

adequate social framework of economic development put him, as both Kaldor and Mátyás emphasized, in a different position from that of the contemporary mainstream Western (British) economic thinking, inasmuch as for this latter, especially for Smith, the institutional framework did *not* pose a special problem, for it was already adapted to a modern capitalist economy.

So, while Széchenyi's ideas about a modern economy were clearly and heavily derived from the then prevalent British economic thinking (and the newly born capitalist prosperity of real Britain), their originality consisted in having depicted those special stumbling blocks for economic development that in Britain by this time did not exist and can be summed up as the feudal socio-economic system. For this reason, it is surely not far fetched to consider him as an early forerunner of XXth century, third-world development economists as well.

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**Demographie, Bevölkerungs- und Agrarstatistik  
(Demography, Population and Agrarian Statistics)**

**A Compendium of Papers of the First Scientific Session of the  
Austro-Hungarian Committee of Historians, Budapest, 1978**

Edited by Gábor Erdődy

Budapest, Akadémiai Kiadó, 1982. 129 pp.

For more than four centuries the fate and history of Austria and Hungary was, for better or worse, closely intertwined. The minor partner of this liaison brought about by particular historical and geopolitical circumstances, was clearly Hungary, where, during these centuries, virtually nothing happened which was not strongly influenced or outrightly directed by Austria. This is not to say that the latter remained immune to Hungarian social and, more significantly, economic influences. How did this interplay of economic, social and cultural forces take place, and, what major differences remained of this interplay between the overall historical pattern of the two societies and cultures?—these were the questions addressed by the first scientific session of Austrian and Hungarian historians held in Budapest in September 1978.

The papers presented at this session, under the presidency of Zs. P. Pach, director of the Institute of History and member of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, were prepared partly by Austrian and partly by Hungarian historians, and dealt mostly with various aspects of economic history and demographic development in both countries. On the Austrian side all the papers—that of Professor R. G. Paschka (Research Institute for Eastern and South-Eastern Europe at the University of Vienna), entitled “The Sea in the South — A Common Emphasis in Hungarian and Austrian History”, that of Dr. B. Bolognese-Leuchtenmüller (Institute of Economic and Social History of the University of Vienna) entitled “Considerations on a Systematic Amalgamation of Demographic Problems with Economic and Social History” and finally, that of Dr. R. Sandgruber from the same institution, entitled “Hungary and Austrian Agriculture”,—dealt with various aspects of economic history and demography. Although not by any means neglecting these problems, the Hungarian participants encompassed a somewhat broader spectrum of problems. L. Katus and J. Puskás, both from the Institute of History analyzed problems linked with demography or agriculture (“The Problems of Demographic Transition in Hungary before WW I” and

"Trends and Growth Rates of Hungarian Farmland Crops between 1869 and 1913", respectively). The philosopher L. Mátrai concentrated on "Common Features of the History of Culture in Austria and Hungary" with paying special attention to the influence of the irrational philosophy of Kierkegaard and Nietzsche in neighbouring Austria and Hungary, respectively, at the turn of the 20th century.

His main conclusion is that while the growth of general existential uncertainties which provided an historical basis for the advance of Nietzschean irrational philosophy in Central Europe, was an element common to both Austria and Hungary, the two societies, for historical reasons, nonetheless responded differently in the sphere of philosophy. In Austria, after the old absolute truths had been lost, the irrational urge towards religion, irrationalism, expressionism, existentialism, etc., was only partly successful in filling the void. For this reason the best thinkers had to look for certainties in disciplines of exactitude such as the natural sciences and mathematics. In this respect the Vienna Circle was instrumental. In Hungary, the search for modern, absolute truths was also linked to research in mathematics and logic, but not to that in the natural sciences. Instead, leading figures of the avant-garde (Kassák) or philosophy (Lukács) were sooner or later to give a rather social, or even social-democratic, impetus to all the aesthetic novelties, or to the critique of old traditions originally brought about by irrational philosophy.

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**Kivándorló magyarok az Egyesült Államokban 1880–1940**  
(Emigrant Hungarians in the United States 1880–1940)

Budapest, Akadémiai Kiadó, 1982. 639 pp.

Julianna Puskás has provided a major contribution to American studies by exploring Hungarian emigration to the United States from the end of the 19th century to the Second World War. Considering that there has been no comparable study to date, and certainly not one on this scale, the book is all the more to be welcomed. Based on statistics, archival records, personal interviews, newspapers and other periodicals, the author presents us with a definitive account of an extremely complex and dramatic social-historical process.

Her main concern is the mass emigration which started in the 1880s. The process picked up in the last two decades of the 19th century and one of its main features was its multinational character. "From no other European country," the author points out, "not even from Czarist Russia, did such a medley of nationalities arrive to the USA from Hungary. At Ellis Island more than two-thirds of them declared themselves to be non-Magyars. The ratio of non-Magyars among the emigrants was proportionally higher than their share in the country's total population, and though the figures varied from one ethnic group to the other, this was true of all nationalities, not only the Slovaks, but the Germans as well."

Puskás gives a detailed breakdown of the sociological features of Hungarian emigrants. The majority of them were in their most productive years between 1905 and 1907; 61.5% of these who left were between 20 and 40, and many were under 20 (23.2%). The ratio between men and women varied between a mere 28% of women in 1907 and a maximum of 53.8% in 1913. The typical pioneers came from rural Hungary: village artisans, shopkeepers and craftsmen left in ever increasing numbers, particularly from the Magyar section of the population. Landed peasants and wage earners were mostly Croats and Slovaks. The literacy rate of The actual number of emigrants varied year by year according to economic changes within the United States: the American depressions of the mid-1880s and of 1907–1908 caused immediate breaks in the process. Some parts of the country produced many more emigrants than others and these "emigration