



THE BEGINNINGS OF PROFESSIONAL GAME MANAGEMENT AND HUNTING TOURISM IN HUNGARY DURING THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE MARKET ECONOMY

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Abstract

In my study I examine the peculiarities of hunting activities that fit into the forest management system of the South Transdanubian estates during the development of the market economy (1850–1914) in Hungary. I present the forestry and hunting characteristics of the estates in the area. The South Transdanubian region has always been famous for its high-quality wildlife, which has had lasting results. The hunts were simultaneously gentlemanly entertainments for the higher social strata, special forms of communal existence, social gatherings, which at the same time created an opportunity to build relationships among the participants. Hunts could not do without the development of conscious game management. During the period under study, efforts were made to develop game management in several estates. The aristocratic landowners were interested in introducing more and more huntable game species on their lands. Famous hunting grounds and hunting gardens were established. In many places, significant capital was invested in the construction of hunting lodges. A lot of energy was also put into building hunting facilities and related infrastructure. The development of game management required trained and well-paid agricultural professionals. In my study, I highlight the fact that the foundations of today's most significant hunting facilities and systems were laid in the estates of the period I studied, showing progressive and forward-looking professional work and developments.

Key words: Game Management, Hunting Area, Hunting, Forest, Manor

1. Introduction

Significant political and economic changes in recent decades have also had an impact on the game management sector. Today, this sector is not only a summary of the professional activity that provides the framework for hunting, but also an economic sector that is part of the rural economy (SCHIBERNA – SZALAI 2015). In the territory of Europe, Hungary is considered a hunting power,

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which can be attributed to its ecological endowments and long hunting culture. The annual yields of our game as a renewable natural resource (trophy and game meat) go to both the domestic and foreign markets (MAGYAR Z. 2020). The conservation of wildlife as a usable natural resource is not only the task of game management, but also of rural development interest. The wildlife and its habitat also represent a landscape and natural value, they have a role in improving the living conditions of the rural population, so they are integral parts of the rural development process (BODMER – LOZANO 2002; BOHNE, 2007). Even today, hunting in Hungary is prestigious on our continent, the wildlife is famous for its good quality, and the number of wild animals almost guarantees success. The number of foreign guest hunters who are visiting Hungary is around 22-24 thousand a year (VAJDICS 2003).

Game management is a traditional and thriving sector. It can therefore make a significant contribution to the development of rural areas, the improvement of employment conditions, the expansion of income opportunities and the strengthening of tourism potential. In addition, it can play a major role in promoting the efficient, long-term development of areas rich in natural and landscape values and rural development areas, and it also meets the needs of agriculture and forestry, which are so important in rural development, in an integrated way (MAGDA-MARSELEK 2010).

The topic is still relevant today, as experts formulate various forms of tourism based on the proximity of nature and natural treasures of the area. It can also be observed that in addition to mass tourism, the demand for alternative tourism products is also growing (GONDA 2017). Among the alternative forms of ecotourism, among the new places that have not been visited or visited less by tourists, the untouched natural areas are of increasing importance – and this could mean an opportunity for development and eruption for the region of Drava (CSAPÓ – MARTON 2010). Hunting tourism can be classified as active rural tourism, and animal watching can be classified as rural nature tourism (DÁVID 2007). Hunting tourism has a huge potential, as it can be linked to rural development, reduce unemployment, help areas catch-up, and contribute to the preservation of natural and cultural values (WALLENDUMS 2012).

2. Literature background and methods

The history of large estates and forests in South Transdanubia has already been addressed by several people. Zoltán Kaposi analyzed the main stages of Hungarian manorial development (KAPOSI 2001). Eszter Magyar examined the effects of the Forest Act of 1879 on forest management in Somogy county, revealing the peculiarities of forest management in the Count Festetics faith commission (MAGYAR 1981). Klára T. Mérey researched the history of forestry before 1879 in Somogy county (T. MÉREY 1968).

I myself conducted research on the major estates along the Drava, looking for changes in forest management in the age of dualism (SZABÓ 2019). On the other hand, the researchers did not deal much with the game management and hunting of the Drava region in the period I studied (between 1867-1914).

I basically did archival research in the subject. Mainly examining the game management and hunting practices and habits of the estates in the area. I also placed great emphasis on the study of the contemporary press materials, from which the more important hunting events of the members of the contemporary regional hunting society, the hunting tourism investment and the introduced game management innovations could be outlined before my works. In addition to these, of course, I also paid attention to contemporary literature and statistics. During the research, I analyzed hunting habits and hunting tourism within the framework of large-scale forest management. I was curious about how the system of forest management changed during the transition to a market economy, and how hunting itself became more and more important among forest benefits (KAPOSI 2017).

3. The endowments of South Transdanubia and the Drava region

What was the Drava region like in the 19th century? The easiest way to formulate the answer is on the basis of the descriptions of contemporary historical statisticians. In his work in 1812, György Károly Rummy mentions that the Drava is the largest river in the county, which “originates in Tyrol and separates the three counties of Hungary, Zala, Somogy and Baranya, from Croatia and Slavonia, passing through Carinthia and Styria. This river flows through sandy areas everywhere on the border of this Somogy county, and is thus rushing at a very high speed, surrounded by insecure shores. This is partly due to its meandering flow, partly due to the weakness and collapse of its shores, and finally to the flooding of adjacent lands caused by the slowdown and increase in water as a result of the bends” (TÓTH 1988). A few decades later, Elek Fényes described the Drava as follows: “The River Drava is sweeping above it, causing a lot of damage with its floods. Its shores are accompanied by famous beech and oak forests.” (FÉNYES 1836) In his work published in 1857, József Csorba, a great acquaintance of the county, remarked that “people have been transported through the Drava from the memory of a person by boat and in a few places by bridge. There was also safe ferry transport to the Croatian country at Légrád” (CSORBA 1857: 58). For a long time, the Drava was an unregulated and very wild river. Prior to the regulation, the left bank of the Drava was networked by the river’s tributaries because the main river often changed its location. The Drava was shortened from 454 km to 182 km from Légrád to the Danube, as a result of which the river deepened its bed significantly. (IHRIG 1973: 273.)

4. The most important features of forest management in the area

It was important for traditional societies to have forests of the right size and quality near where they could live, to meet the myriad needs of their communities. What the forest gave to man varied from population to population, culture to culture, or from forest to forest. Looking at the forests in Hungary, we first point out that forests have long functioned as a source of food. Think of the myriad forms of hunting; for the role of various edible plants, berries, forest fruits, mushrooms. However, with the improvement of agricultural technology and the restriction of hunting rights and free forest living, this function declined spectacularly in the 19th century. The building materials that can be extracted from forests continued to be of great importance (MAGYAR 1981). Wood was a universal raw material and also a building material until the middle of the 20th century. Wood had decisive importance in the case of old filling houses, masonry, beams, slats, roofing materials, planks, but most of the furniture and other household utensils were also made of wood (KAPOSI 2009: 85.; KAPOSI 2007: 28).

In the second half of the 19th century, deforestation accelerated in Hungary. The main reason for this was the acquisition of land needed to expand grain production. The estates also cleared more and more forests in the South Transdanubian region. In the 1870s, about 3,000 acres of forest were cleared and set as arable land in four estates of the prince Batthyány Faith Commission, including the estate of Nagykanizsa along the Drava and Mura rivers and the estate of Ludbreg (KAPOSI 2020/a; KAPOSI 2013). In the age of large-scale deforestation, the largest price increase was observed for log products of different wood species. Forest management, which was mostly unprofessional, was also a major threat to forests.

Until the second half of the 19th century, acorn cultivation was still one of the largest sources of income in the forests along the Drava, as acorn forests were famous far and wide at that time. It is no coincidence that Alfred Hirsch wrote in the early 20th century that “the Drava region was particularly rich in forests and has been one of the largest pig-breeding regions in the country since ancient times ” (HIRSCH 1903: 64). At the time of the acorn fallout, pig herds were also driven from distant lands to these forests, where pigs could be fattened for rent. “The feed of the pigs was what they were looking for in the pasture or in the woods. Fattening is also often done on oak or beech, especially in Slavonia and Serbia. The advantage of oak over beech is that it grows soft meat and bacon.” (DITZ 1993: 174) After the acorn season, traders drove the pigs to their markets, and later, with the construction of the railway lines, more modern transport was possible (CSORBA 1857).

Tanning has always been essential in the finishing of animal skins. Initially, tannic acid was extracted from the stalks of the pedunculate oak, from the leaves of the tan, from the young shoots, and from the young bark of some tree species (oak, spruce, larch, birch). Towards the end of the 19th century, the demand for bark beetles increased in Western Europe, making the Hungarian bark so precious by-product in the forestry (RUMPF 2016: 371).

According to the provisions of the law of 1979, the management of state-owned forest estates in the area was carried out by the State Forestry Office at Kaposvár and the Tax Inspectorate of the district at Pécs supervised the management of non-state-owned but bound forest estates (UJVÁRY 1914). The new Forest Act put the possibilities of manorial forest management on a completely new basis. The estates increasingly sought to employ a team of professionals with the appropriate professional knowledge. On the one hand, because they tried to comply with the new regulations, and on the other hand, there was a boom in the sale of high-quality wood products. By this time, several major timber companies had been established in the area I studied, which provided a significant market for the estates.

One of the most important tasks for the estates after the entry into force of the Forest Act of 1879 was to draw up the forestry management plans required by law. These plans were completed in the 1880s in all the estates I studied. The plant plans were made for 10-year cycles in each case. In order to be able to prepare the plant plans, separate management units were set up on each large estate, which were called forest plots. Each also had its own forestry ID for easier identification. The mapping took place in parallel with the plant design work: it was then that accurate forestry maps were made, which greatly improved the identification of forest details.

The estates of South Transdanubia organized the management of forest management in much the same way. In the Berzence estate of the Festetics family, the forest areas consisted of many smaller forest areas, which were divided into three economic units from the 1880s. These units were called forest stewards. The three centers were located in Csurgó, Háromfa-Agarév and Tarany, each of which was headed by a certified forest officer. They ensured a high level of professionalism in management. They also included 1-1 forest guards with specialist exams and 2-5 forest guards without exams, who were responsible for operational work in the field, furthermore, for the continuous guarding of forest areas, which included the prevention and detection of illegal logging and taking of by-products. Such side benefits could be, for example, illegal grazing, acorn grafting, mushroom picking, hunting. In addition, they played an important role in preventing fires that posed a major threat to forests, as harmful arson occurred (LUKÁCS 2009). The next level of the management of these three forest caretakers was the forest area, which formed a geographically well-separated unit. Within the forest members, forest details were also distinguished. The forest members were separated from each other in almost all cases, the extent of the forest areas included in the member varied between 30 and 80 “holds”, i.e. acres. Both the forest details and the forest members also had their own identifiers, which were also included in the forestry maps. Accurate identification of areas was the basis for professional forestry (MNL.SML.IV.428.134.d.). Next to Berzence, we can see similar aspirations in the estate belonging to the religious foundation of Lakócsa and in the public foundation estate of Vajszló where the leaders of the estates sought to turn the still rich forests into “forestry”. (SZABÓ 2019)

5. Changes in the right to hunt and the situation of hunting

In addition to the protection of forests and the establishment of the quality of forest management in the Hungarian manorial management system, it became increasingly important that by the second half of the 19th century there was a consensus that the condition of wildlife should be improved. The first magazines and periodicals were created, which dealt with the situation of hunting and the need to renew wildlife, e.g. in 1857 the a periodical was created in the field of horseback riding and hunting, then in 1858 was the Hunter and Competition Journal founded. These newspapers addressed the poor condition of wildlife and urged the creation of a new regulation. In 1858, the Hungarian Forestry Association was asked to draft a new hunting bill, but the bill did not receive a

binding mandate. More and more books on hunting were published (MAKAY-BERÓ 2020: 64). Game gardens were revived, experimenting with the introduction of new species, such as the capercaillie (MOLDOVÁN 1980: 38-40). The situation was exacerbated by the fact that many forests had been cut down, the forest stock had decreased and so did the size of arable land. This significantly changed the habitat of the wild. Due to high water regulations and drainage, the number of wetlands also decreased (CSŐRE 1994: 195-196).

Hunting, as a side benefit closely related to the forest, became increasingly important to manor owners by the end of the 19th century. The idea and practice of professional game management gradually gained ground in addition to high value-added forestry. In the area of South Transdanubia that I examined, there were several farming units capable of demonstrating outstanding game management and hunting performance. The wildlife of Somogy and Baranya enjoyed the best reputation both quantitatively and qualitatively. In the last decades of the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy, the general expectations of the age made it almost obligatory for the male and female members of the noble families to engage in the sport, which was then called chivalrous. It was no different for the owner of the Bellye estate, Archduke Frederick of Habsburg, where not only the head of the family but also his wife and daughters were passionate hunters. Princess Isabella *“did not drop a noble specimen from the forest of Bellye”* (PÉCSI NAPLÓ 1903). The door handles of the manor’s hunting lodges were almost given to each other by the most distinguished hunters in Europe, often including rulers. The first princely hunt was held in September 1893, where German emperor William II and the Saxon king Albert were official. On the second such occasion in the autumn of 1897, Franz Joseph I and Vilmos were hosted (KAPOSI 2020/b). The third hunt of the German emperor here took place in mid-September 1903; the ruler’s accommodation was in the recently renovated so-called small castle of Karapanca. He last hunted for the fourth time in September 1910. Vilmos stayed in the Bellye estate, then in the large castle of Karapanca, which had already been completed.

The local press tried to keep up with the great enthusiasm and loyalty. In 1903, the county bulletin entitled Bácska first wrote about the preparations made for the reception of the majestic guest, and then in another voluminous article he greeted *“Germanic Cäsar, who now repeatedly documents his sympathy for the Hungarian people with his coming”*. The high-ranking aristocrats may have been motivated primarily by the belly bulls with capital antlers that are expected to stand out in the crosshairs of their rifles. During these hunts, there was also otter hunt among the programs (NEBOJSZKI 2009). The estate also placed great emphasis on accommodating prominent guests. In most cases, the hunting guests, who sometimes numbered dozens, were accommodated in the castle of Karapanca during the hunts. This outstanding hunting life in the area was also reflected in the annual shooting lists. We know, for example, that in 1905 a total of 264 stags, 672 deer, 10,367 pheasants and 16,502 partridges were killed in the estates of Archduke Frederick in Magyaróvár, Bellye, Seelovitz, Teschen and Limassol (VADÁSZ LAP 1906).

Another famous hunter in the area was prince Tasziló Festetics, whose hunting grounds and hunts in Berzence became world-famous. The hunting professional environment of the age recognized his expertise and the advances and efforts of game management, e.g. it also *“provides bread for countless foresters and hunters, and large numbers of hunting personnel and their families”* (VADÁSZ LAP 1911). From year to year, the aristocratic hunts were held regularly in the area, where Ferenc Ferdinánd was also honored several times. The daily hunts were followed by evening revelry: in 1914 e.g. on the occasion of such a hunt, for the sake of the entertainment, it was organized that *“during the hunts the gypsy band of Barcza-Babári from Kaposvár played”* (SOMOGYI HÍRLAP 1914). During the hunting season, it was not at all uncommon for a *“five-day deer hunt to be held in a week”* (SOMOGYI HÍRLAP 1906).

In addition to Festetics, the counts of Széchenyi and Somssich also enjoyed regular hunting on their estates, both in hunting gardens and outdoors. There were hunting areas with a significant size and quality of wildlife in Lábod, Tarnóca, owned by the Széchenyi family. In the case of these estates, it can also be said that the estates organizing the hunts sought to establish and develop the background infrastructure necessary for the high-quality conduct of the hunts. In each case, castles of

the right size and capacity were available to them, supporting some of the accommodation and entertainment for the guests (KAPOSI 2018). For more special hunting opportunities, rare animal species were acquired in hunting gardens to enhance the hunting experience. Such was the case when, on one occasion, the owner ordered a hundred Asia minorian wild cats from the Hagenbeck company in Hamburg to boost the hunt (SOMOGYVÁRMEGYE 1913). For most of the lords of the county, the wildlife was not only spared and cared for, but also artificially bred and propagated enough to allow 1,000 to 2,000 games to be laid out in the autumn hunts one day.

Count Iván Draskovics, who took over the management of his estate in 1910 after the death of his father, built a famous and renowned game farm on the Sellye-based estate of 12,000 acres. He was renowned as an internationally recognized game farmer with significant professional achievements in the area. At that time, quality improvements and game management work were already underway in the game garden of Sellye. I hereby mention that at the turn of the 19-20th century, according to our knowledge, there were 118 smaller and larger hunting gardens in operation in Hungary (excluding Croatia and Slavonia). The majority of the gardens were in Felvidék (57 gardens – 48%) and in Transdanubia (37 gardens – 31%), which was followed by the Great Plain (16 gardens – 14%). Less gardens (3-4 gardens – 3% – 3%) were established in Transylvania (FARAGÓ 2009). In the already mentioned garden, the number of wild animals was reduced to the ideal level during the study period. From the starting 35, the number of these animals increased to 350 during the 30 years, and with a 1:1 sex ratio it was set at 120-150 on the estate with 1,300 hectares. Attempts were made to incorporate a diverse, noble-blooded deer from the spear into the breed. This was done by observing the roar of a red deer bull on a farm in Dárda, and the bulls caught in the spring from this rod were transported to Csányoszró after a short rearing. Here it was necessary to prove the diversity and pass on this quality. The one that did not hand over the stamp in its middle-ages was taken out from the breeding. Draskovich described in his first publication in German in 1951 that only a small number of the calves brought in the multifaceted trait. The real success of the procedure came in 1936, 56 years after its inception. Then an increasing number of heavy and multiplied bulls appeared, and thanks to the ancient blood, no multi-crowned crown was placed so that the stem thickness or weight was reduced.

Thus, the hunting world at that time could admire 12-14 capital red deer bulls per year, which raised 18-24 branches weighing 11-13 kg. By the way, the success of breeding was so great that early on, live game orders came from all over Europe. In 1912, the Russian hunter Wladislav Chizek brought a live deer to his garden in St. Petersburg, but the customers also included the French duchies and the Duke of Hohenlohe. Deer bulls killed in his own hunting grounds achieved the following results until 1944: 1 bull trophy over 13 kg, 6 bull trophies over 12 kg, 6 bull trophies over 11 kg, 12 bull trophies over 10 kg (DRASKOVICH 2008).

Count Iván Draskovich, the deer obsessed, also engaged in pheasant breeding in the Sellye estate, with good results. His experience was summarized with the name of *“Praktische Anleitungen für den Künstlichen Fasanenaufzug”* which was published in Vienna in 1907 in German language by his chief hunter, Wladislav Chizek (HUNORMAGAZIN.HU). In keeping with the customs and outstanding hunting opportunities of the age, Iván Draskovich also had an extensive network of hunter contacts. He regularly organized big and small game hunts, which provided an opportunity for people of the age to form and nurture social and friendly relations. However, some of these organized group hunter events could not pass without injury or unfortunate accident, as a contemporary article shows this to readers:

“In Baranya-Sellye, on the Draskovich estate, yesterday the landowner, gr. Ivan Draskovich (as a telegram from Pécs) had a great misfortune. A hunter-gatherer hunt was organized, and at about one o'clock in the afternoon the hunters wanted to stand up next to the shoot when one of the driving rifles, barely two steps behind the count, accidentally fired and the entire charge went into the count's left hip. The unfortunate man immediately collapsed. Only with the utmost care should they be taken home to his castle, where the doctors from Pécs, Grác and Vienna were called by telegram.” (VADÁSZ- ÉS VERSENYLAP 1890)

The Castle of Sellye also provided a suitable infrastructural background for these high-quality guests, who often came from international circles.

The possibility of shooting huge deer bulls drew prince Hohenlohe Kraft Christian's attention to the game-rich interior of Somogy. In 1909, the prince leased the right to hunt in the forests of the Main Chapter of Esztergom. In 1912, after relatively quick negotiations, he bought the Somogyszob estate for 7 million crowns (KAPOSI 2016). Then he made continuous land purchases in the vicinity of his estate. Through all the purchases, he collected about 20,000 acres of property. A hunting lodge was built in Kaszó in 1912–13, which later became one of the most important residences of the prince. The castle is modeled on the Pavilion of Hohenlohe used in the Vienna Hunting Exhibition in 1910. Later, a side wing was added to it, making it suitable for receiving guests (NAGY-NAGY 2004: 52-55). The hunting paradise was modeled on the prince's estate of almost 50,000 acres in Javorina in the High Tatras (KAPOSI 2019).

In the estates of the Inkey family in Iharosberény and Iharos, the size of the hunting garden exceeded 2,000 acres, the other areas were forests, fishponds, game fields, gardens, etc. exposed. However, hunting was practised not only in the manorial but also in the leased areas of the village (BENKOVICS 1891: 54). Nine forest guards served in the manor at the turn of the century (NAGY 1992). From 1907, the management of hunting was not as unplanned as in a non-insignificant part of the domestic estates, but there was no more serious shooting budget to which they would have rigidly adhered. Paul Inkey insisted on directing the hunt only to the extent that a bull-ripe deer and a fallow deer could only be killed in the hunting garden with his consent. The killing of the obvious scrap was not always commented on, and outside the hunting garden, the chief forester had complete freedom (NAGY D. 1992). The Inkey family also had an imposing castle that provided the backdrop for high-quality hunting.

In each of the estates in the South Transdanubian region, the emphasis in the breeding of small games was on English pheasants, whose eggs were collected and hatched. There were places where they were shot under hunting conditions in the garden and elsewhere in the open air. In addition to pheasant hunting, rabbit and captive hunting was also popular in the area. There were also regular water hunts in the reeds in the Drava region and along Lake Balaton, where large numbers of wild ducks and geese were hatched and farmed. In addition to the conservation, care and breeding of small game, the regular extermination of wild vermins also contributed to their proliferation (UJVÁRY 1914). Count Antal Széchenyi gives a glimpse into the practical implementation of another interesting method of hunting in his memoirs, when he wrote that in autumn and spring, depending on the appearance of frost, herd hunts were held twice a week in the Széchenyi estate of Somogytarnóca. Based on his description, we can easily imagine the hunting events, when

“the hounds ran in the unforgettable countryside of the South-Somogy, after and after the attraction, their sound like music is still in my ears today. It is conceivable how many dear acquaintances, relatives, foreigners and many cavalry officers and gentlemen took part in this beautiful and exciting sport” (SZÉCHÉNYI 2001: 55-56).

The first international exhibition dedicated specifically to hunting opened its doors in Vienna in 1910. This was the first attempt to confine itself to an exhibition limited to hunting alone and the industries most closely related to it. Until then, hunting exhibitions had always been about agriculture and forestry (ERDÉSZETI LAPOK 1910). Hunting-themed exhibitions (e.g. trophy hall, hunting statistics, hunting weapons), art exhibitions (applied arts, ceramics, old and modern art, music pavilion) took place in more than 130 different new and old pavilions and buildings. The hunting demonstrations of each nation took place and a large number of facilities for entertainment and hospitality were also present (SÜLE 2016).

The Hungarian pavilion was one of the most visited buildings in the exhibition. The ground floor, made of imitation Cyclops wall, was followed by a lighter-structured floor closed by a red roof with a prominent and several smaller towers. Next to the main gate, a statue of two bears greeted the

visitor. Exhibitions of the larger estates were also found in the upstairs rooms. Archduke Frederick was present with his own pavilion with the estates of Bellye, Magyaróvár and Finale, and Prince Hohenlohe Kraft with the estates of Kaszó and Javorina. The former had the exterior of farmhouses in Baranya county and its most outstanding object was the diorama deer scene depicting the rural landscape of Bellye. The Hohenlohe pavilion was a heavily articulated wooden hunting lodge with dioramas that was also extremely atmospheric (ERDÉSZETI LAPOK 1910).

The results of the Hungarian manor game management outlined above, the quality of the game stock and the infrastructure related to hunting, were presented with great success in several international exhibitions during the period under review. However, it was important to be able to represent the results at an appropriate level within the country. This is why the national exhibition and fair held in Pécs between May and October 1907 was important, where the country's artisans and traders were able to present their latest products to the general public. The main organizers of the event were Miklós Zsolnay and the Chamber of Commerce and Industry from Pécs (KAPOSI 2006). Representatives from various industries held meetings during the exhibition, but there was also a congress of farmers, restaurateurs, winemakers and beekeepers. The estates of South Transdanubia were involved in a large number of forestry and game management topics (B. HORVÁTH 1998).

One of the most interesting venues of the exhibition in Pécs was forestry and hunting. The exhibition pavilion was built from raw oak and birch bark and it was located on the side of the main road to the city. It would also be difficult to list the range of exhibitors and products on display. To mention a few, I mention that in addition to the forestry of Count István Széchenyi from Kálmánca, the hunting trophies of Count Tasziló Festetics from his forest management in Csurgó were also on display at their own stand. In the case of the latter, the rare beautiful stuffed wild boar, the beautifully stuffed wolf and wild boar heads and the rare strong sown deer antlers are also worth mentioning. Not far from these were the deer antlers of Count Iván Draskovich, who won prizes in the game garden, a collection of 28 rare beautiful and strong deer antlers and the stuffed subjects of the pheasant species of Sellye. On the wall to the left of the diorama, Schaumburg-Lippe hg. a collection of rare-strength deer antlers and deer antlers were visible from the manor of Dárda (ERDÉSZETI LAPOK 1907).

7. Summary

In Hungary the hunts held in various estates were very important contact and constructive events for the members of the "elite" who governed Hungarian society. By the end of the 19th century, the basis of hunting tourism in the area began to develop, which still has a significant economic impact today. Several factors contributed to the development of reputation. There was a large and high-quality forest base, but the Forest Act of 1879 played a major role in curbing or slowing down some of the pre-statutory deforestation of forests and transforming farmers' attitudes and professionalism towards their forest assets. The wildlife density of the countryside was also high for several game species. An entirely new approach to wildlife management could be built on higher quality and value-added forestry and wildlife populations of the right quality and number. Solutions to the infrastructural problems that underline hunting also came to the fore: high-quality castles and hunting gardens were built during this period. In game breeding, the emphasis was increasingly on the quality of wildlife. On the whole, I see that the funds for our hunting values in this area were laid by professionals and farmers of the time in the period under review.

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