

циями IFLA, приняв участие в программах УВС и УАР IFLA. Особенно активную роль сыграла в международной деятельности Юдит Сильваши сначала в качестве председателя Административного совета ISDS, а затем члена его президиума, по линии УВС являясь председателем ревизионной комиссии ISBD/S, по линии же ЮНЕСКО будучи посланной в Лаос в качестве библиотечного эксперта. Посредством работ по линии RISM (Repertoire International des Sources Musicales) мы подключились к AIBM (Association Internationale des Bibliothèques Musicales) и приняли участие в чешско-австрийско-словацко-венгерском совещании по вопросам сотрудничества в RISM, состоявшемся в Праге. В гаагской конференции IADA (Internationale Arbeitsgemeinschaft der Archiv-, Bibliothek- und Graphikrestauratoren) приняла участие Беатрикс Каштали.

THE ACTIVITY OF THE NATIONAL SZÉCHÉNYI LIBRARY IN THE YEARS 1982—83

Personel and organizational changes

On 19th March 1982 the library suffered a grievous loss: the unexpected death of Dr. Magda Jóború, general director, who had led the national library since 1958. She was well-known and acknowledged both in Hungary and abroad for her academic career and for her activity in the field of educational policy and public life. In foreign countries she was known primarily for her activity in the UNESCO. In 1962 she was elected to be a member of the Executive Committee of the Unesco; between 1974—76 she worked as president of the highest authority of the organization, the General Assembly.

On 1st June 1982 Dr. Ferenc Molnár, deputy head of the Scientific, Educational and Cultural Department of the Central Committee of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party, former cultural under-secretary, was appointed general director of the National Széchényi Library by the Minister of Education.

Due to the reorganization in 1982 the library consists of the following larger organizational units (departments): I. Collection Dept., II. Central Services Dept., III. Dept. for the Protection of Holdings, IV. Finance Dept. Some new organizational units have been formed which are under the direct control of the general director, or his deputies. These are the following: Section for Development, Section of Research Management, Section of International Relations.

Preparations for moving to the new building of the library

In the course of 1982 the 20-year-long reconstruction of the library's prospective new home speeded up, and the technical inspection of the huge building-complex could be started at the end of 1983. At long last, the Hungarian National Library, situated in the southern wing of the late Royal Palace of Buda Castle, will be able to open its doors for the reading public in 1985. Thus, the set of cultural institutions located in the Royal Palace of Buda Castle will be complete. (Besides the National Széchényi Library, the National Gallery, the Budapest Historical Museum, and the Museum of the Hungarian Workers' Movement can also be found here.)

At the same time, preparations for the library's functioning in the new building have also been speeded up. The most difficult task was the compilation of the new reading rooms reference collections of about 60,000 volumes. The necessary preparations have also been finished to the stores and the catalogue system.

Acquisition

In 1982/83 the holdings of the library increased by 52,492 volumes of books, 12,369 periodicals, 52,974 manuscripts, 131,546 other documents (music notes, records, maps, microfilms, posters, brochures), for a total 249,381 items altogether. On 31st December 1983 the holdings of the library consisted of 6,084,168 items.

In accordance with the national library's collection policy, acquisition was focused on the collection of all Hungarian publications, and on obtaining of so-called "Hungarica" material (i.e. publications by Hungarian authors, in Hungarian, or concerning Hungary issued abroad) aiming at completeness. Unfortunately, the world-wide economic repression hindered our acquisition of foreign materials. Apart from the "Hungarica" collection, fewer acquisitions could be added to our traditional fields of interest: literary science history and reference works than had been hoped.

The 13th century Latin codex acquired by exchange from the Library of the Catholic University of Leuven (Belgium) in 1982 was the most significant accession of this two-year period. It was discovered in 1922 that this codex contains the oldest known poem, in Hungarian, the free adaptation from Latin of a Mary's Lament (*Planctus Sanctae Mariae*). Thanks to the Hungarian-Belgian cultural relations, and to the understanding of the management of the Leuven Catholic University, this extremely precious relic of our national literature arrived to its due place at last, to the National Library of Hungary. In return for the Leuven codex, 12 incunabula, 24 16-17th century prints, and a set of 18th century manuscripts were given by the National Széchényi Library, all of Flemish concern.

Processing. Catalogues

Processing usually kept pace with acquisitions, except for the Manuscript Department, where the productivity of the processing staff had been overstrained for years by the rapid growth of the collection (due to the acquisition of large bequests of scholars and writers).

The reconstruction of the UDC subject catalogue was finished, and the long-range project of periodical recataloguing was continued.

The processing of the special collections was directed towards the compilation of printed catalogues besides the handling of current accessions. (The catalogue of Latin codices, that of modern Latin manuscripts, the catalogue of non-print cartographic material, the 16th century foreign "antiqua" catalogua were published.)

Bibliographical activity

Books, printed music, maps, serials, and periodical articles which appeared in Hungary in the field of social sciences were processed and published in the appropriate section of the current bibliography of the Hungarian National Bibliography. 14,000 bibliographic and 32,000 analytical records were entered into the database of the Hungarian National Bibliography in 1982/83. In 1982 new input equipment, the TS 51/S intelligent terminal was adapted for processing in the editorial office. One of the national bibliography-based central services, namely the combination of the records of the Hungarian National Bibliography and the supply of printed catalogue cards for public libraries, was attained in 1982.

"Hungarica" literature was processed continuously in the quarterly issues of the two relevant bibliographies: *Külföldi Magyar Nyelvű Kiadványok* (Hungarian Language Publications Abroad) and *Hungarika Irodalmi Szemle* (Hungarica Literary Review).

The cumulated volume for 1980 in the series of the annual *Magyar Könyvészet* (Hungarian Bibliography), and the volumes for 1980 and 1981 of the national press bibliography (*Magyar Nemzeti Bibliográfia. Időszaki kiadványok bibliográfiája*. — Hungarian National Bibliography. Bibliography of Serials.) were published.

Volume 2. of *Régi Magyarországi Nyomtatványok, 1601–1635* (Early Hungarian Printings, 1601–1635); Volume 6. „*Nyelvészet. Világirodalom*”. (Linguistics. World Literature) in the series *Magyar Könyvészet 1921–1944* (Hungarian Bibliography 1921–1944); and the microfiche edition of the bibliography "Külföldi Magyar Nyelvű Könyvek 1961–1970. Csehszlovákia." (Hungarian Language Books Abroad. 1961–1970. Czechoslovakia) were published as the results of the retrospective bibliographic efforts. Material was collected for the bibliography of 18th century prints, and for that of the press in the period 1921–1944.

The annual volumes of "A magyar irodalom és irodalomtudomány bibliográfiája" (Bibliography of Hungarian Literature and Literary Science) are under compilation as a part of our special bibliographical activity (the last volume published being the one for 1979).

The series entitled „Magyarországi egyházi gyűjtemények kéziratkatalógusai” (Catalogue of Manuscripts in Hungarian Ecclesiastical Collections) which registers manuscripts from before 1850 collection by collection devoting a whole volume to each is also issued by our library.

We furnished some international bibliographical enterprises (RISM, IBHB) with Hungarian data.

*Readers' and reference services
Public relations. Historic libraries*

Restrictions introduced in 1981 continued to have an unfavourable impact on the library's readers' service. Since about 60% of the holdings had already been moved to the stores of the new building, damage caused by the moving and transportation of the books had to be minimized for protective reasons. Therefore since 1981 the library's services have been available to research workers only. As a result, the number of readers decreased considerably: in 1982 there were 24,000; in 1983, 23,000 visits paid by registered users, as opposed to the yearly average of 60,000 in the 70s. (The number of registered users was 2,374 in 1982, and 2,131 in 1983.)

Inevitably, limited possibilities for in-library use led to an increase in the number of reference questions answered in letters or on the phone, and in the number of photo- and microfilm copies ordered.

The number of Hungarian and foreign visitors was 588 and 338, respectively. In recent years our public relations have been strengthened mainly indirectly: the collaborators of mass media institutions have been received more frequently not only as but also for making photos, and shooting films. We lent documents preserved at users, our library for exhibitions both in Hungary and abroad in a number of cases, the most outstanding one being the exhibition entitled "Corvin Mátyás és a reneszánsz Magyarországon" (Matthias Corvinus and the Renaissance in Hungary) organised in Schallaburg, Austria, in 1982 in honour of the great renaissance king of Hungary, Matthias Corvinus. It was the first time that the most beautiful pieces of the famous Corvina Library, that could be found spread all over the large libraries of the world, were put on show together in an exhibition of remarkable size and excellent design. 22 codices (including 14 Corvinae), 45 incunabula (one of them a Corvina) and numerous 16th century printings represented the National Széchényi Library's collection at the exhibition.

The number of visitors to the two historic libraries maintained by the Széchényi Library increases every year. The former Franciscan library from the Middle Ages to be found in Gyöngyös is visited by more than 20,000 tourists every year, while the number of visitors to the library of the former Cistercian Abbey in Zirc is over 80,000 per year.

Protection of the holdings. Reprography

In 1982/83 the binding of documents intended for the reference collections of new reading rooms was given priority in the binding programme. Altogether more than 38,000 volumes of books, newspapers and periodicals were bound during these two years in the library's own workshop and in external binderies.

Reparation and restoration have been performed by three sections since 1983, when the Central Restoration Laboratory was put into operation as the third one. Its mission is to repair and preserve the most valuable documents in need of restoration from libraries all over the country. The systematical research and development activity carried out at the Széchényi Library, coupled with the experiences of study-tours made abroad, ensure that the library's experts will be able to cope with their country-wide responsibilities, too. Advances were made in the training of would-be restorers as well.

In order to finish the protective microfilming project, which has been going on for about 15 years now, as soon as possible, the filming of newspapers was given preference over that of the documents of the special collections. As a result of this, almost 3.5 million newspaper pages were microfilmed.

Our reprographical capacity was improved vastly by the three new, high-speed photocopiers installed in 1983. Unfortunately, the continual supply of paper, film, and spare parts could not always be ensured, due to the growing difficulties in obtaining them.

Central services

In the last few years there were no significant changes in the number of legal deposit copies delivered by Hungarian printing houses, usually a bit more than 1.2 million. The system in force since 1978 assures a better distribution of legal deposit copies within the country and functions smoothly today. According to the regional principle, a complete set of deposit copies is sent to each appointed leading library in the 5 regions of the country; while special libraries receive a share of deposit copies of technical literature pertaining to their collection.

In the course of these two years 8.7 thousand publications issued by professional publishers were given ISBNs; the corresponding figure for non-professional ones being 10.5 thousand. New ISSNns were assigned to some 1,000 newly started serials.

The Union Catalogue of Foreign Books in Hungary received about 400 thousand records from libraries in 1982/83. The number of questions answered increased to more than 21,000 each year.

Some 140,000 entries were registered in the Union Catalogue of Foreign Periodicals. Information was given on their location in more than 13,000 cases. In 1983 the volume containing material from "L" to "N" of the retrospective finding list (*Külföldi időszaki kiadványok a magyar könyvtárakban a XVII. századtól 1970-ig.* — Union catalogue of foreign serials in Hungarian libraries from the 17th century to 1970) was published as the result of more than ten years of work.

The globally growing constraints of the economic situation manifested themselves in the decrease of book and periodical imports, leading naturally to an increased need for interlibrary lending, this clearly reflected in the increasing number of requests received: 24,000 in 1981, 25,8 thousand in 1982 and 26,3 thousand in 1983. We managed to satisfy most of the requests by the improvement of organization and methodology, and by establishing new connections.

From among our foreign partners Germany, Great Britain, the Soviet Union, the Netherlands, Sweden, Switzerland, and France answered the most Hungarian requests.

Due to economic difficulties the role of the international exchange of publications had also gained importance. It cannot be neglected, however, that low book prices, characteristic of socialist countries in general, put us at a disadvantage in the exchange of publications with capitalist countries. In 1982/83 we sent about 35,000 books, and over 4,000 periodicals abroad each year. The number of books received in return from abroad was about 10,000, that of periodicals was about 2,000.

During this two-year period the Centre for Duplicates and Surplus Copies distributed 42,000 duplicates among Hungarian libraries, and more than 17,000 volumes were handed over for home-trade purposes. In 1983—in order to facilitate marketing—a second-hand bookshop was opened in co-operation with the Book Trade Company. The holdings of the Storage Library, now being organized, increased by 26,000 volumes.

Development, automation. Relations with international information systems

The organization of an independent Section for Development in 1982 brought a radical change in activities connected with development and automation. The team, working independently of the library's organization, will not only participate in the development of the Széchényi Library, but it is also going to assume responsibilities for the design and development of automated systems throughout the Hungarian library system.

The main tasks of the team were the elaboration of an information retrieval language for the Hungarian National Bibliography, and the establishment of the National Serials Database. The automated system of the latter embraces the registration of both Hungarian and current foreign periodicals ordered by Hungarian libraries. On the basis of the National Serials Database we furnished the centre of ISDS in Paris and the IARSP system in Moscow with data regularly. After the experiences of the first report sent on magnetic tape to the Paris centre had been evaluated, the data preparation and input was started in order to make reporting on magnetic tapes operational. Connections with ISDS were particularly close thanks to Mrs. Judit Szilvássy, who played an important role (compiling the ISDS manual, etc.) in the ISDS as the chairman of its Governing Board.

In the field of standardization we were active in the preparation of both Comecon and international standards. In the frame of the UBC project, efforts for achieving compatibility between the ISDS and ISBD/S were also directed by Mrs. Judit Szilvássy, chairman of the ISBD/S Review Group.

We participated continuously in the activity of the cultural information system called "Interinformkultura" organized by the Lenin Library, Moscow, and in the NPAC of the Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Research activity, research management

In 1981 our library was declared to be one of the institutions to be supported by the Hungarian Academy of Sciences. This honour signifies the recognition of the academic and research work long conducted at the library and opened up new prospects for such work in the future. According to the medium-range plans of research work for the period 1981-1985, the National Széchényi Library is more directly concerned with the national projects of high priority, and especially with the one entitled "The exploration, registration and publication of our cultural and historical relics". Within this project we were given tasks, which were in keeping with the basic functions of the national library, and at the same time we could to an increasing extent rely upon the support of the institutional system of research, and upon external financial resources.

The establishment of an independent Section for Research Management on 1st of January 1983 was due to the extension of our relations, and our growing responsibilities in the field of research management. This section is designed to co-ordinate research in librarianship in the future. The organization of this section made it possible to deal more intensively with the planning of the current Hungarica information system based on interlibrary co-operation, in addition to the registration of "Hungarica".

The increase in the academic prestige of the library is indicated by the individual scientific achievements of our colleagues, as well. In 1982/83 there were 18 books, 179 articles and studies published by the staff-members of the Széchényi Library. In 1983 43 librarians were members or functionaries of 105 national and international professional or academic associations.

In 1983 the newly formed Academic Council of the library held its first session. Its invited members are representatives of subject disciplines related to the library's collection interests, to its function and its scientific tasks, and the leading figures of cultural administration.

International relations

We co-operated with the national libraries of other socialist countries in several different areas (in acquisition, cataloguing, preservation of holdings, library technology) and took part in the due meetings. In the past two years our library was the scene of one conference only: the 4th conference on union catalogues and interlibrary lending was held in Budapest in November 1982. The eight socialist countries invited — with the exception of Romania — were represented by 15 delegates. Of the joint research projects, we contributed to the elaboration of the theme "Socialist National Libraries in the NATIS", and to the establishment of the multi-lingual terminological

dictionary of librarianship. At the conference of the directors of national libraries the National Széchényi Library was represented by Péter Zircz, deputy general director in 1982, and by Ferenc Szente, director of the Centre for Library Science and Methodology in 1983.

During these two years our colleagues made 108 trips to socialist countries for study tours, exchange of experiences and as participants of conferences. We maintained exchange programmes with 15 libraries in 6 socialist countries. In these two years 93 visitors from socialist countries were received for short stays.

In 1982/83 47 staff-members visited Western and overseas countries, 13 of whom gave lectures abroad. As to our visitors from Western Europe, special attention should be given to the delegation of the Catholic University of Leuven, led by its rector, Professor Pieter de Somer, who visited us in 1982 on the occasion of the delivery of the Leuven Codex. In 1983 we received among our guests Mr. Esko Häkli, director of the Finnish National Library, and Mr. Otto Wächter, head of the Restoration Institute of the Austrian National Library (Österreichische Nationalbibliothek).

The conference of American studies arranged by our library in 1983 was an outstanding event in Hungarian-American cultural relations. American and Hungarian lecturers discussed the subject of how and to what extent Hungarian immigrants had contributed to the creation of American values. The 2nd British-Hungarian conference on librarianship was also held in Budapest, in 1983 the scene of its first day being the Széchényi Library.

On an institutional and individual basis we took part in the activities of numerous international organizations. We were in regular correspondence with several sections of IFLA, participating in its UBC and UAP programmes. Mrs. Judit Szilvássy played a particularly important role in international librarianship as the chairman of the Governing Board of ISDS, later as a Bureau member; in the UBC project, as the chairman of the ISBD/S Review Group; and as a library expert sent by the Unesco to Laos. We got in touch with AIBM (Association Internationale des Bibliothèques Musicales) through the work made for RISM (Repertoire International des Sources Musicales), and we took part in the discussion on the co-operation of Czech, Austrian, Slovakian, Hungarian parties in RISM, held in Prague. Beatrix Kastaly served as a delegate to the Hague conference of IADA (Internationale Arbeitsgemeinschaft der Archiv-, Bibliothek- und Graphikrestauratoren).

DIE TÄTIGKEIT DER NATIONALBIBLIOTHEK SZÉCHÉNYI IN DEN JAHREN 1982-1983

Personale und organisatorische Veränderungen

Am 19. März 1982 hat die Bibliothek einen schweren Verlust erlitten: unerwartet ist Generaldirektor Dr. Magda Jóború hingeschieden. Sie leitete seit 1958 die ungarische Nationalbibliothek. Magda Jóború wurde sowohl durch ihre wissenschaftliche Laufbahn als auch durch ihre kulturpolitische Tätigkeit in Ungarn und im Ausland bekannt und anerkannt. Ausserhalb des Landes wurde sie in erster Linie durch ihre Arbeit in der Unesco bekannt: im Jahre 1962 wurde sie zum Mitglied des Executiv-komitees der Unesco gewählt, dann arbeitete sie zwischen 1974-76 als Präsident der Generalversammlung, des höchsten Forums der Organisation.

Der Minister des Bildungswesens ernannte am 1. Juni 1982 Dr. Ferenc Molnár, stellvertretenden Leiter der Abteilung für Wissenschaften, Unterrichtswesen und Kultur des Zentralkomitees der MSZP (Sozialistische Arbeiterpartei Ungarns), ehemaligen kulturellen Staatssekretär zum Generaldirektor der Nationalbibliothek Széchényi.

Seit der Umorganisation im Jahre 1982 besteht die Bibliothek aus den folgenden grösseren organisatorischen Einheiten (Hauptabteilungen): I. Hauptabteilung der Bestände - Bücher und Periodika, II. Hauptabteilung zentraler Dienstleistungen,