

# THE LIBRARY OF THE HUNGARIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCES 1826—1961



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n this volume the reader is given a description of the oldest institution of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, the Library of the Academy, an outline of its history, collections, use and services. In addition to the text itself, a number of illustrations demonstrate its past and present, and serve to render a better conception of the immense intellectual treasure that its stock represents.

Only one year separates its foundation — in 1826 — from that of the Academy itself. During its 135 years of existence the Library has in fact become a repository of the best works produced by the Hungarian creative spirit and by international learning. Beside the uniques, codices, valuable manuscripts, incunabula, the documents of the living past and present of Hungarian science and literature, it contains the basic works of scientific literature monographs, handbooks, reference works, and also the most important means of information for up-to-date research work, periodicals. At present no less than 4000 kinds of periodicals are received covering almost every branch of knowledge, written in practically every civilised languages.

In developing the full stock of some 870 000 library units, a prominent part — both quantitative and qualitative — has been and is being played by the traditional international exchange of publications. This practice is nearly as old as the Library itself, — it was begun in 1833. It was the founder of the Academy himself, István Széchenyi, who handed over the first exchange copies to foreign learned societics. At the turn of the century the Library was maintaining exchange relations with some 200 institutions, and before World

War II, this number increased to approximately 500. The turning of the Academy and its Library into an institution of the socialist type after the Liberation, expanded this field of its activity on a very large scale. Nowadays its exchange relations involve more than 1700 institutions of some 86 states.

This volume yields an insight into the activity of the librarians of the Academy during the nearly one and a half centuries of its existence, in the service of Hungarian culture and science. In addition to an account of the Library's progressive traditions, it also gives an outline — though only in general terms — of the efforts made in the spirit of socialist cultural and scientific policy by the Academy, which was reformed after the Liberation, to become an effective, developing and prosperious institution.

The Academy and its Library are inseparable, their histories have become interwoven with each other during many decade. The Academy, as well as its Library consider themselves the successors to all progressive endeavours to raise the cultural and scientific standards of the Hungarian people, and to achieve peaceful and constructive co-operation with the world of learning. The Library serves these objects through its own particular means.

The Academy regards this booklet as a modest preparatory work to a more comprehensive history of its Library which is certain to be written during the course of the developing Hungarian research work on the history of science.

President

of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences

Troj. D. Rusenyak

# THE HISTORY AND TASKS OF THE LIBRARY OF THE HUNGARIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

uring Hungary's struggle for independence in the early decades of the nineteenth century one of the main tasks was the cultivation of the Hungarian language. One of the measures taken to this end, was the foundation of the Hungarian Learned Society at the National Assembly of 1825. In contrast to similar institutions in most countries, it was established not by grace of the sovereign, but by Hungarian society at large. The Hungarian Academy has therefore never been a "royal" one. Its founder was Count István Széchenyi, a great politician of the age of reforms, who offered his one year's income to support the aims of the Academy (Fig. 1).

The example of the generous founder was followed by Count József Teleki, the first President of the Academy, who in 1826 presented his library of 30 000 volumes to the Society, and thus laid the foundations of the Library of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences. (Fig. 3). According to the deed of foundation, he made his donation "filled with enthusiasm by love of his country, to promote the public weal", and for "the use of every citizen."

At this time the Széchényi Library of the National Museum, donated by the father of the István Széchenyi who founded the Academy, moreover, the University Library were already functioning. These three large libraries, complementary to one another, took the place of a single national library of general scope in collecting and performed its comprehensive tasks. This situation has been characteristic of Hungarian library system right up to the present. The Hungarian Academy of Sciences began its work in temporary, hired premises. There was no room for establishing the Teleki Library there and the book collection, therefore, provisionally awaited its permanent home with the donating family.

Meanwhile the Library continued to grow. The example of the founder was followed by others. Private persons and families, almost in competition with one another, presented the treasures of their libraries, sometimes whole collections, to the Library of the Academy. A good many common people also increased its stock. As far back as the eighteenth century, the general desire to establish the Hungarian Learned Society was deep-rooted in the best sons of the nation. A characteristic example is the fact that more than a decade before the foundation István Sándor ,,the first Hungarian bibliographer", had, in his will already left his collection of books, pictures, and coins, supplemented by a considerable foundation to the Academy to be established at some time in the future.

The Academy's members also added works of their own to the stocks of the Library. The book and manuscript bequests of a number of prominent persons became part of the Library, including, among others, those of Ferenc Kazinezy, the organizer of Hungarian literary life, Mihály Vörösmarty, the greatest Hungarian romantic poet, the historian of literature Ferenc Toldy, the General Secretary of the Academy as well as several of their contemporaries. The Library was also augmented by valuable codices. As a gift of József Teleki, the founder, the Library even obtained a codex from the world-famous Bibliotheca Corvina of Matthias Corvinus, the last national king and great humanist.

Parallel with these gifts, the organizing and directing activity carried on by the Academy in the field of science also contributed to the Library's growth. The academicians set about collecting the vocabulary of the Hungarian language, conducted competitions for scientific and literary works, criticizing them and publishing the best. The publication of year-books and a scientific journal was started. The Academy subscribed to foreign journals and established exchange relations with foreign institutions. In 1840 the printing offices were obliged by law to send deposit copies also to the Library of the Academy.

The stock, which grew together with the Academy and the Teleki Library, serving as basis for the Library of the Academy, were found joint accommodation in 1836. The house, the former home of the Academy and its Library, still stands intact at the busiest spot of the centre of the city, at 3, Petőfi Sándor Street, bearing the name of the best known Hungarian poet. The collection then consisting of about 50 000 volumes, was housed on the second floor in the eight premises of the wing facing the courtyard (Fig. 4) The donation of the Teleki family was now kept here, but administered separately.

The Library of the Academy was opened in 1844. On this occasion Mihály Vörösmarty, the Hungarian prince of poets of that time wrote an ode under the title "Thoughts in the library" (Fig.6). "Has the world made progress through books?" — he asks. Notwithstanding the many depressing examples of the past, he feels that we have to struggle by means of books for the rule of truth and love, for the protection of the poorest. Vörösmarty as one of the leaders of the Academy was given inspiration to the poem in this Library, because for lack of separate reading rooms and working places research workers and librarians worked on tables among the shelves in those days.

The first printed directions for library administration and rules of procedure, compiled in a well-considered and expert manner by Ferenc Toldy, were prepared in 1848, the year of the revolution, that was so full of promise for the nation (Fig. 7—8).

In 1849, after the suppression of the struggle for freedom, the Academy's activity, too, was paralysed by absolutism.

In 1851 Ferenc Toldy, acting as both General Secretary and Librarian of the Academy, yielded the direction of the Library to Pál Hunfalvy, one of the founders of Finno-Ugrian comparative linguistics.

In the 1860's more favourable days dawned for the Academy and its Library. National contributions made it possible to begin building the palace of the Academy. A worthy place was found for it in one of the most beautiful spots of Budapest, near to the other establishments due to István Széchenyi, in the neighbourhood of the Tunnel under Castle Hill and of the Chain Bridge linking Buda with Pest. Friedrich Stüler, an architect of Berlin designed the palace in the spirit of the flourishing Italian Renaissance. The building was

carried out by Hungarian architects and craftsmen. In 1958, about a hundred years after the completion of the building, during repairs to the floor of the assembly hall, a letter was discovered from the joiners working on the building at that time. They finish their letter with the wish that those who will read it may see better days then they did (Fig. 10).

The move into the palace initiated a new period for both the Academy and its Library. The move was directed by János Arany, the General Secretary of that time, the greatest Hungarian realist poet and translator and best friend of Petőfi. His activity connected with the Library is recorded in innumerable documents dating from the thirteen year period while he was the Academy's General Secretary. He took part in the work of the Library Committee, and it was he who proposed, among other things, that the names of the Library's founders be engraved in a memorial tablet. That nothing escaped his attention, appears from the fact that it was also he who introduced the use of call slips for readers. He was a devoted user of the Library.

The move into the palace temporarily put an end to the want of space, so that the reorganization of the Library could be begun. Together with the linguist József Budenz and the archaeologist Flóris Rómer, Pál Hunfalvy, who was then the head of Library, worked out a new shelving system and subject arrangement.

With the permission of the donating family, the Teleki Library was united with the material collected by the Library of the Academy. The arrangement of the stock according to subjects was begun. The shelf-marks originated from the abbreviations of the Hungarian names indicating fifty-four subjects (e. g. Fig. 8, right top corner). At that time the Library had three kinds of catalogue: topographical, alphabetical, and subject catalogues. The Library housed in the headquarters, was opened in 1867.

From the move into the new building to the First World War, the growth of the Library was steady. At first the technical equipment was also up-to-date. The reading room had gaslighting and, from 1895, electric lighting. The main stack-room was fitted with central heating built in the floor.

In 1897 the Library's stock grew rapidly because the printing offices had been obliged by a more stringent law to deliver deposit copies. However, there were neither enough manpower nor adequate space for dealing with an increased rate of acquisition. These difficulties became fairly critical during the First World War. In these hard times Kálmán Szily was the General Secretary. Several library publications are linked with his name at the beginning of his term of office. In 1905, for instance, a list of the periodicals available in the Library of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences was published.

In respect to both acquisition and exchange, the war-years resulted in a great regression. The Academy, sponsored by foundations, grew poor. The situation after the war was no more favourable. Inflation hindered the purchase of books from abroad and the number of deposit copies received also decreased strongly.

Under the direction of Zoltán Ferenczi, the next Chief Librarian, new stack-rooms were added to the Library. This made it possible in 1925 to house in an adequate manner the whole stock, consisting of 262 000 volumes.

The Finno-Ugrian scholar József Szinnyei, during his period as Chief Librarian, considered it his main task to process the uncatalogued material. This was all the more necessary because in 1929 the Academy received as a bequest by Count Ferenc Vigyázó not only a very large estate but, for its Library, an extraordinarily valuable collection of books (codices, incunabula, ancient Hungarian books, book rarities in bibliophile bindings.) The Academy first wished to make the Vigyázó estate more profitable by means of investment, so that no money from the estate was spent on the Library's development.

Book purchases from abroad between the two world wars were very slight. Deposit copies essentially involved a quantitative growth only, thus merely increasing the existing want of space. The Library also became backward from the technical point of view.

During the Second World War the Chief Librarian János Melich, had to concentrate all his energies on saving the stocks. Some valuable parts of the book and manuscript collections were deposited in the air-raid shelter of the Academy's palace, the cave-cellars under Castle Hill, the country shelter of the National Bank as well as the cellars of the National Museum. During the battle for the liberation of Budapest the reading room was closed and library

work stopped. At the turn of 1944—1945 a fire broke out in the palace but it was extinguished.

Devastated premises, burst open by shooting, and a dead book collection in the stack-rooms without windows stood in the place of a living library at the liberation of the country. From 1945 to 1948 order was gradually restored in the devastated stack-rooms. The removed units were brought back by degrees. The stocks of the Library suffered relatively slight damage.

With the help of the Government the damaged reading room was restored. This, together with the periodicals reading room adjacent to it, obtained fine up-to-date equipment. Plans were drawn up for accommodating the department of manuscripts and ancient books as well as the Oriental department.

In order to ensure its further development, the Library had to solve three main tasks:

to overcome its isolation from the national library system,

to increase book acquisitions from abroad,

to develop its technical equipment.

The departments of the Library were organized for up-to-date library work in 1948.

Modernization was soon making itself felt in every domain of library life. In 1948 the stocks were augmented by 7000 works of which purchases from abroad accounted for 1200 volumes. The regular arrival of 530 foreign and 170 Hungarian periodicals indicated the future trend of growth. The fact, that the reading-room was open all day, also complied with the new requirements. Thus the year 1949 was a herald, an introductory period of the Library's large-scale development.

Pursuant to the Act XXVII of 1949 on the reorganization of the Academy, the Hungarian Academy of Sciences became the supreme scientific body of the Hungarian People's Republic and the leading organization of Hungarian scientific life. The State ensures the financial funds required for performing these tasks. The reborn Academy gradually developed its network of institutes in which the Library, as the Academy's oldest institute, occupied its worthy place.

The main task of the Library, as it set out on the path of Socialist development, was to support the scientific research work carried on by the Academy. In detail:

- (1) It supplies Hungarian scientific research (more exactly: that carried on by the Academy) with Hungarian and foreign documentation (books, periodicals, manuscripts, microfilms and reference services.)
- (2) Through regular exchange schemes, it sends Hungarian special literature, particularly the publications of the Academy, to foreign scientific institutions and research workers; moreover it acquires the necessary scientific material from abroad.
- (3) It renders the institutional libraries affiliated to the Academy's network different services and gives them professional assistance.
- (4) It takes part in the nation-wide inter-library work aimed at developing the Hungarian Socialist library system.
- (5) It engages in activity in the fields of library science and other specialized branches of knowledge.

In compliance with the new tasks, the scope of the Library has been established as follows.

It collects

- (1) the literature of marxism-leninism;
- (2) the publications of foreign academies of sciences and the literature relating to their activities;
- (3) special works on policies for science and on the organization and planning of scientific research:
- (4) standard works on the social and natural sciences, general, bibliographical, and reference works, furthermore, works of fiction by the classics and prominent representatives of world literature.
- (5) As a scientific special library, it acquires on a nation-wide scale the literature on the following subjects:

ancient history classical philology history of world literature Oriental literature linguistics.

- (6) As regards periodicals, the field of collecting is, through the exchange of the ACTA published by the Academy, more comprehensive, in the interests of basic research.
- (7) In certain branches of basic research it provides in advance for the acquisition of basic special literature from abroad.
- (8) Of ancient books it acquires chiefly the works important from the point of view of the history of science. As far as manuscripts are concerned, it collects mainly those connected with the Academy; documents on the Academy, dissertations for the degrees of Candidate and Doctor of Sciences.

With the funtions and field of collecting mentioned above the Library has adapted itself to the national library system. When required, it also takes part in the work of the international organizations connected with its character (UNESCO, ASLIB, FID).

At present the Library's stock includes about 870 000 items of which some 200 000 are manuscripts. The annual accession generally comprises 16 000 volumes.

Over and above these figures, the significance of the Library and the value of its collections lie in the fact that, as the library of the Academy, it is an important institution of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences which direct the scientific life of the whole country and in that, as a general large research library, it collects exclusively scientific material.

The Library is under the immediate supervision of the President of the Academy. In agreement with him, the Minister of Education exercises professional control over it.

The increased new tasks have made it necessary to organize further departments and divisions to develop a more satisfactory system of library managements, to increase considerably the staff and to ensure adequate financial funds as well as space. (As regards the latter, the Library has in spite of the new establishments, not been able in every respect to keep pace with the requirements posed by its rapid development.)

The Library consists of the following units:

- (1) Management (and Finance Office)
- (2) Acquisition Department

- (3) Exchange Division
- (4) Catalogue Department
- (5) Circulation Department
- (6) Reference and Bibliographical Department
- (7) Periodicals Division
- (8) Department of Manuscripts and Old Books
- (9) Oriental Department
- (10) Microfilm Collection and Photographic Laboratory
- (11) Binding shop.

In addition to library work proper, the Library also engages in scientific activity of its own, including that in the field of library science. Owing to the large number of practical tasks and earlier emissions to be made good there is, however, relatively little opportunity for the Library's staff to carry on active scientific work. In this respect the so-called "research days" permitted by the Academy are of considerable assistance. They make it possible to cultivate not only library science but also other specialized branches of Learning and thus indirectly contribute to raising library work (e. g. acquisition, reference, increase and treatment of special collections, etc.) to a higher level.

A serial is published by the Library under the title: *Publicationes Bibliothecae Academiae Scientiarum Hungaricae* which has also been given a favourable reception abroad.

In the past ten years, the Library, together with the reorganized Academy, has developed into an institution of a Socialist type. Its history, covering 135 years, has been interwoven with that of the Academy. The latter just like its Library, has reached the highest stage of its development since Hungary's Liberation in 1945, and especially in the last ten years.

The Library cannot have any finer task than in its own particular way to help the development of the Academy and of Hungarian science and thus the building of Socialism.

#### THE USE OF THE LIBRARY

he Library of the Academy is a research library of a public character for research workers. Its use is free.

The visitor to the Library first passes through the ornate vestibule of the Palace of the Academy. Between the columns a range of show-cases display the Library's occasional exhibitions, reminding the viewer on various anniversaries of the most outstanding scholars and artists of mankind by presenting data, pictures, manuscripts, books and periodicals. Since 1950 exhibitions have been devoted to the memory of Darwin, Edison, Mme Curie, Maimonides, Goethe, Milton, Scott, Turgenev, Gogol, Hugo, Wagner, Haydn and among the Hungarians of János Arany, Endre Ady, Attila József, Kálmán Mikszáth, Aurél Stein, Sándor Kőrösi Csoma, Ottó Herman and the founder of the Academy, István Széchenyi. There have been two exhibitions as part of the UNESCO Program for "Mutual Appreciation of Eastern and Western Cultural Values", one on "India and her Hungarian Explorers" the other on "Asia and Hungarian Oriental Studies".

On entering the small entrance hall of the Library the reader is welcomed by two white marble statues representing József Teleki, the Library's founder, and Ferenc Toldy who was the first to do library work in the collection.

In the show-cases of the *entrance hall* the dust covers of books recently received draw the visitor's attention to the Library's new acquisitions.

From here we enter the imposing *Main Stack*, a large oblong room similar to the old one-room libraries (Fig. 11), from which a forged iron door separates the *Catalogue-Room* where the Library's several card catalogues are filed. (They

are made up of international catalogue cards duplicated by the Ormig system.) The main catalogue comprises the alphabetical list of material acquired since 1950 as well as that of the old stock which is gradually being recatalogued. There is, in addition, a systematic catalogue arranged according to the Universal Decimal Classification (UDC), and a geographical catalogue in which the titles are entered under the geographical subdivisions of UDC. There is also a series card catalogue to provide information for readers. Old material not so far recatalogued is listed alphabetically in a loose-leaf catalogue kept in big old boxes; some of its pages are manuscripts of former librarians. From the old system of shelving the books in an arrangement by broad subject fields, the Library has turned to the up-to-date current number or accession order of shelving.

Leaving the Catalogue Room, we enter the sunlit *Reading Room* facing the Danube embankment (Fig. 12). From its windows there is a splendid view of Gellért Hill, the Chain Bridge and the Castle of Buda. On one wall of the room marble tablets remind the visitor of the donors who have enriched the Library with their endowments, while on the other, three oil paintings show Ferenc Kölcsey, an outstanding Hungarian poet and philosopher, the author of our national anthem; János Batsányi, a poet who greeted the French Revolution; and Farkas Bolyai, a noted scientist, father of the world-famed matematician János Bolyai. A reference library of 3000 volumes is located here in bookcases along the walls, arranged by subject fields to which readers have free access. 34 research workers can be accommodated in this room.

The next door opens into the *Periodicals Reading Room*. It has a shelving of current issues of about 1300 periodicals of the approximately 4000 serial titles (journals, annals, yearbooks, reports, etc.) received. 8 research workers can be accommodated in this room. Both the alphabetical and subject catalogues of the periodicals are housed here (Fig. 13). The full stock of periodicals comprising some 10 000 kinds of publication in about 100 000 volumes, is located in the new periodicals stack of the Library that was constructed after the Liberation, and is equipped with modern adjustable iron shelves (Fig. 14). The Library issues lists of current periodicals received from abroad. The periodicals group became a separate division in 1954.

Books are lent by the *Circulation Department*, and home lending is permitted — as a rule — only for members of the Academy, scholars and scientists with Doctor's or Candidate's degrees, research workers at the institutes of the Academy, university staff, and the scientific workers of other libraries. Works published under a series title, dictionaries, books of special value, old books, rarities, periodicals and manuscripts may not be taken out.

Reference work is done partly by the *Information Section* of the Circulation Department, and partly by the *Reference and Bibliographical Department* set up in 1953. The latter is charged with supplying the Presidium and the scientific and administrative organs as well as the institutes of the Academy with information, bibliographies, etc. The department replies to numerous inquiries on the past of the Academy, international scientific relations, the work of notable scientists and scholars, and on matters of scientific policy and organization. In addition, scientific bibliographies are issued, and the *Accession list of foreign publications* is also published by the Department in 10 issues annually.

A staircase that opens on to the courtyard leads up to the *Department of Manuscripts and Old Books* located on the first floor. The Department consists of four intercommunicating rooms each furnished like an old one-room library (Fig. 16). The first of them is a reading room for 8 readers. All round the walls, in closed glass bookcases, are shelved old manuscripts and books printed or published in Hungary up to 1711 and works published abroad which are in Hungarian or are written by Hungarian authors or deal with Hungary, Hungarian men or Hungarian conditions. In the corner of the first room is a separate fire-proof cabinet with safes. A wooden staircase leads up to the gallery which also houses a number of manuscripts and other material.

The Library of the Academy has, from its very inception, collected not only printed matter, but also *manuscripts*, including codices, old manuscripts, documents, records, collections of historical sources, literary and scientific reliquia of every kind which were collected without any well-defined scope. To manage this heterogeneous material, a Department of Manuscripts was set up in 1916 under the guidance of Floris Romer, the archaeologist and archivist, who arranged the material in 16 subject fields. The older material is still ar-

ranged according to his classification. Separate old loose-leaf catalogues contain the catalogue pages of manuscripts and of the correspondence material. Now these catalogues are more simple.

In the reading room of the Department a show-case is placed parallel with the reading desks. Its glasses are covered with green felt to preserve the precious handwritten national values from light. These include a Prayer-book of Benigna Magyar written in Hungarian in 1513 (Fig. 17) and the thick Ersekújvári-Codex, also written in Hungary at the beginning of the sixteenth century (Fig. 18). It was copied on the Isle of Rabbits (which is the former name of the Margaret-Island that lies between Buda and Pest). One of the pages bears the name of the copying nun: Márta Sövényházi. The Library's only Corvin-codex is also placed here: the work of Ludovicus Carbo: De laudibus Matthiae Regis (Fig. 19). Its silk binding is disintegrating, but the codex itself is unharmed, its gilding gleams, and bears the coat-of-arms of the Hunyadi dynasty, representing a raven holding a ring. Another treasure of the Library is the Liber de septem signis that had been taken to the Corvina-library from King Sigismund's collection (Fig. 20). At present this codex is placed on deposit at the Museum of Fine Arts.

This Department has 125 codices, 85 of them mediaeval. Among them are twelve manuscripts bearing mediaeval records of the Hungarian language. The show-case displays the following manuscripts of our great writers and, poets: a Latin letter of Miklós Zrínyi, the soldier-poet who defeated the Turkse a report to the Academy by Sándor Kőrösi ('soma (Fig. 42), the author of the first Tibetan grammar, a drawing by Kazinczy, the neologist and organiser of Hungarian literature, that he drew looking out of the window of his jail, wher he had been imprisoned for disseminating the ideas of the French Revolution, János Batsányi was also banished to Linz at the end of the eighteenth century: because of his revolutionary ideas. The call at the end of his poem reads "Keep your watchful eyes on Paris" (Fig. 21). The first, corrected version of Vörösmarty's "Szózat", a poem that is Hungary's second national anthem, is also exhibited here, as well as the manuscript of János Arany's excellent translations of Aristophanes, and the manuscript of the *Tragedy of Man* by Madách with the corrections of Arany (Fig. 24). The Department took over all

the manuscript of the founder of the Academy from the former Széchenyi-Museum of the Academy. There is also a letter of Lajos Kossuth dealing with the death of Cavour and the connections of Hungarian refugees with him (Fig. 25). In another manuscript, in a neat hand, Ignác Semmelweis, the "saver of mothers' lives" reported to the Academy on the methods of defence against puerperal fever (Fig. 33). Then there is the first poetical exchange of letters between the fraternal friends of Hungarian literature of the nineteenth century, Sándor Petőfi, who is most known abroad, and our greatest epic poet János Arany whose characteristically Hungarian verse is practically untranslatable. In his first letter Petőfi writes the sentence known as their common poetical program: "If the people will but rule in poetry, they will be near to ruling in politics too." (Fig. 22—23).

Manuscripts of the greatest Hungarian prose writers are also preserved here with the small letters of the great romantic novelist, Mór Jókai; Kálmán Mikszáth's backward sloping letters (Fig. 26), letters of Zsigmond Móricz (Fig. 28), and Endre Ady, the great lyrist (Fig. 27). There are also letters by Ferenc Liszt (Fig. 29) and Béla Bartók (Fig. 30). Of our scientists, manuscripts of Ányos Jedlik (Fig. 32), the inventor of the dynamo and electric motor, are preserved as well as those of the eponym of the University of Budapest, Loránd Eötvös, the discoverer of the geophysical instrument bearing his name, the torsion balance (Fig. 34).

The Department has taken over the older portions of the archives of the Academy and also those of the Kisfaludy Society which was, in its day an important literary association.

Doctoral and ('andidate's theses also constitute a continuously growing part of the Department. In the future, literary reliquia of scholars will be the main items to be collected.

Foreign visitors have often inquired about the former Elischer's Goethe-Museum. This Museum fell victim to the Second World War, but the manuscripts luckily escaped destruction and are now also treasured possessions of the Department.

The Collection of Old Books is located in rooms common with the Department of Manuscripts. It was set up in 1954. The collection is at present made up

of the following parts: 1) Ineunabula; 2) Old books and rarities (Hungarian printed matter or that of Hungarian interest issued prior to 1711, Aldine- and Elzevir-editions); 3) First editions of notable authors, presentation copies, artistic or historical bindings, the private library of Mihály Vörösmarty, etc.; 4) New acquisitions of books published abroad prior to 1800 and in Hungary before 1850. The collection contains 1109 incunabula.

All the titles of the four parts of the collection are listed in a common catalogue arranged in alphabetical and chronological order.

Of the items of the Old Book Collection containing matters of Hungarian interest, mention must be made of *Chronica Hungarorum* (Augsburg 1488) by János Thuróczi that constitues an important source for the Age of the Hunyadis (Fig. 38), and of a work of Pelbárt Temesvári entitled *Pomerium de tempore* issued in Augsburg in 1502 and disseminated all over Europe. The title page of this work is a remarkable woodcut (Fig. 39). An importantitem is the first book published entirely in Hungarian: The *Epistles of St. Paul*, by Benedek Komjáthi (Cracow, 1533) (Fig. 40).

One of the most valuable parts of the collection of old books was also obtained by the Library by way of donation. In 1905 György Ráth, director of the Hungarian Museum of Applied Arts, bequeathed his collection of nearly 2500 volumes to the Library, embracing books with amateur bindings, part of which was printed in Hungary before 1711, while the rest were published abroad, about Hungary.

Apart from this collection, other pieces of the Old Book Collection were in a very poor condition, with disintegrating volumes, worn and slashed leather bindings, broken wooden boards and repairs and new bindings done without expert knowledge. This made it necessary to set about the work of conserving and restoring the material. The books also had to be protected against insects and mould. After a careful studying of the foreign — mainly Italian — and Hungarian literature of this subject, the work began with highly skilled collaborators six years ago. The bookbinding shop of the Library, set up in 1958, also takes a considerable part in this work.

Some 500 volumes have so far been restored and conserved. In the course of this work we did not aim at bibliophile perfection. Our task was to preserve

for posterity all the values left to us by previous ages. We may thus speak of conservation rather than of restoration in this facet of our work. Where new bindings had to be made we insisted on two main features: the new binding must be able to conserve the material for further centuries, and it must be in harmony with the general effect of the collection (Fig. 51—52).

The work of restoration sometimes provides valuable surprises: we succeeded in steeping a one folio incumable calendar dating from 1483 out of a book cover (Fig. 36), while from another one we gained a playing-card from 1570 (Fig. 37).

There is also a show-case in the last room of the Department of Manuscripts and Old Books, containing rarities of the collections. This room belonged to the apartment of the great General Secretary of the Academy, János Arany, the poet. His memory is preserved by the old stove, the poet's armchair and his picture on the wall.

Returning to the ground-floor of the Academy, the visitor may enter the Oriental Department. It was opened in 1951. The stock of the material collected here was constituted by the oriental items which had been found within the various subject areas of the main stack of the Library. The Tibetan manuscripts of Sándor Kőrösi Csoma came to Hungary by way of Tivadar Duka, a medical colonel in India (Fig. 43). A collection of Turkish codices was donated by Ármin Vámbéry (Fig. 45). — David Kaufmann bequeathed by will to the Academy his collection of Hebrew brooks and manuscripts of great international value (Fig. 44). Later on Sándor Kégl's library of Persian and Sanscrit books, and the private collection of Sir Marc Aurel Stein was incorporate in the Oriental Department, — as he wrote in his will: "in token of my grateful remembrance of the help I received from the latter (Academy) as a student and of the encouragement which the Academy accorded me as one of its members."

The entry to the Oriental Department is through a reading room, accommodating 8 readers. Its gallery is of near eastern style, the panelling being decorated with motifs taken from the architecture of the Islam (Fig. 41).

A reference library housed in this room gives informations about the cultures and peoples of India, Iran, the Caucasus, the ancient Near East, Israel

and hebraistics, Egypt, Africa, Turkey, Mongolian and Altaic languages, China, Indochina, Tibet, Japan, Indonesia and Oceania. The inner room, named after Sándor Kőrösi Csoma, houses a library of some 2000 works, containing oriental codices. 600 of them belong to the Kaufmann-collection. Among the noteworthy Tibetan manuscripts and xylographic materials are the reliquia of Sándor Kőrösi Csoma which served him as sources in writing his famous Tibetan dictionary and grammar, spending 11 years in cold lama monasteries. Mention must be made of the considerable scientific correspondence of Ignác Goldziher comprising more than 10.000 items.

The Microfilm Collection and Photographic Laboratory was set up in 1953. At first the work was done with only one or two eameras. A sudden considerable development took place, however, due to the modern equipment given by UNESCO in 1957. The Laboratory can now engage in manifold and continuous work by means of its high-capacity microfilm cameras, automatic developing machine, continuous microfilm printer, rapid copying equipment, optical photocopying apparatus, microfiche apparatus, transportable microfilming equipment, hand cameras of various types, enlargers and other equipment to facilitate photoduplicating work. The microfilm service deals with a considerable quantity of orders, both foreign and domestic, for microfilms and photocopies.

Apart from satisfying these orders, the laboratory permanently copies the most valuable holdings of the Library. In addition, photo duplication is used to augment the Library. The collection comprise, among others, microfilm copies of old Hungarian book rarities, Corvin codices abroad, oriental manuscripts, and consists of microfilms of more than 3000 works as of the end of 1959. An alphabetical catalogue and a catalogue of origin serves the reader, and several microfilm readers are at his disposal.

#### III

# INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE RELATIONS OF THE ACADEMY

he founders of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences planned and considered exchanges as an important means for communication between the Academies.

Soon after the foundation, the organization of international contracts commenced. In 1832—33 an academician, who had been travelling abroad, established the first exchange relation with the Philosophical Society of Philadelphia.

The first volume of the Yearbook of the Academy, that had begun its publication in 1833, was sent to the learned societies listed below by the virtue of a decision of the General Assembly: Institut Français, Royal Society of London and Edinburgh, American Philosophical Society, Bayerische Akademie, Göttingische Akademie, Deutsche Akademie der Wissenschaften zu Berlin, Academy of St. Petersburg. Next year the Academy of Florence, the Archaeological Academy of Rome and the Royal Swedish Academy were entered on the mailing list. These exchange consignments constituted the beginning of the Library's regular exchange activity.

A circular sent with the first exchange material laid down a principle that is valid to this day, that the mutual sending of publications was regarded both as the cooperation of peoples caring for the arts and sciences, and as a device for mutual scientific assistance.

Count István Széchenyi, the founder of the Academy, in the course of his journeys, made to prepare the way for domestic cultural and economical reforms, also made efforts to establish exchange relations with other foreign Academies. On returning he reported that the exchange copy of the Bayerische

Akademie had been personally handed over to Schelling, that of the Institut Français to Gay-Lussac, and that of the Royal Society of London to the Duke of Sussex, and at the sessions of the societies of Paris and London he had recommended the then young Academy to their goodwill.

Both the founders and Ferenc Toldy, the first director of the Library soon recognized the importance of these foreign relations in respect to the Academy and the Library.

The tragic defeat of the struggle for freedom of 1848/49 paralyzed the Hungarian world of learning, and also the Library's further development. While in 1838 collectors and scholars gave 164 books to the Library, the total number of books received as a gift in 1849 was two. Exchange relations, however, continued and expanded even in these hard times.

A considerable decline was caused in this respect by the First World War. While in 1913 the Academy had been maintaining exchange relations with 287 institutes abroad, in 1918 not more than 87 institutes maintained these relations.

During the years after the war — as there were no material that could be sent out in exchange — the Library could not take up its interrupted exchange relations. There were, however, institutions such us the Academies of London, Edinburgh and Rome, that continued sending their publications without any compensation.

During the thirties and forties exchange agreements were established with 450 institutions. This was all the more important as the then leadership of the Academy did not develop the Library by purchasing any books at all, and thus exchange constituted the only possibility of obtaining the modern scientific material needed. The Library, despite the contemporary government's narrow-minded, chauvinistic attitude to cultural policy, continued maintaining its broad exchange relations in those years too. This can be well seen from the fact that the Library established regular and ever developing exchange relations with the academic centers of the Soviet Union (Moscow, Leningrad, Kiev, etc.) and with the academics of the neighbouring states.

The Second World War again interrupted this broad exchange activity. After the Liberation, however, the situation gradually improved. In 1946—1949

the Library exchanged with the Academy's "Acta" of six kinds. These Acta contained articles in Russian, English, French and German.

A sudden development took place in 1950, on the occasion of the reorganization of the Academy, which organized the regular publication of scientific works and — in addition — began the publication of new Acta. This enabled the Library to enlarge the scope of its exchanges and raise their level. By the end of 1950 exchange relations were established with 480 foreign institutions, and by 1957 this number was trebled. Nowadays exchange activities involve more than 1700 institutions of 86 states (Fig. 53). At present 40 percent of the Library's accessions of books and 80 percent of the periodicals are obtained by exchange.

With the reorganization of the Academy the Library was given the task of sending the achievements of Hungarian scientific research work to learned societies abroad in the form of regular exchange. This is essential, because our publications in Hungarian are only slightly read abroad, on account of difficulties due to the language. Our research workers on the other hand, can become acquainted with the advances and methods of scientific work performed in all parts of the world through the material received. Thus the Library has to keep an eye both on the needs of the Academy, and on its principles relating to acquisitions. At the same time it has to develop its international relations with libraries on a large scale, apart from exchanges, and efforts must be made to aid the economically underdeveloped countries with specialist literature.

The main purposes of the Library's exchange activity are:

- (1) performing the exchange of the Academy's publications (Acta and books published by the Academy) by bilateral agreement;
- (2) to carry out the tasks resulting from the cultural exchanges assured by intergovernmental and inter-academic agreements with the friendly nations. Beside this it coordinates the exchange activities of the institutional library system of the Academy, and performs by special agreements the exchange of non-academic scientific publications for its partners abroad.

New tasks required new methods. Besides the exchange of periodicals, that of the books has also been developed since 1954. Supplying the large foreign libraries with informations on books to come has also been organized.

The Library has also made it possible for libraries and learned societies interested in Hungarian scientific literature be able to obtain information on Hungarian publications before the appearance of the bibliographies. It was found that this initiative has augmented the interest shown in Hungarian scientific books. In the course of these exchange relations, the Hungarian collections of large foreign libraries have been completed and developed.

The Hungarian Academy of Sciences has joined in the work of international organizations through its Exchange Division. Instead of the old exchange system, it has thus entered on the field of new international library relations by means of its exchange activity as well as of managing other new international relations. The Library endeavours to enlarge and strengthen its connections with all the institutions of the world of learning in accordance with the ideals of science and humanity.

#### THE RESEARCH LIBRARY NETWORK OF THE ACADEMY

he library has also served as a Central Library of the Academy's research institutes since 1950, in accordance with its task in carrying out both the principles and practice of an up-to-date, Socialist library organization.

In the first part of 1960 this system united libraries of 38 research institutes or research groups. The stocks of these libraries can be estimated at 500 000 volumes, and the number of volumes of current periodicals amounted to 5300. 16 of the libraries maintain working exchange relations with similar institutes abroad.

The institutional libraries are mainly intended to help the research workers of the institutes in their work.

The Central Library aids the institutional libraries by giving them help in the acquisition of books and periodicals and assigns most of its duplicate copies to them. They are also helped with photoservices and with the managing of inter-library loans. The union catalogue, comprising the stocks of the institutional libraries, is now being compiled.

## THE LIBRARY NETWORK OF THE HUNGARIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

(The statistical figures refer to 31st December, 1959)

#### LIBRARY OF THE AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE

#### Address Martonvásár

Founded 1950

 Printed books
 7 900 vols.

 Periodicals
 500 ,,

 Other
 1 797 units

 Stock
 10 197 ,,

#### LIBRARY OF THE BIOCHEMICAL INSTITUTE

#### Address Budapest XI Karolina ut 29

Founded 1950

Printed books 970 vols.
Periodicals 942 ,,
Stock 1 912 ,,

#### LIBRARY OF THE BIOLOGICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE

Address Tihany

Founded 1927

 Printed books
 3 666 vols.

 Periodicals
 6 428 ,,

 Other
 9 343 units

 Stock
 19 437 ,,

#### LIBRARY OF THE BOTANICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE AND BOTANIC GARDEN

Address Vácrátót

Founded 1952

 Printed books
 1 772 vols

 Periodicals
 538 ,,

 Other
 2 761 units

 Stock
 5 071 ,,

#### LIBRARY OF THE CENTRAL INSTITUTE FOR CHEMICAL RESEARCH

Address Budapest XIV Hungária krt. 114

Founded 1952

 Printed books
 3 194 vols.

 Periodicals
 2 200 ,,

 Other
 1 654 units

 Stock
 7 048 ,,

#### LIBRARY OF THE CENTRAL INSTITUTE OF PHYSICAL RESEARCH

Address Budapest XII Konkoly-Thege u. 11 - 13

Founded 1950

Printed books and periodicals 21 736 vols.
Other 4 750 units
Stock 26 486 ,,

# LIBRARY OF THE ENTERPRISE FOR THE MANUFACTURE OF RESEARCH EQUIPMENT

Address Budapest XIV Komócsy u. 29-31

Founded 1957

Printed books 782 vols.
Periodicals 242 ,,
Stock 1024 ...

#### EÖTVÖS LIBRARY OF THE INSTITUTE OF THE HISTORY OF LITERATURE

Address Budapest XI. Ménesi út 11-13

Founded 1895

 Printed books
 94 260 vols.

 Periodicals
 11 692 ,,

 Other
 154 units

 Stock
 106 106 ,,

#### LIBRARY OF THE FOLK MUSIC DEPARTMENT

Address Budapest V Roosevelt tér 9

Founded 1953

Printed books
Periodicals
Stock
1 194 vols.
229 ,,
1 423 ,,

#### LIBRARY OF THE GEOCHEMICAL RESEARCH LABORATORY

Address Budapest VIII Muzeum krt. 4/a

Founded 1955

Printed books 315 vols. Stock 315 ,,

#### LIBRARY OF THE GEODETICAL RESEARCH LABORATORY

Address Sopron, POB 9

Founded 1955

Printed books 1 248 vols.
Periodicals 202 ,,
Other 303 units
Stock 1 753 ,,

#### LIBRARY OF THE GEOGRAPHICAL RESEARCH GROUP

Address Budapest VI Népköztársaság u. 62

Founded 1951

 Printed books
 32 571 vols.

 Other
 15 000 units

 Stock
 47 571 ,,

#### LIBRARY OF THE GEOPHYSICAL RESEARCH LABORATORY

Address Sopron Szt. György u. 16

Founded 1955

Printed books 473 vols.
Periodicals 190 ,,
Other 644 units
Stock 1 307 ,,

#### LIBRARY OF THE INSTITUTE FOR AGRICULTURAL MANAGEMENT

Address Budapest VI Népköztársaság u. 62

Founded 1953

Printed books 3 432 vols.
Periodicals 38 ,,
Stock 3 470 ...

#### LIBRARY OF THE INSTITUTE OF CHILD PSYCHOLOGY

Address Budapest VI Szondy u. 83-85

Founded 1902

Printed books 5 971 vols.
Periodicals 1 485 ,,
Stock 7 456 ,,

#### LIBRARY OF THE INSTITUTE OF ECONOMICS

Address Budapest V Nádor u. 7

Founded 1954

 Printed books
 15 094 vols.

 Periodicals
 2275 ,,

 Stock
 17 369 ,,

#### LIBRARY OF THE INSTITUTE OF EXPERIMENTAL MEDICINE

Address Budapest IX Tüzoltó u. 58

Founded 1954

Printed books 1 842 vols.
Periodicals 1 311 ,,
Other 4 units
Stock 3 157 ,,

#### LIBRARY OF THE INSTITUTE OF GENETICS

Address Budapest II Hermann Ottó u. 15

Founded 1940

Printed books and periodicals
Other 1 595 units
Stock 4 993 ,,

#### LIBRARY OF THE INSTITUTE OF HISTORICAL SCIENCE

#### Address Budapest I Uri u. 51-53

Founded 1941

Printed books	48 407	vols.
Periodicals	7 815	,,
Other	9 557	units
Stock	65 779	,,

#### LIBRARY OF THE INSTITUTE OF NUCLEAR RESEARCH

#### Address Debrecen Bem tér 18/c

Founded 1954

Printed books	2 709 vols.
Periodicals	1 237 ,,
Other	612 units
Stock	4 558 ,,

#### LIBRARY OF THE INSTITUTE OF PHILOSOPHY

Address Budapest V Széchenyi rkp. 3

Founded 1957

Printed books	1 828	vols
Periodicals	67	,,
Stock	1 895	,,

#### LIBRARY OF THE INSTITUTE OF LEGAL AND POLITICAL SCIENCES

#### Address Budapest V Szemere u. 10

Founded 1949

Quilded 1010	
Printed books	16 138 vols.
Periodicals	2 033 ,,
Other	540 units
Stock	18 711 ,,

#### LIBRARY OF THE INSTITUTE OF LINGUISTICS

Address Budapest V Szalay u. 10-14

Founded 1950

Printed books and periodicals
Other 32 units
Stock 18 070 ,,

#### LIBRARY OF THE INSTRUMENTATION SERVICE

Address Budapest V Martinelli tér 3-5

Founded 1958

Printed books 44 vols. Other 17 536 units

Stock 17 580 ,,

#### LIBRARY OF THE KONKOLY OBSERVATORY

Address Budapest XII Konkoly-Thege Miklós út 13-17

Founded 1921

Printed books and periodicals
Other 3 000 units
Stock 19 872 ,,

#### LIBRARY OF THE MATHEMATICAL INSTITUTE

Address Budapest V Reáltanoda u. 13—15

Founded 1950
Printed books 8 600 vols.
Periodicals 2 700 ,,
Other 8 260 units

Stock 19 560 ,,

#### LIBRARY OF THE RESEARCH GROUP FOR ARCHAEOLOGY

Address Budapest I Uri u. 49

Founded 1958

Printed books 243 vols.
Periodicals 31 ,,
Stock 274 ,,

#### LIBRARY OF THE RESEARCH GROUP FOR CYBERNETICS

Address Budapest V Nádor u. 7

Founded 1956

Printed books
Periodicals
Other
286 units
Stock
2 039 ,,

#### LIBRARY OF THE RESEARCH GROUP FOR SOLAR PHYSICS

Address Debrecen 10, POB 30

Founded 1958

Printed books 507 vols.
Periodicals 510 ,,
Stock 1 017 ,,

#### LIBRARY OF THE RESEARCH GROUP OF STEREOCHEMISTRY

Address Budapest X Gém u. 3

Founded 1958

Printed books 257 vols.
Periodicals 140 ,,
Stock 397 ,,

## LIBRARY OF THE RESEARCH INSTITUTE FOR SOIL SCIENCE AND AGRICULTURAL CHEMISTRY

Address Budapest II Herman Ottó u. 15

Founded 1950

 Printed books
 4 671 vols.

 Periodicals
 2 708 ,

 Stock
 7 379 ,

#### LIBRARY OF THE RESEARCH INSTITUTE FOR TECHNICAL PHYSICS

Address Budapest VIII Puskin u. 11

Founded 1958

 $\begin{array}{cccc} \text{Printed books} & 2480 \text{ vols.} \\ \text{Periodicals} & 645 & ,, \\ \text{Stock} & 3125 & ,, \end{array}$ 

#### LIBRARY OF THE RESEARCH LABORATORY FOR OIL-MINING

Address Sopron Muzeum u. 6

Founded 1957

 $\begin{array}{cccc} \text{Printed books} & 645 \text{ vols.} \\ \text{Periodicals} & 62 & ,, \\ \text{Stock} & 707 & ,, \end{array}$ 

#### LIBRARY OF THE RESEARCH LABORATORY FOR SOIL BIOLOGY

(Merged into the Library of the Research Institute of Soil Science and Agricultural Chemistry of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences)

Address Sopron, Bajcsy-Zsilinszky út 4.

Founded 1952

Printed books 1 130 vols.
Periodicals 113 ,,
Other 97 units
Stock 1 340 ...

#### LIBRARY OF THE THEORETICAL PHYSICS RESEARCH GROUP

Address Budapest XI Budafoki út 8

Founded 1954

Printed books 1113 vols.
Periodicalis 470 ,,
Stock 1583 ,,

#### LIBRARY OF THE VETERINARY RESEARCH INSTITUTE

Address Budapest XIV Hungária krt. 21

Founded 1950

Printed books
Periodicals

Other

Stock

897 vols.

976 ,,

1 811 units

4 3 684 ,,

#### LIBRARY OF THE WEST HUNGARIAN RESEARCH INSTITUTE

Address Pécs, Kulich Gyula u. 22

Founded 1943

 Printed books
 11 733 vols.

 Periodicals
 3 272 ,,

 Other
 2 113 units

 Stock
 17 118 ,,

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  - [2.] 1954., 1955. 137 p.
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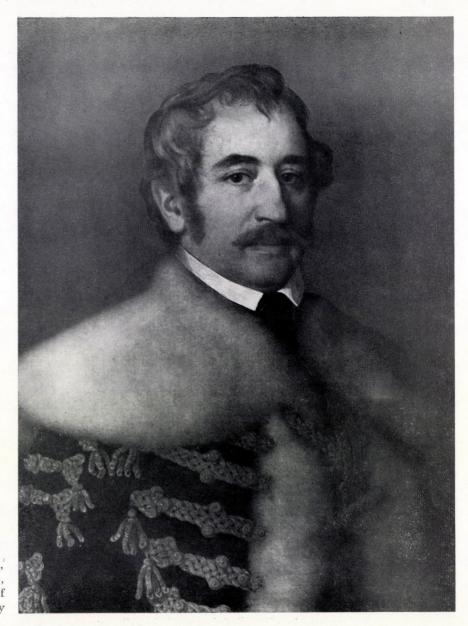
### PLATES



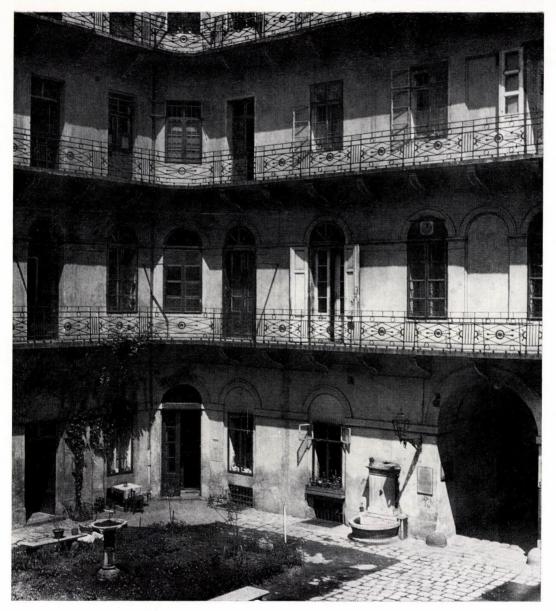
1 — Count István Széchenyi (1791—1860), founder of the Academy

Negypjules. Elso wiles. Tels 14. 1831. I'magyar ludis tarsasay rendes tagjainak Elso Ellise Pesten , Februarius 14 1. 1831. Mile Goof Feleki Josef, fo Spain Ul sat detilise alak M. Grif Saichengi Istvan, Massodelotile. Bulishing Sand Razinozi Ference Bitnica Lajor This Samos Dobrentei Gabor mint Jog His falidi Sandor Holosey Ference Gobbarde Foronca Petrovich Fridrik Garmics Sidor Horvat Cadre Frilassi Sanos Horvach Sistef Tokedel Forence Tittal Pal Jone Janos Vorosmarti Michaly I Na igangato sumicenak Poscaban 1830 & Nov 14d tartott ele ilese jegyzokonyvonek I dit Milk grait pontja, i Dec. 12 d. tartett maisdik illesonek III. III det pontja, is a Wil pontja vege fele defordulo, i kilonosen a tagodrol sable ovas fololvastatit. Tay ar otodite siles Nat VI det parties is. I the Elitato M. Grof the min den tagnak ar dapraja és rond szabásokból egy egy pel. randsantisch folobrastuttak dangt ourtran, I & tarsasag alaprajaan si road sanbasain dolgowoth 1828 bet kikildottsig 3th munkajabol is aron pontok, mellyok a mos tani penstar allapotjahor de pest ajanljak a' tarsasag meg olvasies által an iles electe tories in ditabat, hasonlok epon

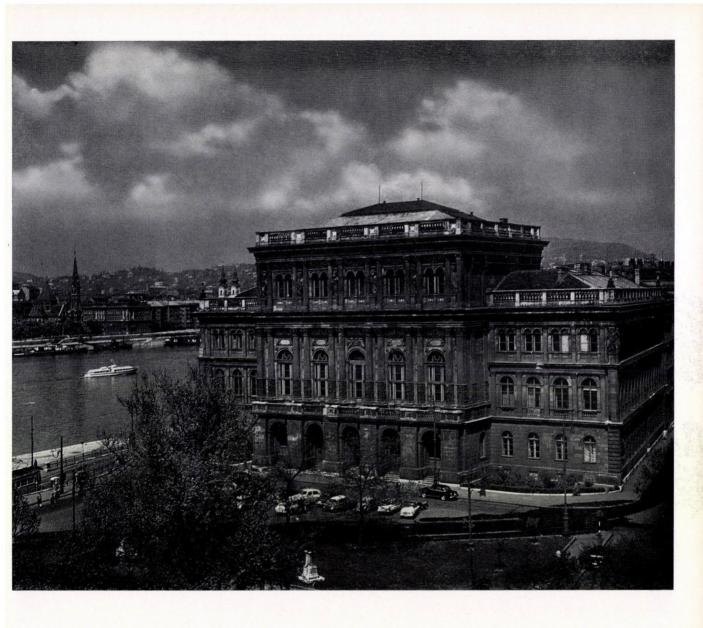
2 — The minutes of the Academy's First General Assembly



3 — Count József Teleki (1790—1855), the Academy's first President, founder of the Library of the Academy



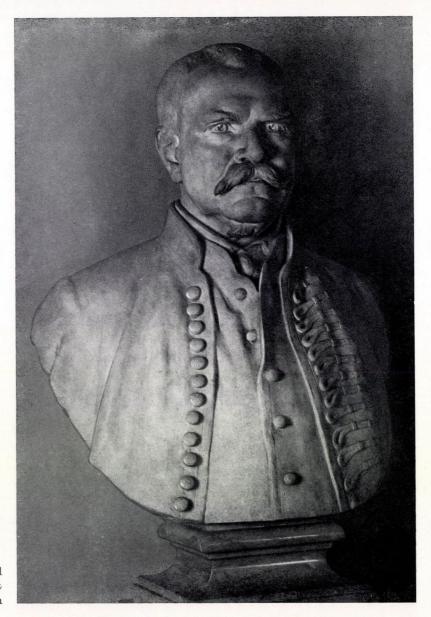
4 — The first home of the Library



5— The palace of the Academy

allafi mote, gondold may at andob.

6 — "Thoughts in the library". A poem by Mihály Vörösmarty (1800—1855) on the occasion of the Library's opening



7 — Ferenc Toldy (1805—1875), General Secretary of the Academy, first Chief Librarian

Bibliogs. 0, 1720. I.

# UTASÍTÁS

M. ACADEMIAI KÖNYVTÁR'

TISZTVISELŐI' SZÁMÁRA.

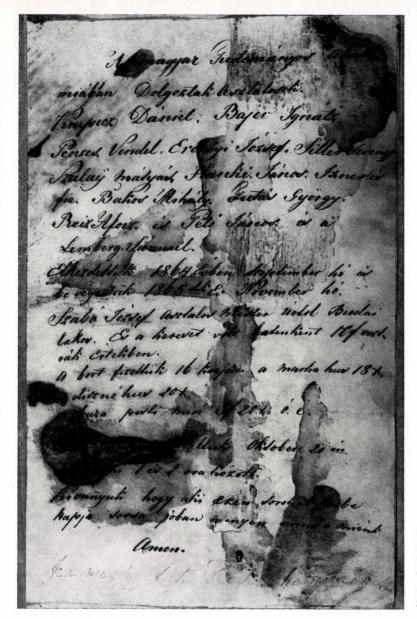


BUDÁN,
A MAGYAR KIRÁLYI EGYETEM BETÜIVEL.
1848.

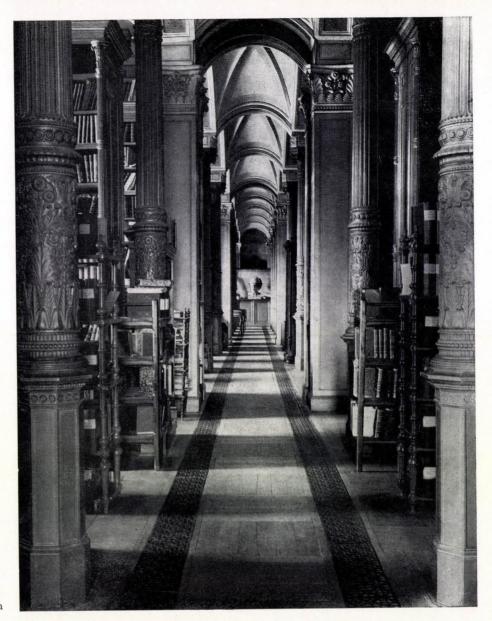
8 — The Library's first statute



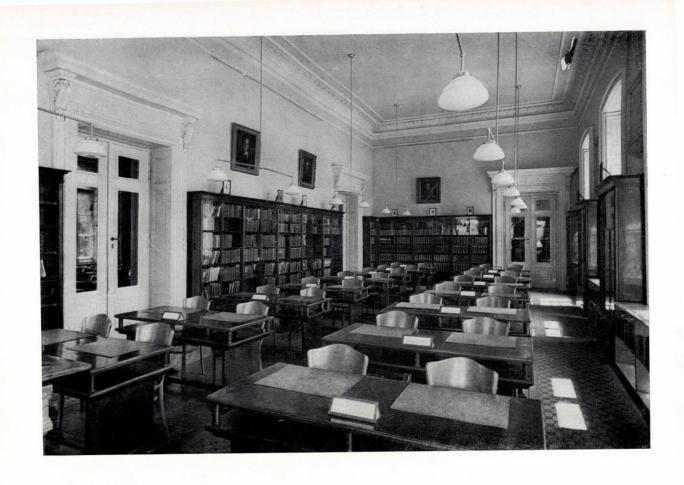
9 — The main staircase



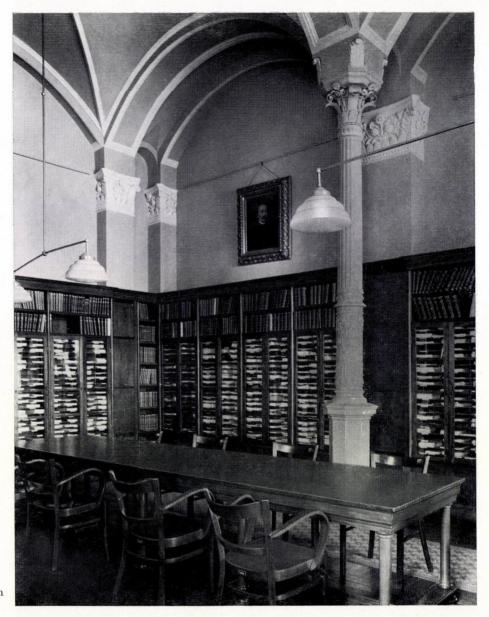
10 — A letter to posterity written (on October 21st, 1865) by the joiners working on the palace of the Academy. They hope that "he to whose hand it will come will see better days than we did". It came to light during repairs, after about a hundred years



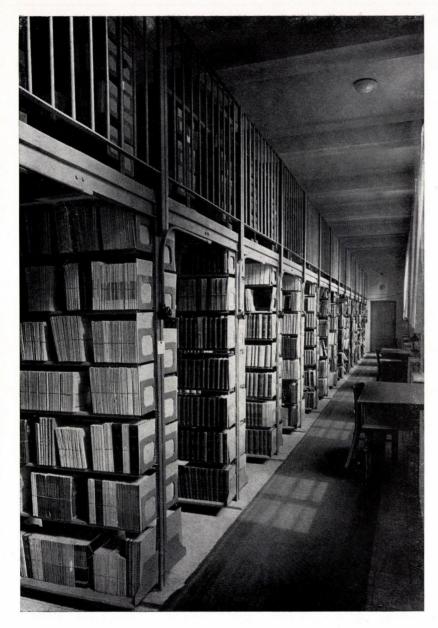
11 — The old stack-room



12 -The main reading room



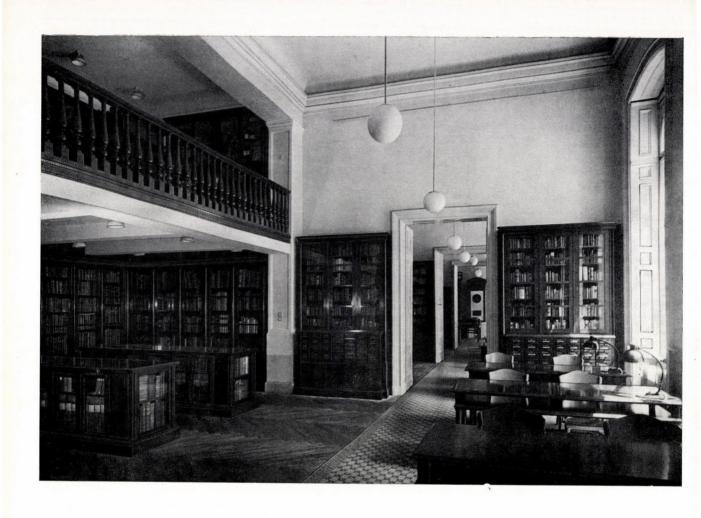
— The periodicals reading room



14 — The new stack-room



15 — The catalogue-room



— The Department of Manuscripts and Old Books

ne Illihad ackangyar

7 — The Prayer-Book of Benigna Magyar the wife of Pál Kinizsi, one of King Matthias' generals. A codex in Hungarian dating from 1513 ogr Nemente unde pas macro

corr Nementemo For unala beta

realian lazar nemo marra marr

dalenanak kaftelrako beta mareta

nak az marra kedrer mala ez ku

refirshak labart kembrultata frind men mosta mala es ke nettel men keme mala es azo

aranal meg Jazastotta mala crinet penet lazas arm the malabogaranat ted norg lazarnat Impar Jefriffer mondrum beam az fre zeretz az lazar meg formit bal man ext volvezvaent monde Az berefferg minezen ga lalra De uftermet duzolegeneze fogrez mine meg de Tombreffet oftennet fra feretr mala peneg refree mas tat Le maxicanal hivorat Marin magdatenat Le la zazt Hogo Febra mea falla hogo meg beregrute molna lazar, meg marada az gelven ker napnglan nem gogr Mom emonan ezoker refive De hogy az o iftenlegets met unvertuna 12 ofel tamadalaban Ennet weama Monda Azapoftoloknaf mennyonk efment cundofacti ban Mondanat nety Az tanponanpol mefter fam ou Sod hour teged im tegetten eer megakuruk wala be wegin orgaz wood, mest megr ifmeg oda felele Jone zurtent de monda. Herri de Enzenter ozam wagrone az Maphat azaz Na akort Akartanak engem meg fervez mi primar nem tezne Mert walaki volago fagban Jas meg nem ferzit De walaku de sererben ige ma gao meg feror to monda cund monnia Itz mi bara bunk lazar alwayst of mogret to fel tolor vice I lon Sanat az Eanvivannot rozam fa alny of fel kol Mongra mula kedner Jonegretenk azthalalad Nz ta mot manyof kedner alvernal male foot as almafeel sol na to tagat mer monda onetyl vopino melman No Ja lazar az mir baratrund meg bolede ornifol zantila

18 — Codex of Érsekujvár, written in Hungarian in 1529—31 by Márta Sövényházi in the convent on Margaret Island of Budapest



19 — De laudibus Matthiae regis
 by Ludovicus Carbo. A
 Corvinus manuscript dating
 from about 1475



20 — Liber de septem signis. An illuminated codex fragment from the beginning of the fifteenth century. It came to the Corvina Library from that of King Sigismund (1368—1437)

A' Fr. orfigi bileorisokra. (Kassim, 1789.)

Memretek, orfrigok! kik rút keleptrében Myögtök a rabságnak kinos kötelében, I gyápos kaporróla döntő vas igátok' Myakatokról eddig le nem rázhattátok; Ti-is, kiknek vérét a Termépet kéri, Fliv jobbággitoknak felpentelk hóben!! Iertek, 's hogy sorsotok' előre nézrétek, Vígyáró þematek' Párisra versétek!



21 — János Batsányi (1763—1845) welcomes the French Revolution in his poem

Poft, febr. 4. 1877. Udverlen but! Ma olvastan Toldis, me irlan e vertas, sonieg ma el is hillion. Ar Elestejrerben hi fog uggan join, de minel hamorable akarom Odnet huttava adri meglescheist, aron oromes, aron alragallataist, melys mive holiote benness. Thisibs, a nightillaised as igar: holse over degrink rajts, hogy er's leggit was lodová! Na a nigo unalrodni jog a holse sretbe nemes hebelude, his meglobalta mis martirhadnal million, hay egy par erren hangelher. Jenet et élverrench. Egbe à népet, poholos as aristohaties, Prjou bis neteen ha neur fogje restelui, sizon au gard, alabouit, mindent, hang éves, noblem e wag enderelni fog. Diken omnet, Petofi Sandy

22 — A letter of congratulations from Sándor Petőfi (1823—1849) to János Arany on the occasion of the publication of *Toldi*, his popular epos

# Tálas: Setőfi Sándornaks

- Levana lettem, mins a bombet eximbalom; Oral a vivem év megis vajog beté, Harris veri a hab: mors e negy jusalom. PETOTIS barasul megsem erdemelé.

Es milly sokas nyerek! Gustián a pályabor Majó elkomályosis midőn felem ragyog: De hás a raadás .... Leisem lelkeig er Hogy draga jobb kezed vozsályosa vagyok.

I mi ragy ok en, kerded. Egy neps varjadék hi sortiemnek élek, erette, álsala; Lova az en sorsom v ha dabra olvadék Osshonn leti magas ajakimen dala.

Akartam Korchol el kivandurolni: Sott a sors Korche es us felre vagott O midin vivas fele bujvokelnék, holmi Viske közöl Bedrom egynekány virágos.

Possek a bûgendok úsi etimberanak, Onzebarnskezsunk, dezestvkrunk estepen: in kvszerús fürsem, ok hamiskodának, Olsepsek fürsem jel elkestülsében.

23 — Válasz Petőfi Sándornak (Reply to Sándor Petőfi), a letter in verse by János Arany (1817—1882), one of the first documents of their friendship pet ( A mennyekten . It is diestil kornye retten tronjan . Angyalet gerege tirden . I negy forugyal a tron nellet all. Magy foryesse klima kongakt & Auggalok kana. Dicioség a magasban istenem it Diesege of a fold esa' ragy eg, Hi egy stavaval hive little mindend I pillanta satol figg isme I a veg. Sar ero, tudas, gyöngör egésze, Réstriu i era i az arny, mellyes ran i vetell, Imadju sos a' végtelen Kegyéri, hogg Fenyelen illy asstaly reset engedet. meg keremild ar oroker xagy estme, In a teremite's befejerve all, Jazur mindentot mit lekelni enged mello adot sent Esamolyana var. Be ven pejerve a nagy mil, egent. I gip frong, at alkotagrihen. Jugg of the way miner, togy and history Comillioting Siepen el forag oljar Mig cgy horithogas ujeta kel. Selhat vilagin ved-nemdor, fel, Retijele? vegtelen palyalotat. Tyonyorkodjen mig egyster bennetek. Ament elacigdo? tabacin alatt. Acsillago vidrellemei kilondori nagysagi, szini, egyes, kettes crillaggimboket, üstököröket és küdesillagolas görgesve rohanne el a fron elott. Aftrak zeneje hallan. Augustak Kara Willyen breakle lang-golye jo" Onfenyeben elbirottan, Jegy stereny esillagesoportna? Epo" stolgal onte daslan. Biologe pavaingi exiltag I miger millio terentes nenheterlen nagy vilage Net golgo kied egymis ellen

24 — The manuscript of the dramatic poem Az ember tragédiáj (The Tragedy of Man) by Imre MADÁCH (1823—1684), with the corrections of János Arany and directions for setting

mellyer lavour mais stemclychen birt, mas vagy masch bar hit leggenet is coal tettel et sihen altal bistosithatjak maguhnah.
Connyit batourtasiel Csah a magyan fel
ne adja a vanat, csah a magyan ne kontta el sajat helysetet skabad es figgetlen lett nem soh himag legfölebb igg er alatt - ne féljen ha nehund prihségind van masohna paísolnak is prihségind van zeand-Ebben ab abban hogy ext ug triejak mint én, van a hereség hogy nem leszink a valság per criben tamais nelliel, elhayatottast Gondolom Ricesoli less a minister elnok - do - de a jo sobsevereva less ha Jasini Kaghatja dmannah elnöhsége alatt a Kil iggi taxerat. Onnil soha sem volt melegell Cavour meghalvan, nines avatottable Ma este csaladommal Santhiában provetsigesunk talallorom ih milanibol in Turinbol Biellaba megyink mellynek tromsredja ban alkalmasint and vaniban (vit grog) interest it fel tanyoját a hontatan vandor csalad - Genedan ujolag behellend ide jonom asky meglet a ministerium. Tiain Indies clejon a genriai (delle (Riviere) vasut spitesnel allalmarasber lejneh - Onoh horsleben - Hiketo a homil meny ose felé minhet is a tapa veset Logadja igen östinte tisteletemet. mellyel vagyor igas his banatja polgaja droputh

25 — A letter of Lajos Kossuth (1802—1894) on the occasion of Cavour's death. (Torino, June 8th, 1861)

## Bullyesten

## Kedves baralus!

It Huldon Kinnventor ar elso peldingt, vegy is oney ar elso elitti peldenyt, melit a kimm folvelle volna, ar egeri toelletjet, mellyet a Er a nig fel hem oblivite Kings anner a beretnes baidsainer a symboluma ares temi metjet wanted ever, - am peolig a things tealchmic date er ama leveriber dermitt amt is a politice levens let melyner a resorter a cett stolgilus. ar en velig nesteum doleter veló, es er a styles es a gendobrerin moder ar enjum. Wem inter torrenel = met, ment nem ar en feladelom. De mejer a virs reproblem a wheredon up adju et a mage fateries est mucher ignisaigur volumer, a negrandelini in, um aelja etr uz exerciplet mulle herrescops lenneres. a dolby unber come may. Kith a mouly suret Sichneye are prosecut very amak kulturget. Errick Kulinden very leton was eles prepara bottables tersemi L'intest coch avec leves, tève ne eits. Non ery thrunce charan neved against so shidem, next when can jo és inhe preldinge vindemes, de ar existé er sis es barietser meles gundulatiet askartem eliked "Kuhapumi arrel a mayor motormule long or ember as coerciseyes remet a facio maranie, under men sunte erether, entilde - heperdranks Budger Ben 7 1900 Mikralhtelm

26 — A letter of Kálmán Mikszáth (1849—1910) in which he writes of his novel Különös házasság (A strange marriage) (Budapest, December 7th, 1900)

ne bantes ôlet. Sol la. rarterelening taloriza be peros lebenyeggel. Le a magner progression megir was, meg, a leggebb, altmali myen Righer-cel . Miert ma. ratt et belini premi. eres vy wil en nem sudol role? S. y vyjitelostal inegint blinde be meg my into whether clogor groteglal pa: redant legt eleken

27 — A letter of the poet Endre Ady (1877—1919) to Lajos Hatvany

Mérales ? trêst, mers num dings helgèren its; mig minutes a maissis obtation mayors.

. As anis violale new tropes faletomiquent,

met reduced inter my total sagent. It king ality
Tarraray realist ander 7-8 int metalties a leadeningero
supert, - new fryestan et direk his rech hete apra es
ismit saptam liveles a Tarraray eight tayjator, tim es
sistemetero Cantes = jarres etan rehabitations, - mej
ettipmen is midanollan ma.

gondottils illetils rivrat, a lysedredele formothan, hy revisióf reute and a Corvain- lorora listan. Ket i où hajlandos mig fotocum, engen i Modure Frencez. In a lyhordiante formothan vissanzantos am.

Olga pirea, - elmonthatom? A letti: Berat: waldthe.)

Ist monthatja mine burrit, hry - józan negyst: e? Hox lehet vriszanszam ilyendeljo sat? a are a lehetőzijel, hry — lin ere midr felettem dag dual: en men magré

Herz er mengine igar, most Probjekter is

beignsolodott. ugmagandrem.

28 — A letter of the writer Zsigmond Móricz (1879—1941) (Pozsony, November 29th, 1930)

mit Three Dente gi Rei Wichafthin Sieffe von de Altenburgen 1. 1. lender to mis ungehen ) de. Clavier livyrg de dekergein -7th hube ihn den Priesten E. Willgemken doglert gi whiken

29 — A letter in German of Ferenc Liszt (1811—1886) requesting the Lohengrin's arrangement for piano (Weimar, about 1851)

I ozo. Bartok Belane, Bratislava (Porsony), Szeplak v. 53. 2) Toro. Fincheria Essalay Stefanie, Oradea Mare (Nagvarad), str. Coshe 3) Rever Giza, Amsterdam, Keizergracht 283. ") Legellusider Eugen Frenkar, Woln Openhaus 5) Kyrelweister Dr. Ernst Latzko, Neimar, Molthest. 15. W. Dr. Jan Löwerbach, Vraha, Slesski 54. a tothi peldant padie or in cineure, de aug. 15. - e dott nem most coak any. Koregia terch vima Bulgreitre. Essende jutott még - hovethero': jul. 6.- ip Como-ba (Dlamornig) lehetne poste restante kuldeni spanomra pla eise-nilest, og korrekturit, ha saikseigssær volca. Q 10. is 11. io fontorall hibainal jeggiche unch a levelled setoloro lapojan van. Varva viej Budgrerbe Erknitist Whom adwigs you live Bartin Rela

> 30 — A letter of Béla Вакто́к (1881—1945)

Appendix, Scientiam Spatie absolute veram exhibens; a veritate aut, falsitate Axioma tis XI. Euclidei (a priori haua unquam decidenda) independen tem; adjecta ad casum falsitatis quadratura circuli geometrica

Auctore Tohanne Bolyai de Eaden Geometrarum in Exercitu Caesareo Regio Austriaco Castrensium Capitanes. Agropoli sive Maras-Vasarhelye

Typis Collegii Reformatorum Sephum et Simeonom Kali de Fe

31 — The Appendix, a work of János Bolyai (1802—1860), founder of the non-Euclidean geometry named after him. (Typographical manuscript)

10) Dolejio gep. Kin magyar termifettudományi tar Julat overinguel 1854-1859 évelre The hotel 1-4 las. Sepen 1859. Ret Rongomatu tablaval 11) Nemel-magyar husomanyos milyotar, Riadva Heckenart Justav attal Seften 1858. F. A nemet-esch Indomargos miffotarnak nevert-nagy arra vala attolgo, Jasara Kinevegett by of many ban aldirott a termeffet tami, vezytani, os oromitani minsparak es chovezedek ma gyarotasaral vala megbigra 12.) Villam-telepek egef mikovesenek meghatarojate? Amagyar Lavamanyos Akademia 1859- Dik evi Estorità joben 291-311 las harom Konyomatutáblaval. 13.) Rostori szekfaplalo befrés, melyet alohiott a mas for tartat. Megilatt But in 141-14.) A tosm apottudomanyok fonlopsagarol as embori nem anyagi joletere nepre, tekintettel hapinked, Ama gyar budomany-egyetem njja alakitasanak 84-dik emlok mapjan 1864 Junius 25- Siken alolisott akkori Rector attal thatost besid. Megiclear Budan 1864, 1-34 lap. 1879- ben Dudapesten lartott XX-dik nagzgybilesenek munkálalai, Dudapest 1880, 248-252 lap, három Konyo,

Dr. Jedik Stryos s. R.

32 — An autobibliography of Ányos Jedlik (1800—1860), discoverer of electric motor and the dynamo

mate tablaval.

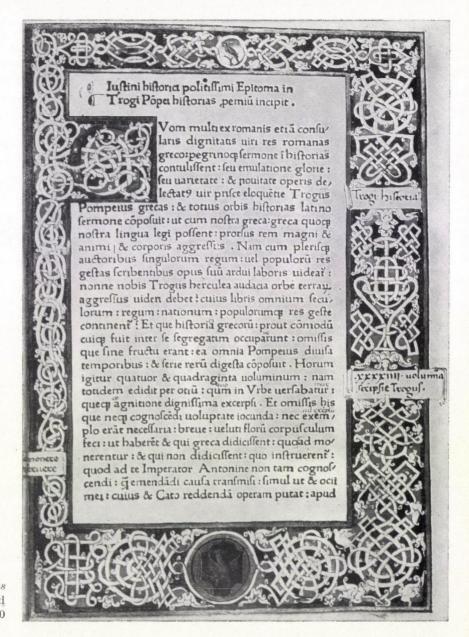
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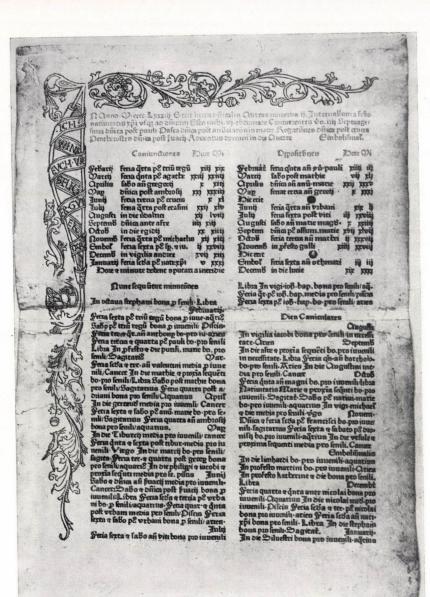
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33 — Ignác Semmelweiss (1818—1865), discoverer of the virus of puerperal fever, reporting on his scientific result to the Academy A math Phys. Tarrulat It Sundeversugered Saleli. 1. Obeligning Lund', Long of m eging spin byen thinsen lyn ? le ly?, a hat Bag a hilimbig' to progin on louist . yeur. 2. Organy Hamit be, in La volumed sy istile. fram malkosily x2-3xy + 2y2 d- y=0 x2- 2 dy + y2 - 5x + 3y = 0, aller ugancors og istekpinn negre eggenned. xy - 12x + 15y = 0 ). Dor vanick valamely haroning i maganaji smalainek telypnitjii; spekesterrit meg e harmysj. way puly. Adva vanut a halpponte lavorige, oldalie; against demand his ay everlet haroning of alkolo reger : ( Ludopert 1896. adx. 24- in. Rotar lavar

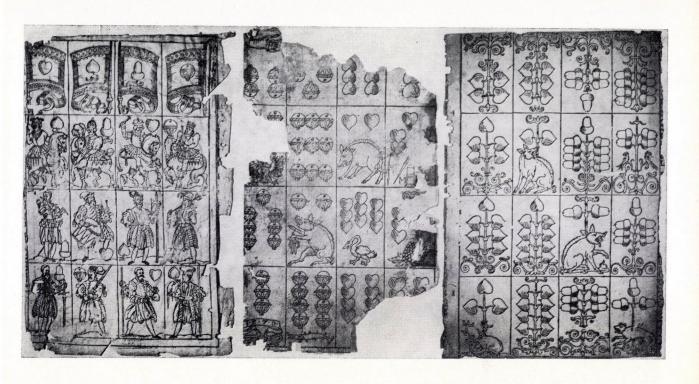
34 — Loránd Eörvös (1848—1919), physicist, discoverer of the geophysical intsrument "torsion balance" named after him, setting mathematical themes for a competition



35-Epitema in Trogi Pompei historias by IUSTINUS. An illustrated incunabulum. Venice, about 1470



36 — An incumabulum, a calendar consisting of one page for 1483. A unique copy found in a cover during book restorations



37 — Playing-cards dating from 1570. Found in a cover during restorations



38—The portrait of Matthias, King of Hungary. From the work *Chronica Hungarorum* by the protonotary János Thuróczi (/l. 1475) (Augsburg, 1488)



39 — Pomerium de tempore. ermons of Pelbárt de Temesvár (about 1435—1504) Augsburg, 1502. The finest edition of the amous Hungarian author's work

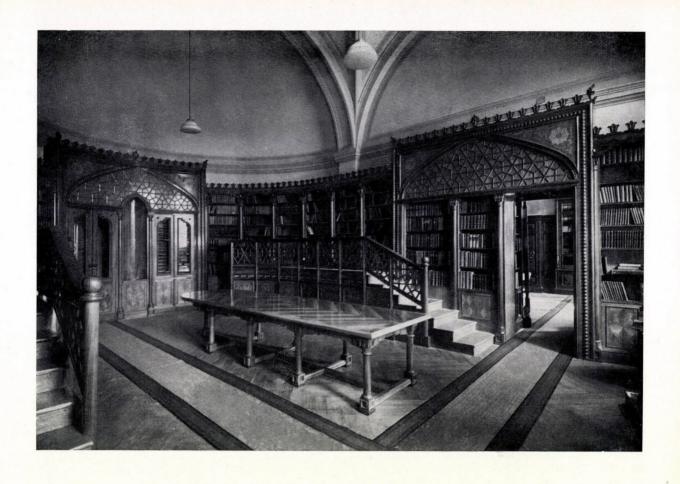
## EPISTOLÆ

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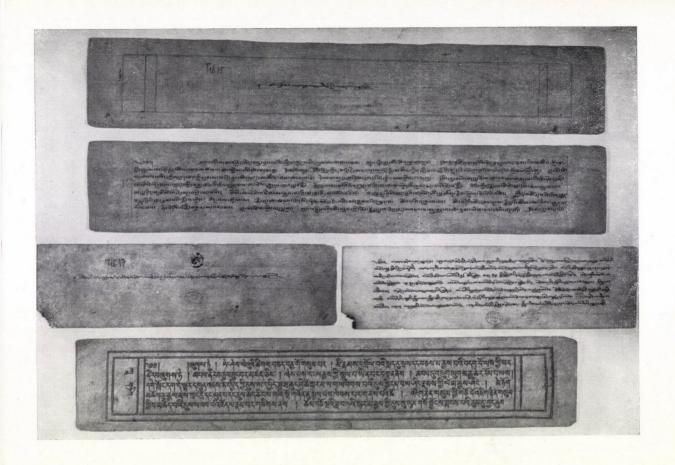
40 — Saint Paul's Epistles, the first book printed entirely in Hungarian. Cracow, 1533. Translated by Benedek Кому́атні



41 - The reading room of the Oriental Department

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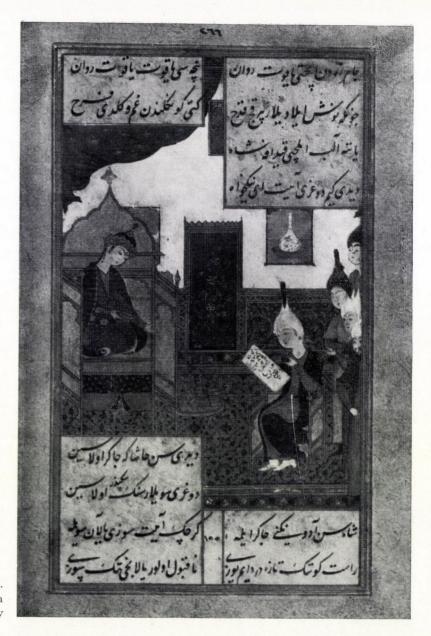
42 — A letter of Alexander Csoma de Kőrös (1784—1842), author of the first Tibetan-English dictionary and grammar. (Calcutta, July 18th, 1835)



— Tibetan manuscripts and a xylograph from the bequest of Csoma de Kőrös



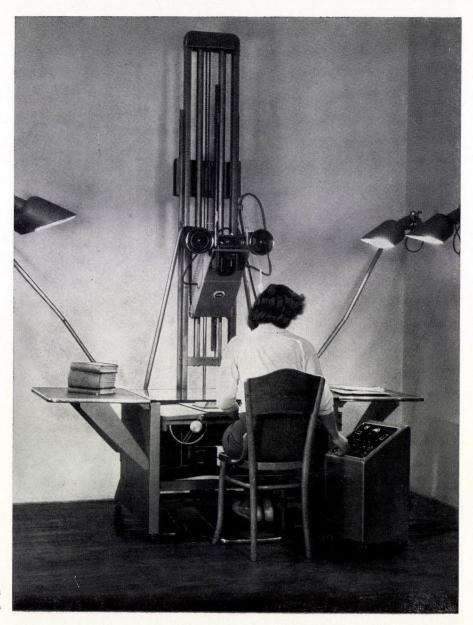
44 — Mishnah Thora by Moses MAIMONIDES, an illuminated manuscript dating from 1295—96



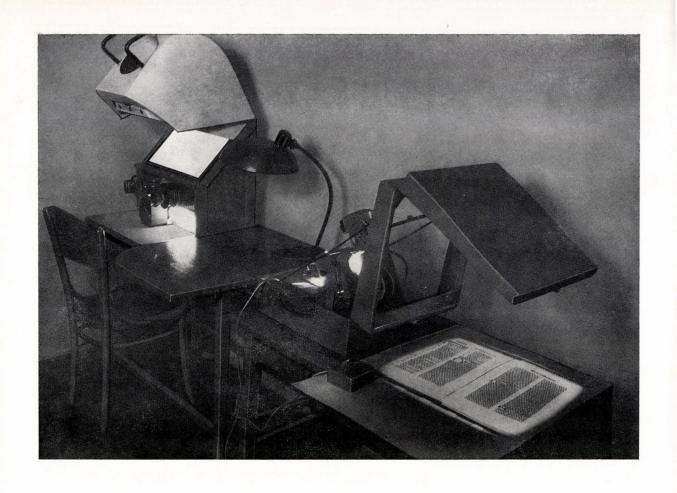
45 — Iskender-nâmeh by 'Ahmedî. A Turkish codex from the 16th century

Mohand Marg, Kashmir : 1895. julius 37. Melyen list belt lande Ur, Het hellel exelott vet fem itt Kashmir ban nagy meg lepe lesemre ay erlesitett ama Kivalo Nitimbelesrol, melyten az akademia valasz lasa foly fan respesiblem the chajem volt, hagy Regyednek triven melyebol meg Koszonjem egen eggåltalån nem vart meg tigg Kelle lett, melyet eta kis kegyes familiate de temmi annyittor erdemelt joa Karata exercy hetett meg syamomra. Ha Kinansagomna K Rifejezesében Két potlát el mulasz lottam, e Keses ment tegere etakama Korülmengt

46 — A letter of Sir Mare Aurel Stein (1862—1943) to Ignác Goldziher. Stein thanks him for being elected Honorary Member of the Academy. (Mohand Marg, Kashmir, July 3, 1895)



47 — An automatic microfilm camera



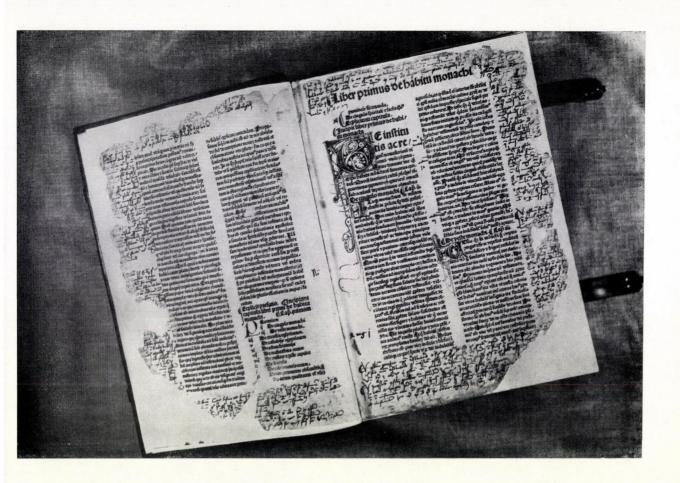
48 — Reading apparatus



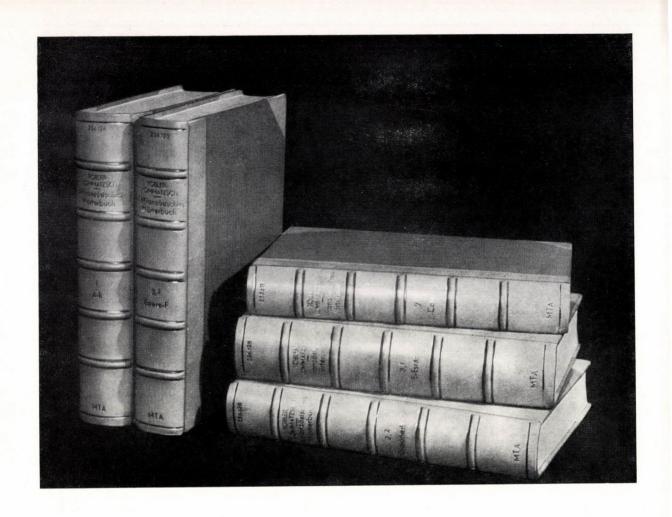
49 — Binding of Kolozsvár from the beginning of the eighteenth century



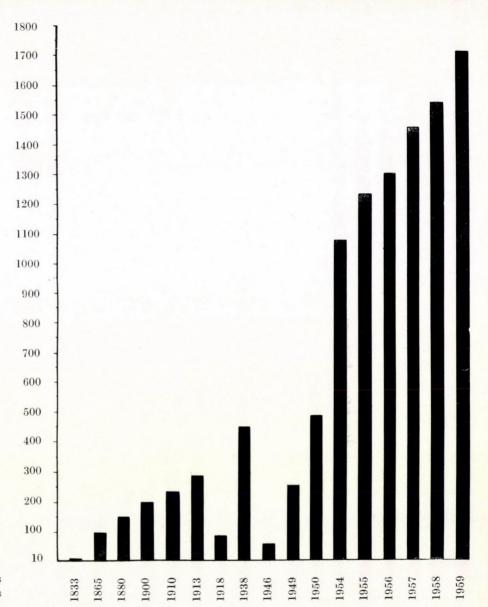
50/51 — One of the Library's incunabula



before and after restoration



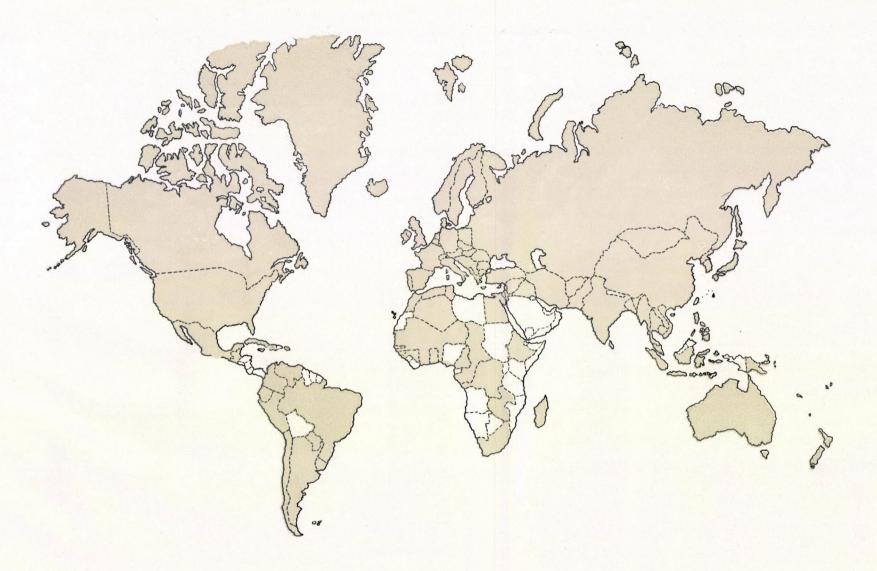
— Modern binding; the work of the Library's binding shop



53 — Development of the Library's exchange relations

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Preface		•	5	
	I. The History and Tasks of the Library of the Academy of Sciences			7	
	II. The Use of the Library			16	
	III. International Exchange Relations of the Academy			24	
IV. The Research Library Network of the Academy					
	Bibliography			38	
	Plates			45	



The exchange relations of the Library with the countries of the world.