

ABSTRACTS

Beáta Bordás: *The Funerary Monuments Designed by Lajos Pákei*

Lajos Pákei (1853–1921) was Kolozsvár's (Cluj-Napoca) most significant architect at the end of the 19th century, and one of the most influential in determining the city's image. Trained in Budapest, Munich and then Vienna, he was a chief engineer later turned into an independent architect who also made his mark in the fields of industrial education and monument protection. He designed exemplary Unitarian buildings such as the Unitarian schools in Kolozsvár and Székelykeresztúr (Cristuru Secuiesc). He is also remembered for his designs of numerous public buildings, country houses, villas, private houses and funerary monuments. Although the funerary monuments are fewer in number compared to his other projects, they form an important part of his oeuvre, and are closely linked to his public monuments and smaller sculptural works.

Pákei designed funerary monuments during several important stages of his long career, including the first, highly acclaimed monument that he designed in 1882, while still the city's chief engineer. At the peak of his career, in the late 1890s, when he was also awarded commissions for major public buildings, he designed the final resting places of two prominent figures of the Unitarian Church, Mózes Berde (1815–1893) and Sámuel Brassai (1797–1897). The latter major commission occupied him until almost 1910. This study traces the concept, design and exceptional sense of form of Pákei's four most important funerary monuments, and provides their art historical description.

Keywords: 19th century, architect, Kolozsvár (Cluj-Napoca), funerary monument; Berde, Mózes (1815–1893); Brassai, Sámuel (1797–1897); Pákei, Lajos (1853–1921)

Bálint Béla: *József Hermányi Dienes and the Transylvanian Unitarians*

József Dienes Hermányi (1699–1763) is known in literary history for his compilation of anecdotes, which exists today only in manuscript form. Margit S. Sárdi has published a critical edition of his prose works (1992), and has also

published Vilmos Gyenis's uncompleted dissertation (1991) about Hermányi. Hermányi was a Calvinist pastor in Transylvania and in his *Nagyenyedi Demokritus* he portrayed the absurdities of the different denominations. Sándor Szénási has also written a study (1980) about Hermányi and Calvinism, but did not mention Hermányi's writings about the other denominations, leaving Hermányi's oeuvre open for further study.

This article collects Hermányi's anecdotes related to the Transylvanian Unitarian Church and organizes them into seven categories: the nescience of priests, apostasy, alcoholism, fight against smoking, corruption, superstition and straying from dogma, and other ridiculous or memorable cases. Hermányi does not recall the voice of religious polemics, but he enjoys connecting the stories with the members of the Unitarian Church, and accepts their wisdom, as he does in his writings about the other denominations.

Keywords: alcoholism, anecdotes, apostasy, Calvinism, corruption, dogma, nescience, smoking, superstition, Transylvania, Unitarianism; Hermányi, József Dienes (1699–1763)

Elek Rezi: A Professorial Career Forced Aside: Rev. Mihály Lőrinczi's Life and Service

This article focuses on research into Mihály Lőrinczi's (1911–1991) life and service as a Unitarian minister and theology professor. It includes the circumstances of his arrest by the Romanian secret police (Securitate) after the 1956 Hungarian Revolution, his imprisonment, his difficult years in prison, his release from prison, after which he was not allowed to continue teaching, and then his service in a small Unitarian congregation until his retirement. The article concludes with some reflections on his life and work.

Keywords: church history, congregation, duty, Hungarian Revolution, secret police, Securitate, prison, service, theology, Unitarian Church, Youth Organization; Lőrinczi, Mihály (1911–1991)

Júlia Eszter Andorkó – Sándor Kovács: Miklós Gál's Notes III

The memoirs of Dr. Miklós Gál (1889–1983), lawyer, lay president of the Unitarian Church (1938–1951), Member of Parliament, are published in 87 typed pages. Shortly before his death, Gál dedicated and gave his notes to his

grandson Miklós Gál who then gave a photocopy to the historian Dr. Attila Gábor Hunyadi, who offered it to our journal for publication.

The third and last part of the memoirs covers events from 1952 to 1977, including: the installation of the Communist regime in 1948, events right after WW II, inflation, the excesses of the communist regime against those citizens whom they considered the enemy, Miklós Gál's struggles to provide his family as a retired man, etc.

The state took away his pension on the pretext that he did not deserve it (!), so he was forced to find employment. He worked as a bricklayer, clerical worker for a notary, then for an engineer who surveyed the city of Nagyenyed (Aiud), assistant accountant at the GOSTAT (state holding), clerk at ComPetrol (state fuel distributor institute), seller in a cooperative shop, etc.

The state forced Gál and his wife into public housing in Nagyenyed. They changed flats several times. The humiliation of their displacement was increased by mandatory reporting to the police station. In the late fifties Gál had to witness the demolition of part of his home in Torda (Turda) and its replacement by an apartment block. He did not get back his family home in Kövend (Plăiești). They managed to move back to Torda only in 1968.

The Gáls twice became grandparents in the fifties, and great-grandparents in the seventies.

Although Gál struggled financially in his late years, he followed world events closely (the 1956 revolution in Hungary, the Vietnam war, the conflict in Israel, the landing on the moon, the Czechoslovakian events in the spring of 1968, etc.). He wrote short analyses of the Hungarian minority in the Romanian Socialist Democracy.

Keywords: Communism, family history, Kövend (Plăiești), Kolozsvár (Cluj-Napoca), memoirs, Nagyenyed (Aiud), nationalist oppression, Socialism, Torda (Turda); Gál, Dr. Miklós (1889–1983); Hunyadi, Dr. Attila Gábor

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