

### THIRD ANGLO-HUNGARIAN CONFERENCE OF HISTORIANS

London, 20–23 September 1983

In September 1983 the Institute of Historical Research at the University of London hosted the 3rd Anglo-Hungarian conference of historians. Bearing the number of participants and the general atmosphere of the colloquium in mind, 'table talks' is the best term with which to characterize the event which fitted well into the network of international relations of both Academies. The sessions were chaired by Professors T. C. Barker, leader of the historical section of the British Academy and P. Zs. Pach, vice-president of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences and Director of the Academy's Institute for Historical Research.

The papers to be discussed were grouped under three broad headings. The first was 'the Reformation and its impact on education'. R. A. Houlbrooke surveyed the latest results of English scholarship in this area, while K. Péter discussed the problem of education and intellectual curiosity in the Hungarian Reformation. This session was supplemented by a paper from Gy. E. Szőnyi which dealt with English books which had found their way to Hungary in the 16th and 17th centuries.

The second theme was the 'mentality of the 19th century'. Clearly it aimed at utilizing the methods of the French historical school in English and Hungarian historiography. P. Hanák introduced the process of the 'embourgeoisement' of the nobility in 19th century Hungary. His paper contrasted historical reality with the way in which it was reflected in the mind and mentality of the aristocracy and the gentry. J. Obelkevich reviewed some recent English works which attempt to employ the methodology of 'mentality' research and pointed to further possibilities in this type of investigation.

The third session was devoted to problems of demography. R. Wall spoke about English population history in the 19th century while L. Katus surveyed population patterns and household structure in 18th and 19th century Hungary.

The form and framework of the conference were fairly informal. The papers had been xeroxed and distributed among participants in advance, so instead of long readings the authors were able to speak around the main tenets of their papers and the discussions after each presentation were vivid and fruitful.

In general, the colloquium served its purpose well: the historians of the two countries familiarized one another with their respective research-programs and methodologies, and even if there is little opportunity for joint research, the exchange of data and information remains of crucial importance and represents the prime benefit of this scholarly contact.

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### AMERICAN AND ENGLISH BIBLIOGRAPHIES ON HUNGARIAN STUDIES

The pursuit of Hungarian studies abroad generally requires the use of more bibliographical material than such study in Hungary itself. Books in the Hungarian language, or relating to Hungarian studies, are quite diversely spread and tend to lie hidden under a variety of keywords in different library catalogues. Nonetheless English and American libraries do in fact treasure very many important *Hungarica*. These can be divided into three groups: books printed in Hungary and sent to the respective libraries (either on terms of exchange or direct payment); books on Hungary printed abroad; and personal collections which later become part of public libraries. Obviously, the second group will involve a great number of publications unknown in Hungary. In spite of all the efforts of the Hungarian national libraries, they are unable to obtain all the Hungarian publications which appear in foreign countries. Where only a single copy of such a publication is available in Hungary, it will hardly be known to all the scholars working in its particular field. Personal collections of Hungarian books reflect the interests of the individual collector, and thus in many cases offer a context for Hungarian studies quite different from home perspectives. Finally, in order to be well-informed on any aspect of Hungarian culture one should know about the availability of Hungarian publications in one's nearest major library.

This purpose is served—naturally with certain differences—by bibliographies of Hungarian books in the United States, Canada and England. Some of the more recent works are listed below. *Hungarian Studies* intends to carry further reviews and additions in future numbers.

*Harvard University Library — Widener Library Shelf-list, 44*

Hungarian History and Literature. Classification Schedule — Classified Listing by Call Number — Chronological Listing — Author and Title Listing. Published by the Harvard University Library — Distributed by the Harvard University Press, Cambridge, Massachusetts, 1974. 186. p.