

PREFACE

This bibliography of 1295 secondary and primary sources published through 1960 is designed primarily for those students in the United States who are beginning their study of Hungarian literature or undertaking serious research in the subject. I hope that it will reduce some of the discouragements I have faced. Indeed, without the stimulus of my childhood experiences with Hungarian culture in the United States and the special sense of existence which they eventually enabled me to form, I probably would not have persisted in the serious study of Hungarian literature in this land my parents chose so hopefully as the place where they could fulfill some fragments of their dreams. But recollections of my early years crowd my mind: tales told and songs sung by my parents; harvest dances with my brother and sister swirling around a sawdust-covered floor in their native costumes, their red, white, and green ribbons flying, and with the grapes, pears and apples strung above the celebrants to invite the willing thief; Hungarian plays that interrupted the winter mood and carried me into the adventurous and courageous world of the "huszár" with his blade thrust skyward; careless fraternal picnics on soft summer days with wine and "pálinka" flowing and the gipsy orchestra, eternal and essential, filling the leaves of "Bakonyi erdő" with melodies stirringly melancholy and stirringly gay; the "nem nem soha" embroidered on a white linen wallcover in the kitchen proclaiming unalterable rejection of the partition of Hungary after the first World War; the chiding blows on my head from my mother's hand when I, at the age of six, seated on a stool at my unlettered father's feet, faltered over strange and seemingly endless polysyllables as I read the weekly Hungarian newspaper to him. To this day these remembrances, and many more, bring vividly before me the beginnings of my interest in Hungarian literature and the basis of my conviction that living in two cultures during formative years can give one an insight leading to a relation with his surroundings denied those who abide only in a single culture.

When I was able to pursue the study of English literature at the University of Chicago, I came to an increased realization that belles-lettres remain a major means of securing insights into the character of a people and a nation, and that such is especially the case when hardly any distance

exists between a country's creative writers and its population. My early years had shown me the significant role literature played in the lives of emigrant Hungarians. Two visits to Hungary in 1959-1960 confirmed my view that in Hungary the distance between writer and audience is so small that her literature is an embodiment of the character and values of her people. Conversations with Hungarians from all walks of life clearly demonstrated their deep reliance on their literary heritage for ideas and responses to human problems. I found statues of writers everywhere in cities and villages, and streets bearing their names. These memorials impressed on me the great significance Hungarians attach to those writers who have both captured and created the character of the Hungarian people throughout their centuries-old history. Because of this close relation, I do not think that the nations of the West will ever have an adequate and true understanding of the Hungarian people without more knowledge of their literature.

During the fall of 1955, I began an investigation of the origins of romanticism in Hungarian literature from about 1770 to about 1845. A dramatic development of a truly national literature in Hungary began in this period, and romanticism contributed to its inception and growth in very important ways. As I sought to collect materials for my study, I quickly encountered serious problems, the first of which was bibliographical. Despite the fact that Pintér's eight-volume history (no. 382, below) contained an extensive bibliographical apparatus, I needed other bibliographical aids, especially to uncover materials published since his history. From Pintér's work I compiled lists of titles and checked them against the National Union Catalog, the first of many attempts to locate useful titles. After I learned which libraries were interested in Hungarian materials, by analyzing the returns from the National Union Catalog and by examining the terms of the Farmington Plan¹ and reports of Hungarian periodical holdings in the *Union list of serials*, I checked my lists against their holdings. Once these findings were in, I began to use interlibrary loan services and to visit libraries in the East and in Chicago. Examination of basic bibliographical tools, especially at the New York Public Library and the Library of Congress, produced additional checklists for canvassing selected United States and European libraries.

The many frustrations I encountered in building a useful bibliography, in locating titles, and in creating a coherent experience with sources led me to think of preparing an introductory bibliography that would help students to overcome some of the difficulties hampering my own research. In the winter of 1959 the first outline of an experimental bibliography took

¹ Since this time, a work by Melville J. Ruggles and Václav Mostecký has provided additional help with this problem: *Russian and East European publications in the libraries of the United States* (New York: Columbia University Press, 1960; 386 p.).

shape in a manuscript of 120 pages. In 1959-1960, during a Fulbright year in Vienna, when I shifted emphasis from the study of romanticism to the bibliography, the use of rich European resources — including those in Budapest newly and temporarily at hand — provided materials which enabled the bibliography to reach its present form, and determined my choice of 1960 as the closing date. The results of these efforts, arranged, re-checked, and indexed, are now presented in the hope that they will make more possible the study here in the United States of a literature that is both long in tradition and rich in expressions of the human spirit.

I am most grateful to those who have shared in the preparation of this work. Though all final decisions about the titles included in the work are my own, I am indebted to the following for their criticisms and recommendations: Tibor Klaniczay, G. Gábor Kemény, Dezső Tóth, Imre Bán, László Pálincás, William Juhasz, John Lotz, Emil Lengyel, and August J. Molnar. I am also grateful to the following scholars for their individual contributions: to János Barta for his criticisms of the manuscript, for his help in the selection of primary sources and in the classification of author editions into kinds of editions, and for his assistance in choosing and classifying the periodicals in Appendix A; to László Országh for his encouragement of my efforts and for his counsel during all stages of the manuscript; to Sándor V. Kovács for his assistance during five most fruitful weeks of research in Budapest and for his undertaking numerous detailed tasks, among them, the major part of the description of authors' editions by volumes and the recording of data on first editions of authors' works; to Sándor Kozoca for his critical scrutiny of both the manuscript and galleys; to Béla Stoll and Richard Allen for their reading of galleys; to George Lowy for his assistance in solving a number of difficult bibliographical problems; and to Robert Hart, W. Carl Jackson, Lewis D. Levang, and Douglas Shepard for their criticisms of the preface, introduction, and annotations.

I also wish to thank all those who canvassed the holdings of libraries, and to express special appreciation to May Gardner for having checked lists so frequently against the National Union Catalog and for allowing me to use her *Proposed location symbols for all countries of the world*.

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To my wife, Olive, and my children, Michael and Kathy, I express my deepest gratitude for their patience, understanding, and devotion.

If users of this bibliography will bring to my attention titles which they believe should have been included, I shall be most appreciative. These and other titles published from 1961 to 1965 will be reported in a supplement to a bibliography of major Hungarian authors, which I am now preparing for publication.

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