

HUNGARIAN STUDIES IN POLAND

Research into the connections between the histories of Polish and Hungarian literature only began in earnest after World War II. Papers concerning this subject were also written earlier (1,2)*, but these were few in number, and of a popular or critical character. Very often those engaged in translating Hungarian literature, such as B. Jaroszevska, or S. Duchinka-Pruszkowa, wrote sketches popularizing the works of the most appreciated Hungarian authors.

It was about Petőfi that the Poles wrote most often. The book entitled "The Lute and Sword" (1893) written by Albert Zipper(3) was of some literary value, even though he had only become acquainted with Hungarian literature through German.

After World War II the character and scope of Hungarian studies in Poland altered fundamentally. The main reason for this was the creation of a Hungarian Department at Warsaw University. The Hungarian Institute of Culture in Warsaw also played, and continues to play, a very stimulating role. The main figures of Hungarian studies in Poland were, from the outset Professors István Csapláros and Jan Reychman. The first has contributed to the development of Hungarian studies in Poland in two different ways: both as a scholar and as a teacher of many generations of students at the Hungarian Department in Warsaw, producing some talented literary historians. Because they have been able to continue their work on Hungarian language and literature the possibility exists of planned and systematic research aimed at creating an integrated approach to Hungarian studies as a whole. This very ambitious aim seems somewhat difficult to realize at the moment – in spite of the great number of studies published over the last decades on Polish–Hungarian comparative literature.

All these efforts should, I feel, be coordinated between Polish and Hungarian scholars. Undoubtedly some kind of cooperation does exist between the two sides, but there is no division of labour according to different scholarly tasks or capabilities. This difficulty could be overcome through planned and long-term co-operation.

Let us, however, move on to those achievements which cannot be ignored. Three collections of studies resulted from the cooperation between Polish and Hungarian scholars. The first was published in both countries, in both languages. *Studies from the History of Polish–Hungarian Literary and Cultural Contacts* (1969) was edited by Jan

*Numbers in parenthesis refer to the bibliography at the end of the paper.

Reychman (4) in Poland. The next volume, *Studies from the History of Polish-Hungarian Literary Contacts*, edited by István Csapláros (5), was published nine years later. The third, and so far latest book (6) of this series, published in 1979, contains papers by Hungarian scholars active in Poland. Entitled *From the History of Polish-Hungarian Historical and Literary Contacts*, it was edited by I. Csapláros and A. Sieroszewski. The list of the authors of the studies published in these three volumes includes nearly all those scholars who deal with Hungarian literature in Poland. Besides the above mentioned names (Csapláros, Reychman and Sieroszewski) one finds the names of J. Ślaski, E. Cygielska-Guttman, J. Jakubiuk, A. Korol, J. Zimierski, J. R. Nowak, J. Trzcińska-Mejor and the representatives of the youngest generation of Polish Hungarologists in Poland: L. Hensel, T. Worowska, etc.

Many other papers and articles written by these authors were published in various Polish scholarly and literary periodicals. Certain very important books have been edited at the Hungarian Department of Warsaw University, such as the Multivolume bibliography of translation of Hungarian literature into Polish and the *Pocket Dictionary of Hungarian Writers* (1977) (7).

What is the state of Hungarian literary history in Poland? These studies are primarily concerned with the problems of Polish-Hungarian literary contacts from the earliest times to the present day. Unfortunately, the number of truly original Polish studies on the history of Hungarian literature is very small. Polish scholars rely on the works and achievements of their Hungarian colleagues. Only some of the critical studies dealing with contemporary Hungarian literature are original and do not merely duplicate work undertaken by Hungarians. This weakness of Hungarological work produced in Poland is due to the fact that such work is limited to comparative studies. Such a limitation can partly be justified by the difficulties of obtaining access to original Hungarian sources, especially to manuscript collections. There are many foreign scholars who have written scores of original and comprehensive studies on Polish literature. Their number include C. Backvis, D. Beauvois, P. Cazin, J. Fabre, S. Graciotti, K. Krejčí and G. Maver. In their investigation of Polish literature from another perspective – from the outside as it were – they have been able to detect certain aspects imperceptible to Polish scholars. Polish scholars might avail themselves of similar possibilities with regard to Hungarian literature. Studies in this direction could produce a Polish synthesis of the history of Hungarian literature. We are still waiting for such a book; one could not produce an entire handbook, secondary both in its sources and conclusions.

Comparative studies by Polish scholars touch on the following range of problems: the reception of the literary works of Hungarian writers in Poland (and occasionally, of Polish writers in Hungary); Polish topics in the works of Hungarian authors and vice versa (e.g. 8.); mutual contacts between the authors, their correspondence, etc.; comparative analysis of some of the literary developments which occur in both literatures; and Polish-Hungarian cultural contacts in earlier centuries. The majority of these papers are detailed and make a valid contribution.

How do these contributions square up against the background of the history of Hungarian literature? By answering this question it will be easier to conclude as to what

kind of subject matter remains to be investigated. Concerning the earliest times the achievements of Polish scholars are really important. I am thinking above all of J. Ślaski's detailed studies entitled "From the History of Cultural and Literary Contacts between Poland and Hungary in the Renaissance" (10), "Old Polish and Old Hungarian Literatures" (11), "Janus Pannonius and the Poles" (12). The same scholar is the author of some very important studies on Polish-Hungarian printing centres in earlier centuries and on Hungarian motives in Kochanowski's poetry. From other papers referring to this period I. Csapláros's "Copernicus in the Hungarian Intellectual Culture" (9), J. Nowak-Dłużewski's "Polish-Hungarian Cultural and Literary Contacts in the Early Humanism" (13), M. Cytowska's "Hungarian Enthusiasts of Erasmus Rotterdamus in Cracow. Joannes Antoninus Cassoviensis" (14), J. Snopek's "Kochanowski in Hungary" (15) and to some extent T. Mikulski's "Adam Czahrowski from Czahrow. A Literary Portrait" (16) should be mentioned. There are no recent papers on the greatest Hungarian poet of the Hungarian Renaissance: Bálint Balassi and his very close contacts with Poland. He should deserve more attention and his poetry should be analysed in a more general context, that of the patterns of Polish and Hungarian Renaissance poetry.

Scholars in Poland do not show much interest in the period of the Hungarian Baroque. It is difficult to point to a concrete work dealing with this problem, although we can find many references in the above mentioned studies written by J. Ślaski. There is only one paper written by I. Csapláros "The Hungarian Marseillaise as a Source of Inspiration for Polish Literature" (17) which shows all the characteristics of a study in the history of literature. The studies written by J. R. Nowak and J. Jakubiuk devoted to Prince Ferenc Rákóczi II are of a rather historical character. J. Tazbir's "Polish Brethren in Transylvania" (18), J. Snopek's bibliographical outline "Gábor Bethlen in Polish Archives of Manuscripts" (19) and J. Leszczynski's study "Gábor Bethlen's Governments in Górny Śląsk (Upper Silesia) /1620-1624/" (20) also transgress the bounds of literature. As a scholarly desideratum it might be suggested that the following subjects be considered: a comparative study of the models of Baroque literature in both countries, and a detailed analysis of the oeuvres of Pázmány, Zrínyi, S. H. Lubomirski, J. A. Morsztyn, W. Kochowski, W. Potocki's and others.

The literary contacts of the Enlightenment are sufficiently well elaborated and it must be admitted that most of the work in this area has fallen to the Hungarian specialists on Poland. The two most important books about this period are those of Csapláros "Polish Questions in Hungarian Literature of the Enlightenment" (21) and of Reychman "From Polish-Hungarian Cultural Contacts in the Period of the Enlightenment" (22). Some of the studies by the above mentioned authors devoted to particular problems are also worth mentioning, two other works by Reychman: "Hungarian Jacobins of 1794 and the Kościuszko Insurrection" (23) and "From the Cultural Interests in Hungary of the Poles at the End of the XVIIIth Century" (24) deal with the same time period. A. Sieroszewski's monograph refers again to the same epoch "Maurycy Beniowski in the Literary Legend" (27). At the same time attention has to be paid to many attractive themes which have not yet been considered. Among others, one might mention the following: literary genres of the Polish and Hungarian Enlightenment, the forms of political literature in the

Polish and Hungarian Enlightenment, the character of French and English inspiration in the Polish and Hungarian literature of the Enlightenment, utopia in the Polish and Hungarian Enlightenment, etc.

Many Hungarian specialists working in Poland and Polish scholars in Hungary are interested in 19th century literature. From the epoch of Romanticism we find more systematic and more frequent signs of mutual interest in the literature of both countries.

In Poland the main works by Hungarian scholars are the books of Csapláros "Kraszewski and Hungary" (28) and of Sieroszewski, "The Hungarian and Polish Historical Novel in the Epoch of Romanticism" (29), studies by the same authors "Ferenc Kazinczy and Poland" (26), "Polish Romanticism in Hungarian Literature" (30), "Liszt's Triumphant Journey through Poland" (43), "The Hungarians' Relation to the Neighbouring Southern Slavonic Peoples in T. T. Jez's works" (31), "Chopin's Cult in Hungarian Literature" (32), "Gyula Sárosy, Hungarian Poet of Romanticism, the Lover of Polish literature and People" (33), and "Mazepa in Hungarian Theatres" (34), "Słowacki in Hungary" (35). We should also mention J. Ślaski's "From the History of Jókai in Poland" (36), A. Mazurkiewicz's "Poland and the Poles in the Works of M. Jókai" (37), A. Korol's "János Arany and Poland" (38), J. Jakubiuk's "Sándor Petőfi in Poland" (39) and E. Cygielska-Guttman's "New Data Concerning the Reception of Imre Madách's 'The Tragedy of Man' in Poland" (40).

Some works by Csapláros refer to the period after the epoch of Romanticism; three of them deal with the Hungarian reception of the works by Sienkiewicz, Reymont and Żeromski and one deals with the treatment of the January uprising in Hungarian literature. There are only a few works which refer to the epoch of Modernism, such as the sketch by T. Samociuk "Antoni Lange — the Propagator of Hungarian Literature in Poland" (41) and the papers by J. Trzcńska-Mejor and J. R. Nowak devoted to Endre Ady.

As to the literature of the last decades, its products are those most often translated into Polish and it is much favoured by historians of literature and critics (42). Among works dealing with the history of Hungarian literature one should mention studies on Polish affairs in László Németh's works, E. Cygielska-Guttman's study of Lajos Áprily's Polish correspondents, J. Jarmolowicz's paper on Rózewicz's contacts with Hungarians, T. Worowska's essay on the analogies between the poetical world of W. Szymborska and Ágnes Nemes Nagy, and J. Zimierski's thesis on Hungarian literature in Poland after World War II. Of course, all this is just a drop in the ocean of themes and problems, but no account has been given here of the parallel work undertaken by scholars in Hungary which complements that done in Poland.

To finish the picture, mention should also be made of certain studies situated on the borders of literary history, folklore and ethnography. These would include works by authors such as H. Linsemann-Kwaśniewska, L. Hensel, T. Zalesińska. The contribution of J. Reychman, I. Csapláros, E. Mroczko, A. Sieroszewski, A. Krawczykiewicz to the great Polish-Hungarian dictionary, and a textbook of the Hungarian language by E. Mroczko together with an outline of Hungarian grammar by the same author should also be mentioned. Linguistic studies have been published among others by J. Reychman.

Books by J. R. Nowak — though intended as works of popularization — possess considerable scholarly value; in particular, I have in mind his book "Hungary known und unknown".

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PROBLEMS AND PATTERNS IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF LIBRARY SERVICES FOR ETHNIC HUNGARIANS IN THE UNITED STATES IN THE FIRST DECADES OF THE 20th CENTURY

Introduction

Hungarian library collections are a very important source of identity maintenance among Hungarians living abroad. What kind of libraries have served the Hungarian immigrants in the US, what kind of development they have gone through and what kind of role they have played during the decades since Hungarians settled in the US are questions which have so far been discussed in only a few studies.¹ No effort, however, has been made to follow the development of libraries maintained by Hungarian associations, although the early history of the libraries of Hungarian associations represents the beginning of the history of Hungarian library collections in the US. This study, however, does not strive to give a full picture of the question from the beginning until the present day. Instead, it attempts to describe the main pattern of one aspect of their development and to analyse their circumstances during the period of mass immigration, which lasted until 1914.