

1982 MAJ 14.

DAILY NEWS

244



PHOTO MTI — GYULA TOTH

Hotel Expo, the 11-floor steel-aluminium-glass building which was opened on Thursday close by the entrance to the Kőbánya Fairgrounds

Hotel Expo opened

An ideally well-timed hotel opening: Hotel Expo, the latest—in fact 44th in succession—of the HungarHotels chain opened in Budapest on Thursday, to be available for the numerous guests and exhibitors coming for next week's Budapest International Spring Fair.

Built just off the pavilions of the Fair at Hungexpo's fairground the 160 rooms attracted first visitors with their tasteful furniture, minibar, telephone and—if requested—colour tv sets.

The circular shaped hotel building also has a nice snack bar as well as two adjoining restaurants and in one word: they are just the handiest place of accommodation for those involved in any Hungexpo programme all year round.

Obviously, the two international fairs—the spring and autumn ones—provide maximum number of guests but so will the large number of special exhibitions, congresses etc to be held at the fairground in practically every season. Plus, one should not forget about that type of visitor who likes to stay in the capital, yet "far from the madding crowd".

HungarHotels officials said that they will operate a round-

the-clock minibus service between the hotel and the Eastern Railway station and they think that Hotel Expo will be fond of tourist groups, mainly sportsmen who have their programme in the nearby Nepstadium, or the other adjacent Sports Palace.

The 11-storey hotel cost 320 million forints and as from the very first day of its opening, the bookings are not bad. Obviously, during next week's Fair, it will be full, but they will fare quite well until November, anticipating an average 70 per cent occupancy rate, which is not bad at all.

HungarHotels, which opened its Forum Hotel late last year, has on its schedule more openings of hotels within a year or so. In July, for instance, they will open Hotel Stadium, a 389-room hotel, just off the sports stadiums, while next month, their Hotel Lóvér in Sopron near the border with Austria, is to open its door. This will have been built from an Austrian loan; similarly, HungarHotels' Hotel Flamengo, the completely reconstructed former Hotel Sport, will be operational late next year, with franchise relation to the Spanish "Husa" hotel chain.

Pál Herskovits