

OBITUARY

L.A. Fischer

Lajos (Lewis) Fischer completed his university training in Hungary and in Germany in law and economics. He began his career in Hungary, but fled to Austria in 1949. Eight years later he emigrated to Canada, where he soon joined the faculty of McGill University's Macdonald College. For three decades he taught in the Department of Agricultural Economics. During this time he published numerous papers as well as larger works on agriculture. In the Hungarian context, his major work was a study of Hungary's agriculture in the age of the New Economic Mechanism, which he co-authored with Philip Uren. His last publication, which appeared in *Osteuropa* in 1988, dealt with the second economy in Hungarian agriculture. To commemorate his life's work of teaching and research, in 1989 McGill University established the L.A. Fischer Memorial Fund.

The Ferenc G. Harcsár Memorial Prize

The Ferenc G. Harcsár Memorial Prize was established in 1979 to honour the man who had helped to launch our journal and who had worked for many years to pave the way for its financial viability.

Ferenc Harcsár was born in 1910, in Szatmárnémeti, Hungary (now Satu Mare, Romania) and received his university education in Budapest, where he earned his doctorate in chemistry. The threat of communist domination of his native country drove him into emigration, first in Venezuela and then in Canada. He retired from Canadian government service in 1977 as a respected member of Canada's defence research establishment.

Throughout the 1970s Ferenc Harcsár worked to launch and then to sustain an English-language journal devoted to things Hungarian. Out of his efforts emerged the forerunner of our journal, the *Canadian-American Review of Hungarian Studies*. In 1979 his work was interrupted by illness and death, before the journal's finances could be placed on solid foundations. Nevertheless, the journal found a permanent editorial office that same year with the newly created Hungarian Studies Chair at the University of Toronto and continued publication under its present name. To honour Harcsár and his many years of work, the journal's co-editors established a memorial prize in his name. The funds are presently administered by the University of Toronto. The prize is given out annually (less frequently if there is no qualified candidate) to a young scholar who publishes a distinguished article in our journal.

The following studies have been winners of the Harcsár Prize in the past: Mary Boros-Kazai, "The Emigration Problem and Hungary's Lawmakers, 1880-1910," VIII, 1 (Spring 1981); Marlene Kadar, "The Tragic Motif in the Ballad of 'Kata Kádár'" IX, 1 (Spring 1982); Aniko Varpalotai, "Physical Education and Socialist Ideology In Hungary," XII, 1 (Spring 1985); and Oliver A.I. Botar, "From European Capital to Ottoman Outpost: The Decline of Buda in the Sixteenth Century," XIV, 1 (Spring 1987).

The annual interest from the Harcsár Memorial Fund is approximately \$100.00. Contributions to the fund would allow us to increase the value of this prize. This would encourage young scholars to write on Hungarian subjects and publish in our journal. Those wishing to do so should contact the editors.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF SUPPORT

As virtually all Canadian scholarly publications, our journal too, would be unable to survive without the substantial financial support of various governmental and academic institutions. Contributions of such nature are usually granted for specific editorial projects. We acknowledge these on the inside title page of the appropriate issue of our journal.

Regular issues of our journal, and some special issues as well, receive no such support. The publication of these is made possible through the support of private individuals and community organizations. In the course of 1990 we have received generous donations from two of our readers: \$400 from Maria H. Krisztinkovich and \$100 (US) from Barnabas Racz. A long-time institutional sponsor, the Calgary-based Széchenyi Society, gave us \$600 so that we can offer complimentary subscriptions of our journal to certain selected Canadian university libraries as well as Canadian specialists in multicultural and Central European studies.