EDITORIAL

The progress of world science, the future requirements of the national economy and the new trends which appeared in the filed of science and technics have lent new prospects to the higher economic education in our country with the introduction of economic computation methods into the curriculum in 1949, a year in which the Department — today, the Economic Cybernetics Department — was set up and when later, the restricted group of the academic staff laid the foundations of the research laboratories in the field of economic cybernetics, set up in 1963.

Already since the setting up of the laboratories of the Economic Cybernctics Department the entire activity had as a line of conduct the ever closer blending of scientific research and material production with the educational process. In the scientific research activity, the Cybernetics Department led by Academician Professor Manea Mănescu had as its main objective the improvement and modernization of the management methods, the planning and organization of the economic activity based on the introduction of qualitatively analytic methods, of mathematical and cybernetic investigating instruments of the economic phenomena, on the one hand and of the modern data processing techniques and means, on the other hand, for a rigorous scientific substantiation of the complex decision-taking process both at a micro and macroeconomic level. Parallel with the research activity and the turning to account of their results in production, the objective of great share and utmost importance facing the Department was the training of students in the field of economic cybernetics and informatics for assimilating the modern computation methods, techniques and means.

Considering the necessity for a most rapid turning to account of the results of the studies made by the Department and in its laboratories, for making them known in an ever larger cycle of specialists in the country and abroad and for ensuring the conditions for a broad dialoque between those concerned with the problems of economic cybernetics and the related domains, for making known in our country the world preoccupations and trends in three domains, the publishing of the journal "Economic Computation and Economic Cybernetics Studies and Research" in Romanian and English was initiated in 1966 under the sponsorship of the Department.

In this context, the journal Economic Computation and Economic Cybernetics Studies and Research has published throughout the years numerous papers from the peak domains of economic sciences, such as: economic cybernetics economic computation, economic informatics, socio-economic forecast, production and labour organization, operations research, has striven to contribute to the making known among economists, engineers and the managerial staff in the economy the modern conceptions on planning, organizations and control of production processes by using the modern methods of mathematics and cybernetics.

The materials published along the years have tried in illustrating the applicative research activity carried out both within the department and the laboratories. Thus, articles were published on: the setting up of some information systems for production scheduling and control (the tire and plastics industrial Group, Electromagnetica plant, a.s.o.): an algorithm and program system for the efficient programming of production with applications in the chemical industry (Ploieşti petrochemical industrial Group); Algorithm and program for the organization and management of general overhaul work of technological installations and equipment (Ploieşti petrochemical industrial group); Informatic system for the management of naval constructions and design (ICEPRONAV Galaţi — Institute of Naval Research and Design —); Mathematical models for the optimization of cutting in view of reducing the consumption of materials, etc.

During the ten years of publication, the journal has endeavoured to win a place in the expert journalism in our country, contributing to the wide spreading of the most important concrete results obtained in various researches for the application of the mathematical and cybernetic methods in economy. At the same time, the journal has tried to contribute to making known on an international plan the Romanian school of economic cybernetics, to represent a basis in the world exchange of experience with higher educational institutes, computation centres and with specific personalities in several countries of the world..