

# A H E A

## AMERICAN HUNGARIAN EDUCATOR

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### NINTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE AMERICAN HUNGARIAN EDUCATORS' ASSOCIATION

The Ohio State University (Columbus, Ohio) hosted the Ninth Annual Conference of the American Hungarian Educators' Association (AHEA) May 3 through 6, 1984. AHEA is a professional and scholarly organization devoted to the teaching, dissemination, and research of Hungarian culture: history, folklore, literature, language, fine arts, music, and scientific achievements. Since 1975, AHEA has strived through its publications and conferences to provide a forum for topics of special interest in Hungarian Studies in the United States, Canada, and Hungary.

Martha Pereszlenyi-Pinter of the Department of Romance Languages and Literatures at the Ohio State University organized the 1984 AHEA Conference and welcomed the conferees Thursday evening. The opening address was given by Leon I. Twarog, Chairman of the Department of Slavic and East European Languages and Literatures and Director of the Center for Slavic and East European Studies at the Ohio State University. János Horváth, Professor of Economics at Butler University in Indianapolis, Indiana, and President of AHEA 1982-84, also greeted conferees who had gathered from all over the USA, Canada, Hungary, and other countries to discuss matters relevant to the Conference theme: "Hungary and Hungarians: 1984. Accomplishments and Prospects."

The opening remarks were followed by a roundtable discussion on "Cultural Retention and the Hungarian Experience in North America." Moderator was William L. Biró, Research Associate for United Technology Center in Pittsburgh, PA. Participants were Arthur Bártfay, Columbus, who discussed the work of the Eighth Tribe and the William Penn Foundations, and Rev. Paul Kántor, Columbus, who outlined the contributions of the Hungarian Reformed Churches. Also participating were Marton Sass, Chicago, Ill., who summarized the work of the Hungarian communion of Friends (Itt-Ott), and George Bisztray, who holds the chair of Hungarian Studies at the University of Toronto in Canada. Audience participation was lively.

Several papers examined current themes and trends in the session entitled "Hungarian Literature in 1984," chaired and organized by Enikő Molnár Basa of the Library of Congress, Washington, D.C. George Bisztray presented "Writing and Literature: Some Hungarian Canadian Examples." András Boros-Kazai, Research Associate for Inner Asian Studies at Indiana University, Bloomington, examined the workings of a Budapest periodical in "Young Hungarian Writers: a Case Study of the Mozgó Világ." Károly Nagy, Professor of Sociology at Middlesex County College and Rutgers University in New Jersey, discussed current literature in Hungary, Transylvania, and the Felvidék (today annexed to Czechoslovakia) in "Some Contemporary Themes of Sociographic Literature in East Central Europe."

The panel on "Hungarians in the Successor States" was chaired and organized by Andrew Ludányi, Professor of Political Science at Ohio Northern University, Ada.

László Hámos, Committee for Human Rights in Rumania (CHRR), surveyed the literary perspective in "The Transylvanian Hungarians in the Light of Their Samizdat Literature." Steven B. Vardy, Professor of History at Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, presented "The Hungarians of Carpatho-Ruthenia Under Soviet Rule." Michael Sozan, Professor of Anthropology at Slippery Rock University in Pennsylvania, presented "The Hungarians in Burgenland, Austria: Future and Prospects." Panel commentator was Bulcsu Veress, Legislative Assistant to Senator Christopher J. Dodd, Washington, D.C.

Karoly Nagy chaired and organized the session entitled "Language and Cultural Maintenance." József Böröcz, visiting Professor from Budapest, described his work in the Albany, Louisiana English-Hungarian Bilingual Project. The project is supported by the Native Language Conference of Hungary. Martha Pereszlenyi-Pintér and Julianna Nádás Ludányi of Ohio Northern University, Ada, described their progress and program for a new language teaching method in "Individualized Instruction in Hungarian for Adolescent and Adult Learners: A Grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities." Klara Falk-Bano, Linguistics Professor from Budapest and ACLS Fellow at Rutgers University, discussed the results of her linguistic research conducted here in the United States in "Characteristics of Language Shift in American Hungarian Bilingual Communities."

Paul Bódy of the Urban Redevelopment Authority of Pittsburgh chaired the session entitled "Hungary and Emigrant Hungarians," a session which also dealt with problems of language and cultural maintenance. Dalma Hunyadi Brunauer, Literature Professor at Clarkson University, Potsdam, New York, presented "The Immigrant Author Writing in English: Edward Newhouse." Rose Stein, Institute of East Central Europe, Columbia University, New York City, discussed her work in her paper "The Hungarian Project of Columbia University's Oral History Collection." Ruth Biro, Professor of Library Science at Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, described work and progress in the field of children's literature in "Hungarian Materials for Children: A Hungarian-English Picture Dictionary of the Hungarian Language and Hungarian Culture for Children." Mary and András Boros-Kazai of Indiana University, Bloomington, reported on progress on their new Hungarian language textbook currently being tested in a preliminary edition. Finally, Paul Body presented "Critical Observations on Research and Writing of Hungarian Immigration History."

The "Science and Research" section was chaired by Arthur Bártfay of the Ohio Medical Education Network, the Ohio State University. Helene Somraty Stone, University of Southern California, presented her research in "Early Environmental Correlates of High Academic Attainment in the Hungarian Euro-Ethnic Group." C. Frank Csetri, Assistant Clinical Professor of Psychiatry (and private practice), the Ohio State University, presented "Suicide and Depression." Oliver Botar, University of Toronto, discussed "Modern Art, Architecture, and Hungarian Culture: Is There a Connection?"

During the 1984 AHEA Conference, HALO, or Hungarian American Librarians' Association was organized as an affiliate of AHEA under the direction of Ruth Biro. Other affiliates/special interest groups of the AHEA include the American Hungarian Folklore Centrum which supports a folk museum in Passaic, New Jersey, organizes dance festivals, and disseminates Hungarian folk culture through their periodical entitled Karikazo, and the American Association for the Study of Hungarian History.

Ohio State University also hosted the Twelfth Annual Midwest Slavic Conference May 4th and 5th. Researchers and educators in the field of Slavic and East European Studies gathered to exchange information on relevant topics. AHEA and Midwest Slavic shared two joint sessions of particular interest to Hungarians.

Bennet Kovrig of the University of Toronto chaired the joint session entitled "Hungary in 1984: A Roundtable." Speakers included János Horváth, who touched on both the successes and problems of the present economic system. Károly Nagy presented the sociological perspective: declining population, suicide, alcoholism, and poverty. George Bisztray discussed strains and tensions in the literary and political sector.

The second joint panel was entitled "National Minorities in Eastern Europe." Károly Nagy served both as chair and discussant. In his paper, Bulcsu Veres discussed "Rumanian-Hungarian Relations and the Minority Question." Andrew Ludányi presented "The Csango Hungarians in Moldavia: Model for Integration or Assimilation?" Sylvia Forgas, Appalachian State University, discussed "The Poles: The Nationality Policies of Bismarck and Hitler."

For the evening programs, guest speakers had been invited. Jozsef Jankovics, Literary Historian representing the International Association of Hungarian Studies, Budapest, discussed Mihály Bethlen as well as the work of the Association in "The First Hungarian Emigrants." Miklós Vásárhelyi, Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Institute of Literary History, and currently Visiting Professor at Columbia University, discussed the 1946, 1953 and 1956 economic reform programs. As Head of the Press, he had also served in the government of Imre Nagy. Dezsó Monoszloy, Hungarian writer now residing in Vienna, read one of his short stories, after which Mrs. Monoszloy, former actress in Hungary, presented a dramatic recitation of several of his poems. The Conference banquet speaker was Paul Marer, Professor and Chairperson, International Business Department, School of Business, Indiana University, Bloomington, who discussed "Hungarian Economic Reform: From Centralized Planning to Market Socialism."

The Conference was closed by the newly elected President of AHEA, Martha Pereszlenyi-Pinter.

AMERICAN HUNGARIAN EDUCATORS' ASSOCIATION  
Dr. Martha Pereszlenyi-Pinter  
Ohio State University  
Columbus, Ohio

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American Hungarian Educators' Association  
May 5, 1984  
Columbus, Ohio

Minutes of the general membership meeting

The meeting of the American Hungarian Educators' Association was called to order at 8:45 a.m. by the President, János Horváth. In his introductory remarks, the President restated the purposes and aims of the organization and stressed the importance of the annual membership meeting.

The President expressed a special note of thanks to Ohio State University and its chancellor for hosting the 1984 annual conference of the AHEA. He then took time to express general thanks and appreciation to members who had helped prepare this year's conference. Horváth paid special tribute to Mary Boros-Kazai, Secretary and Editor of the Newsletter from 1980 to 1984, for her invaluable work on behalf of the AHEA. The President then extended thanks to Martha Pereszlenyi-Pinter as the local host and program chairman of the 1984 meeting. He also thanked Charles Wojatsek, treasurer, and other members of the Executive Committee for their work.

Horváth stated that although some of the AHEA's targets have not yet been accomplished, the organization is "in good shape." He as President during the last two years and as Fulbright Professor to Hungary in the fall of 1984 was called upon

to represent the AHEA. He mentioned that the Association is highly respected in Hungary.

The President then called upon the Chairman of the Nominating Committee, Enikő M. Basa, to announce the results of the recent election: Martha Pereszlenyi-Pintér (President); George Bisztray (Vice President); Eva Sozan (Secretary); Ignác Kazella (Treasurer); Gustav Bayerle, Marianne Birnbaum, Anna Katona, Béla Király, Károly Nagy, Julianna Ludányi, Steven B. Vardy (Advisory Board).

The President then called upon the Secretary to present her report. She thanked the members for their support of her work as Secretary and Editor of the Newsletter during the past four years. She stressed that the organization is in need of revitalization as support of AHEA activities has not significantly increased during the past several years. Membership must also be increased. She also announced that no new editor had been found for the newsletter, but that Enikő M. Basa will assume some of the editorial duties temporarily. The secretary's report was approved.

The President then called upon the Treasurer to present his report (see attached). He noted that at present there are 146 paying members of the organization. The treasurer's report was approved.

The President then called upon the Executive Coordinator for her report. She reiterated the duties of this appointed officer, who seeks to coordinate the AHEA with other international and national organizations. She maintains a permanent address, bulk mailing permit, receives correspondence on behalf of the organization; in sum, the office provides an administrative convenience for the AHEA.

The President then called upon Ruth Biro to report on her activities on behalf of the AHEA. She mentioned that Hungary had recently been included in the Interfuture Exchange Program. This program provides undergraduate students with the opportunity to spend a year in Hungary. Candidates receive cross-cultural training prior to departure; no language preparation is required. The program is one of "independent study." The role of the AHEA in this new program may include the following: 1) to provide support for Hungarian scholars on the exchange program in the USA; 2) to identify undergraduates who would be interested in going to Hungary; 3) to provide information on the course of study, etc.

István Brunauer then stated that since Hungarian scientists are the ones who have made the "most important" contributions to world civilization, they should have a greater role in the AHEA.

Rose Stein stated that she, for example, will be presenting a lecture before the American Hungarian Engineers' Association and would gladly represent the AHEA and discuss the Engineers' role in such an organization as the AHEA.

Dalma Brunauer then spoke about the need to establish a yearly scholarship for students of Hungarian. She stated that it appears the AHEA is now in the financial position to establish a yearly scholarship of \$600. She also suggested that the AHEA send a letter to the International Association for Hungarian Studies (Nemzetközi Magyar Filológiai Társaság), the AHEA's sister organization, expressing deep regret and sympathy on the passing away of Miklos Beladi, deputy secretary and editor of the Association's quarterly.

Martha Pereszlenyi-Pinter then made the suggestion that a new category be added to the dues schedule of the AHEA. She suggested that retirees be granted a reduction in dues, so that they would pay the same as student members. A motion to that effect was approved by the members. She also stated, in order to clear up any confusion, that registration fees payable during the annual conference are necessary in order to meet expenses incurred for the specific conference.

The President then announced that the 1985 conference of the AHEA is tentatively scheduled for Indiana University in Bloomington.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by  
Mary Boros-Kazai

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American Hungarian Educators' Association  
Annual Business Meeting

Accounts Reconciliation

Balance in bank account on May 2, 1983 Suburban Bank, Bethesda, MD		\$ 1,953.23
Payments for Newsletters	\$ 297.10	
Atlantic Research Publ., Subsidy	680.00	
Bank charges	10.00	
Deposit, April 2, 1984		230.00
	<hr/> 987.10	<hr/> 2,183.23
Balance, April 5, 1984		<u>1,196.13</u>
Bishop's University, Special Account Balance in account on May 2, 1983		348.00
Dues and donations received to date		822.00
Balance in account on April, 1984		1,220.00
Transfer to the Suburban Bank on April, 1984		1,220.00
Balance in bank account May 5, 1984		US \$ <u>2,416.13</u>
Donation, Hungarian Chair, University of Toronto, Deposited in the Suburban Bank, April 19, 1984		Can.\$ <u>168.00</u>

Charles Wojatsek  
Treasurer

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The Tenth Annual AHEA Conference will be held April 25-27, 1985 at Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana. For further information contact Enikő M. Basa, 707 Snider Lane, Silver Spring, MD 20904 or George Ránki, Department of Uralic and Altaic Studies, Indiana University.

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PUBLICATIONS OF INTEREST

The Hungarian Cultural Foundation will publish the posthumous work of Bálint Homan, an eminent twentieth century Hungarian historian and co-author with Gyula Szekfű of one of the standard multi-volumes history of Hungary (Magyar Történet), entitled Ősemberek, ősmagyarok (Paleolithic People, Ancient Hungarians). In this work (written in 1944) and until now in the possession of Homan's son, the author revised some of his previous writings on the early history of the Magyars and took critical note of numerous fantastic efforts in Hungarian protohistory and attempted to restore a semblance of scholarship to the most vexing problem of the origins and early history of the Hungarian people. To expedite publication of this work, the first volume of a projected series to be titled Monumenta Historica Hungariae in Exteris. The purpose of this series is to find and publish manuscripts and historical records to be found outside Hungary. The book may be ordered at a prepublication price of \$ 15.00 at the following address:  
Hungarian Cultural Foundation, P.O.Box 364,  
Stone Mountain, GA 30087.

The Timeless Nation. The History, Literature, Music, Art and Folklore of the Hungarian Nation. By Zoltán Bodolai. Hungaria Publishing Company, Sydney. 1978. Available from Julius Nadas, 1425 Grace Avenue, Lakewood, Ohio, 44107.

From Trianon to the First Vienna Arbitral Award by Charles Wojatsek. Institute of Comparative Civilizations, Montreal. The book examines various aspects of Hungarian minority life in the first Czechoslovak republic after World War I: their self-defence against the infringement upon their civil rights by the Prague government, and the retrocession of the Hungarian-inhabited belt by international arbitration of Germany and Italy between Czechoslovakia and Hungary. Send order to: M. Kolbe Editions, P.O.Box 2058, Postal Station "J.C." Sherbrooke, Quebec, Canada J1J3Y1, \$13.75 for soft-bound, or \$19.00 for hard-cover.

Hungarian Studies Review. Special volume. Hungary and the Second World War. Send order to: Journal's Editorial Office, University of Toronto, 21 Sussex Avenue, Toronto, Canada M5S1A1.

\* \* \* MISCELLANEOUS NEWS \* \* \*

An international symposium was held between May 24 and 26, 1984 by the Universite des Sciences Humaines de Strasbourg with forty-five participants. The topic of the conference was the Peace treaties following World War I. Scholars dealing with Hungary, or of Hungarian ethnic background included Magda Adam (Hungary), Istvan Hunyadi (France), Jean Nouzille (France), Bela Toth (West Germany), Karoly Wojatsek (Canada). Two historians from Hungary declined the invitation, while the Rumanian government sent a nine-member delegation to the session on the Trianon Peace Treaty.

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