

SÁNDOR A. KOSTYA

Sándor A, Kostya was born in Kassa, Hungary on February 26, 1910. After the Trianon Peace Treaty, Kassa became part of the newly created political entity of Czechoslovakia. His early schooling was partly done under the new Czechoslovakian educational system and partly in Hungary at the highschool of St. Stephen at Kalocsa, where he graduated. Advanced academic education was received at universities in Budapest and Szeged. Majoring in Hungarian Literature and Latin, he received his diploma of Education in 1934 from the Pázmány Péter University. In 1936, the Doctorate of Scholastic Philosophy was conferred on him by the University of Szeged. After 1936 until the Second World War he taught Hungarian and Latin Language and literature at Kalocsa and Pécs. During the war, he served as a noncommissioned officer in the reserves. After the war in 1947, the new Hungarian Communist Government revoked the licences of Catholic Separate School teachers and prevented them from teaching. From 1947 until the Hungarian Revolution he had to find menial employment to support his family. The 1956 Revolution brought him back to public view, when he was elected as president of the Revolutionary Council of Józsefváros district of Budapest.

The Soviet intervention and subsequent defeat of the Revolution forced him and

his family to leave Hungary and immigrate to Canada. After the initial difficulties of searching out a living and learning a new language, he went on to study at the University de Montreal Faculty des lettres. There he received his M.A. for his thesis "L'Importance Litterarie et Politique du Panslavism" in 1964. Afterwards he taught Latin in Canadian highschools. During this time he established the Association of Hungarian Teachers in Canada. He succesfully formulated and taught from 1965 on a Hungarian Language and Literature course wich became accepted as a credit program at Universities. The Árpád Academy of Cleveland in 1980 awarded him a gold medal for his literary work titled, "Pan-Slavism" Presently he serves on the Board of Directors of the Toronto Hungarian Cultural Centre, where he is also the Editor of the "Krónika", a monthly literary magazine. He is a member of the Árpád Academy, Cleveland, The International P.E.N. Club and the Canadian Hungarian Authors Association, Toronto.

Dr, Kostya is the author of;

Ukrajna, Kalocsa, 1942

Our Dear Mother Tongue, Toronto, 1959,

The Hungariam ABC and Reader, Toronto, 1965,

The Modern Man, Toronto, 1979,

The Historic Emergence of Panslavism, Toronto, 1980

All in Hungarian.

Pan-Slavism, Toronto, 1980. In English.