collections of the Republic of Croatia, 2006, Main inventory of National archive for Međimurje). In archival classification, the fonds mentioned form a part of group G. Most of the fonds were acquired in the second half of 1960s and in the beginning of the 1970s² from administrative authorities, providing permanent preservation. Considering the micro-conditions at creators where the mentioned documentation was kept, the records are well preserved. None of the fonds have yet been professionally processed. The majority of them are incomplete, preserved in fragmentary form. We can say that any reconstruction or structural creators determination history it's very difficult for the fonds editing and it use. In this case, it would be necessary to consult additional sources from the same period, such as existing literature and official bulletins. Regarding the period in which they were created,³ they were established in 1948-1949⁴ or at the beginning of 1950; and were in use from 1962-1960s.⁵ Archive collection from most of those mentioned follows a time range of their activity, with some exceptions.⁶ The archive collection fonds is composed of 32 units, 21 of them less than 1 meter in length. The other units are between 1,20 and 2,20 meters in length. Regarding the content of the

² *The acquisition of fonds was carried out in 1967, 1970. During the 1960's and 1970's, Historical Archive in Varaždin acted as the competent institution, today National Archive in Varaždin on the Čakovec district area until 2008, when National Archives for Međimurje was established.*

³ *In a consideration of agricultural cooperatives.*

⁴ *About the third of 32 fonds were founded in 1945, one third on 1948 and 1949.*

⁵ *Part of them stopped their activities in 1950.*

⁶ *Some creators like The Agricultural Cooperatives Čakovec and Dekanovec were active until 1969, the others until 1962, 1963, very often, collection creation time range match with activity range of the creator.*

Institutional collection being kept, it corresponds to some existing archives lists from archival evidence (fonds files or, with some exceptions, the situation in a preservation space corresponds to the list.⁷ As we have indicated earlier, part of fonds is less than one meter in length and contains two or three documentation bodies which are not completely preserved or are preserved only in fragments such as the management records of cooperatives, employee documentation such as payroll lists, personal files, employee registers, financial documentation (final bills, credit contracts guarantees, reports,...), general management files, (motivational letters, demands, correspondence, circulars and notification evidence, book-like central records indexes and other evidence (inventory books, asset books, co-operators register...)). Some fonds belonging to the larger group of fonds according to its record contain the following documentation units:⁸ operation management work, general management, finance management, investments, normative acts, employee relationships and management. Units on operation management work contain collections on the labour and activities of different cooperative authority governing boards, cooperative advisory services, monitoring committees, assembly through reunion records, labour reports, and others. Documentation unit on normative acts, composed of legal acts, describing the creators' activities through rules, statutes, procedural rules and labour regulation. Documentation units on business activity which contain collections describing trading activity, creators' supply, and other business activities of the creator, such as artisan's workshops. Units on labour relations usually contain collections composed of personal files, resolutions related to labour relations, payroll lists and employees registrars. Financial units contain records including: final bills, gross balance, accounting evidence in the form of main finance books, books of outgoing invoices, business activity reports, etc.

Units related to investments contain some investment venture documentation of the creator, which he implemented in his own area. For example: community centres building, warehouses, cooperative centres, local community infrastructure (electrical substations); the adaptation of existing facilities; containing the records on project documentation, correspondence, studies... Units on general management mostly contain records on the administrative management of the creator, files on general administrative operations (correspondence, instructions, information, reports...), and evidence such as: indices, registry records of different contracts, court files, cooperative members evidences and similar documents. Other than the documents listed, very important records on co-operators' activity is contained in fond HR-DAM-158; District alliance of agricultural cooperatives in Čakovec district area. This archival record still is not arranged by archive, which is planned for a future time. It is a well-preserved fond with its units in physically good state. With regard to peasant labour cooperatives in the Međimurje area between 1945 and 1953 there are no archival records on them, only few documents can be found mixed with the agricultural cooperatives record. On active peasant labour cooperatives in the Prelog district areas and by accessible information from Official bulletin, "Narodne novine", there are: The Peasant Labour Cooperative "Bratstvo" with a separate unit in Čehovec (NN, 1948), The Peasant Labour Cooperative "Budućnost" with a separate unit in Donji Vidovec (NN, 1948), The Peasant Labour

⁷ That means, in Agricultural cooperative record some documents are kept which don't make part of the archive list. Author convinced herself in this situation showing afterwards documentation fonds mixed with other documentation.

⁸ Following fonds belong to the register HR-DAM-161, Agricultural cooperative Čakovec (1948-1969), 2,20 m/l; HR-DAM-162, The Agricultural Cooperative Dekanovec (1948-1969) 1,30 m/l; HR-DAM-171, The Agricultural Cooperative Mursko Središće (1945-1965), 1,70 m/l; HR-DAM-186, Agricultural cooperative Štrigova (1948-1964), 1,36 m/l; HR-DAM-164, The Agricultural Cooperative Donji Kraljevec (1945-1963) Agricultural cooperatives jurisdiction matches with some districts and municipalities dividing Međimurje after 1945.

Cooperative “Proleter” with a separate unit in Goričan (NN, 1948), The Peasant Labour Cooperative “Partizan” with a separate unit in Doji Pustakovec (NN, 1949), The Peasant Labour Cooperative with a separate unit “Novi život” in Sveta Marija (NN, 1949), The Peasant Labour Cooperative “Sloga” based in Prelog (NN, 1949), and The Peasant Labour Cooperative “Novi put” in Podbrest (NN, 1950). Peasant labour cooperatives in Čakovec district as per accessible information from Narodne novine were the following cooperatives: The Peasant Labour Cooperative “Prvi maj” in Čakovec, V. Blok (NN, 1949) and The Peasant Labour Cooperative “Borac” Željezna Gora (NN, 1954). As already mentioned, agricultural cooperatives had been liquidated and connected to agricultural cooperatives established in the same period or later. As for active agricultural cooperatives, with existing fonds kept in National archive for Međimurje (Archival record and database register Republic of Croatia, 2006, 868-870) according to accessible information from the Čakovec district area, the following were active: The Agricultural Cooperative Gornji Pustakovec with the separate unit Čakovec (NN, 1948), The Agricultural Cooperative Prekopa (NN, 1953), The Agricultural Cooperative Križovec (NN, 1954), The Agricultural Cooperative Zasadbreg (NN, 1954) and The Agricultural Cooperative Orehovica (NN, 1949), The Agricultural Cooperative Palovec (NN, 1953), The Agricultural Cooperative Donji Mihaljevec (NN, 1949, 1962), and The Agricultural Cooperative Vularija (NN, 1962)⁹. Other than the creators mentioned, there are few more creators, agricultural cooperatives being active and connected to bigger creators in the Čakovec district area and by formal bulletin, their record being kept in: The Agricultural Cooperative Ivanovec (NN, 1962)¹⁰ The Agricultural Cooperative Pretetinec and The Agricultural Cooperative Pušćine (NN, 1962)¹¹, The Agricultural Cooperatives Mihovljan and Novo Selo Rok (NN, 1962)¹², The Agricultural Cooperative Gornji Hrašćan (NN, 1962)¹³, The Agricultural Cooperative Čehovec (NN, 1962)¹⁴, The Agricultural Cooperative Selnica (NN, 1962)¹⁵, The Agricultural Cooperative Podbrest (NN, 1962)¹⁶, and The Agricultural Cooperative Cirkovljan (NN, 1949).

As was already mentioned, agricultural cooperatives could provide services such as: artisan workshops, trade, catering...). Worthy of mention are the rare fonds entitled HR-DAM-186, The Agricultural Cooperative Štrigova and fond HR-DAM-169, The Agricultural Cooperative Lopatinec because of their documentation and information regarding coal exploitation in this area. In 1954 agricultural cooperative Lopatinec founds a coal mine as its own exploitation site named The Agricultural Cooperation Mine Lopatinec, with a base in Dragoslavec (NN, 1954). In 1955 the same mine became an independent economic unit, exploiting and providing coal and lignite to the local community. In 1958 mine was already in the process of liquidation. The Agricultural Cooperative Lopatinec contains few credit contracts and some financial documents on business concerning the mine business. (Požgan, J., Posedi, I., Record for mine topic study on the area of Međimurje and Koprivnička Podravina, Archive practice, 2017, 383-397). The fond of The Agricultural Cooperative Štrigova contains some documents such

⁹ Creators mentioned, being active in certain municipalities, don't have preserved record as a proof of their activity. Information needed about its foundation and liquidation is accessible from Official bulletin “Narodne novine”, researched by author of this chapter.

¹⁰ Mentioned creator was liquidated in the same year and joined to Agricultural Cooperative Čakovec.

¹¹ Creators were affiliated to The Agricultural Cooperative Nedelišće.

¹² Creators were affiliated to The Agricultural Cooperative Šenkovec.

¹³ Creators were affiliated to The Agricultural Cooperative Macinec.

¹⁴ Creators were affiliated to The Agricultural Cooperative Prelog.

¹⁵ Creators changed his name into The Agricultural Cooperative „Žitovoće“ based in Mursko Središće.

¹⁶ Creator was deleted from the cooperative register and affiliated to Agricultural Cooperative Orehovica for Mala Subotica area.

as the employees register with a list of mine employees. In 1954 the mine was established as a coal exploiting company under the Agricultural Cooperative Štrigova. The Coal Exploitation Robadje - Company of the Agricultural Cooperative Štrigova became an independent company in 1957 under the name Brown Coal Mine Štrigova. Other than the employees register of agricultural cooperative Štrigova information about the mine can be found in cooperatives management board and cooperative assembly reunions records, if they were part of agenda items. This mine was based on several locations (Robadje, Jurovčak, Jalšovec and Globoko) providing a local community (legal business persons). In 1960, the mine was liquidated. (Požgan, J., Posedi, I., 392-394). Creators' collections such as agricultural cooperatives are very interesting for local community history, regional history, especially with regard to research on the life of peasants other topics of agrarian research. Agricultural cooperatives records have not yet been thoroughly investigated and have been rarely used in academic research. The same records are a unique source for a different topics of research. There are many records preserved from the period of 1945 which are useful in public administration and judiciary as additional sources.

4. RECORDS ABOUT AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVES IN KOPRIVNIČKA PODRAVINA

In The National Archives in Varaždin, Archival records Centre in Koprivnica there are only three fonds made by creators of agricultural cooperatives. These are The Peasant Labour Cooperative "Sloga" from Koprivnički Bregi¹⁷, The Peasant Labour Cooperative "Stjepan Petričević" Koprivnički Bregi¹⁸ and Agricultural Goods Hlebine¹⁹. By the archive classification, the mentioned creators have been classified in G group – general finances. Archival records from both peasant labour cooperatives are fragmentarily preserved for the period from 1949 until 1953, each record measuring 2 metres in length. Regarding their physical condition and considering some micro conditions in the creators' collecting centre, the records made by two cooperatives mentioned have been well preserved. None of the fond is documentarily arranged. According to the lists and after checking the record it becomes evident that the record is not complete. In this fond reunion records are very well preserved, from which we can learn much about the history of the creators of the fond. From the preserved collections it is possible to follow some series: Organisation and management, general management, finances and peasant labour cooperative managing. The record isn't put in order but can still be used for research on labour cooperatives, members of the cooperatives, basic information on agricultural production and other work of the cooperative. The Fond of Agricultural Goods Hlebine has been very well researched, and there is a list for it. This record is composed of approximately 2 boxes and four books, which have very well preserved for the period from 1953 until 1959. Even though the record is very small we have made the following series: Organisation and management, general administration, labour and labours relationships, finance and accounting, Progress of natural goods Hlebine. From a small collection we can organise a functioning of Agricultural good.

¹⁷ HR-DAVŽ-SCKC-481 Fonds collection information was taken from foundation files and insight to the collection.

¹⁸ HR-DAŽ-SCKC-482 Fonds collection information was taken from foundation files and insight to the collection.

¹⁹ HR-DAVŽ-SVCKC-432.

For the Koprivnička Podravina area, we have found only three small collections, yet it is possible to make a reconstruction for the other existing cooperatives from these same collections. In the Archives collecting centre the fonds on the following cooperatives are kept: HR-DAVŽ-SCKC-580 Agricultural – forest cooperative in the Koprivnica district, this is a record of 2.8 meters in length, (1960-1962), HR-DAVŽ-SCKC-366 Main Assembly of agricultural cooperatives in Koprivnica (1945-1962) with quantity of 5.4 meters in length. HR-DAVŽ-SCKC-775 Koprivnica district agricultural cooperatives assembly (1945-1955) of 2.4 meters in length, HR-DAVŽ-SCKC-780 Cooperative coalition of agricultural cooperatives in Koprivnica (1956-1962) in quantity of 2.5 meters in length. This record is still not documentarily arranged, but from the provisional lists we can determine that some of the following documents are preserved: reunion records, general acts, documentation about labour and labour relationship and finance documentation. Within the fonds it is possible to find some records such as a registries of members, information about agricultural and livestock production from the district, and information about some agricultural cooperatives can be found in the final bills. Regarding the final bill for 1954 on agricultural cooperatives in the district of Koprivnica, there is a written report about the situation of cooperatives after the passing of a law on agricultural cooperatives (Sl. FNRJ 5/1954). By written report we can determine that on December 31st, 1954 there are 27 active cooperatives²⁰ and a process of reorganisation and cooperative liquidation. There are still 19 active agricultural cooperatives, 3 of them are in the process of liquidation²¹; In Đelekovec, one peasant cooperative called “Budućnost” is still active and five of them are in the process of liquidation²². The Peasant Labour Cooperative in Drnje was fashioned into the new established cooperative, but 15 others was liquidated. After all, it is evident the existence of 7 specialised cooperatives such as: seed, poultry, pig farming, livestock, basketware and fishermen’s cooperative.²³ It has been confirmed that all of these cooperatives were established during 1954 and 1955,²⁴ except for the fishermen’s cooperative in Drnje, the livestock cooperative in Novigrad and the basketware cooperative in Legrad.

We can confirm that even without the preserved creators record it is very easy to reconstruct their work during the entire period of their activity. A decree from 1954 approves of the foundation of cooperatives which should be approved with all of their norms, by the relevant district which is keeping all information like the name and seat, type of a commercial activity, relation to independent functioning units other commercial companies and workshops, member rules and duties. (Article 27. Sl. FNRJ 5/1954)²⁵ In 1955 after reorganisation, the Koprivnica district area spread to the surrounding area of

²⁰ *Agricultural cooperative in Bregi, Drnje, Đelekovec, Gola, Gotalovo, Hlebine, Imbriovec, Koprivnica, Koprivnički Ivanec, Legrad, Novigrad, Peteranec, Rijeka, Sigetec, Sokolovac, Torčec, Velika Mučna i Veliki Poganeć, Ždala, PLO “Budućnost” Đelekovec, Poultry cooperative Drnje, Pig farming cooperative Peteranec, „Napredak“ Novigrad, Basket ware cooperative „Napredak“ Legrad, Fishermans cooperative “Štuka“ Drnje, District seed cooperative Koprivnica, Seeds cooperative Koprivnički Ivanec.*

²¹ *Agricultural cooperatives in Jagnjedovac, Kunovac and Velika Mučna are in liquidation.*

²² *These are peasant labour cooperative in Imbriovec, Novigrad, Legrad, Ždala and Legrad.*

²³ *Poultry cooperative Drnje, Pig farming cooperative Peteranec, “Napredak“ Novigrad, Livestock cooperative “Napredak“ Legrad, Basket ware cooperative “Napredak“ Legrad, Fishermans cooperative “Štuka“ Drnje, District seed cooperative Koprivnica, Seeds cooperative Koprivnički Ivanec.*

²⁴ *Mentioned in 1955, as speech was held on May 22nd 1955.*

²⁵ *For the period after 1954 in a business partnership record very often we find work information as agricultural cooperative condition. For example, In Agro-forests chamber record in Koprivnica district we find some cooperative final bills including cooperative labour reports like cooperative foundation information, board and member registers.*

Đurđevac district with the possibility of finding information on the former district of Đurđevac.

5. CONCLUSION

Agricultural cooperatives as archival record creators, began their activity after 1946 upon the passing of a Law on agricultural cooperatives providing agricultural production collectivisation. The creation of several cooperative types was previewed by the new law, with cost-selling cooperatives being the best represented. The cooperatives mentioned will be transformed into general agricultural cooperatives. Peasant labour cooperatives of a Soviet *kolhoz* model were previewed by a law which was later passed. With forced communisation a collectivisation resistance appears between the people and the process of peasant labour cooperatives. Creation was abandoned after 1953 resulting in the liquidation of cooperatives, its affiliation to the general agricultural cooperatives, or with the affiliation of their land into the agricultural units (combines). Agricultural cooperative record results from 1948 until 1962 in most cases are incomplete or only preserved in fragments. More information on the cooperatives as creators can be found in the district unions collection, general and cooperative unions as union of all cooperatives on district and municipality areas. Agricultural cooperatives collection research is hampered by incomplete or fragmentary preserved records. Fonds records such as agricultural cooperatives are very interesting to users researching local community history, regional history, or agricultural production issues after 1945.

POVZETEK

FONDI KMETIJSKIH ZADRUG V MEDŽIMURJU IN KOPRIVNIŠKI PODRAVINI PO LETU 1945

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Spomladi 1945, kmalu po koncu druge svetovne vojne, je na družbenopolitičnem in gospodarskem področju na hrvaškem ozemlju prišlo do mnogih sprememb. Komunistična partija Jugoslavije je postala edina politična stranka na Hrvaškem in v Jugoslaviji, konec leta 1945 je zmagala tudi na volitvah v narodno skupščino. Leta 1946 je bila sprejeta ustava Federativne ljudske republike Jugoslavije. V istem letu so bili sprejeti zakoni o zaplembi premoženja, ki so bili naperjeni proti mnogim narodnim sovražnikom, Nemcem, članom režima NDH, članom židovske skupnosti in bogatim. Po sovjetskem vzoru se je Jugoslavija odločila realizirati nacionalizacijo kmetijske proizvodnje. Leta 1946 je bil sprejet zakon o kmetijskih zadrugah, ki je določal različne tipe zadrug. Najpogostejše so bile prodajne zadruge, ki so kasneje postale kmetijske delovne zadruge. Zakon o kmetijskih zadrugah iz leta 1949 je določal štiri vrste kmetijskih zadrug, ena izmed njih pa je ustrezala definiciji sovjetskega kolhoza, kjer je bila lastnina članov prevzeta in je postala lastnina zadruge. Večina zadrug je bila sprva v Slavoniji in Baranji, medtem ko istočasno na severozahodu Hrvaške zadrug še ni bilo. Kmetijske

delovne zadruge so bile ustanovljene med letoma 1948 in 1950 ter reorganizirane v začetku leta 1953. Po letu 1954 kot oblika skupne lastnine niso več obstajale. Del jih je bil likvidiran, druge so bile priključene kmetijskim zadrugam, ustanovljenim 1949. Dokumenti o kmečkih delovnih zadrugah niso ohranjeni, informacije o njihovi dejavnosti pa je mogoče pridobiti iz uradnih listov med letoma 1949 in 1953. Nekaj zapisov je mogoče najti v fondih kmetijskih zadrug v Državnem arhivu za Međimurje in v Državnem arhivu v Varaždinu, Zbirni center Koprivnica.

Dokumenti kmetijskih zadrug za Međimurje so ohranjeni v 32 fondih, za Koprivniško Podravino pa v dveh. Zapisi so ohranjeni le delno, zato je raziskovanje zgodovine ali rekonstrukcija ustvarjalca zapisov precej težka. Bolje ohranjeni fondi vsebujejo zapise o upravljanju, investicijah, delavskih razmerjih ter financah. Ohranjena dokumentacija vsebuje zanimive informacije o dejavnostih ustvarjalca, ki so bile tudi drugačne od kmetijskih: gospodarske, obrtniške, trgovske, rudarske, kulturne ali izobraževalne. Dokumentacija kmetijskih zadrug je zelo pomembna za raziskovanje zgodovine družbe, regij ter naroda, še posebej po letu 1945. V preteklosti so raziskovalci to dokumentacijo uporabljali zelo redko, predvsem za pripravo monografij o zgodovini lokalne skupnosti ali različnih pogledih za kmetijstvo. Popularizacija ustanavljanja kmetijskih zadrug na podlagi predstavitev in razstav naj bi pripomogla k večji rabi teh fondov v prihodnosti.

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