BICENTENNIAL
HUNGARIAN HERITAGE
IN NEW JERSEY

The Bicentennial Hungarian Heritage Committee
of New Jersey
1975
Bless the Magyar, O our God,
Bountifully, gladly!
Shield with Thy protecting hand
When his foes smite madly!
Fate, of old, has rent him sore;
May it now bring healing!
By-gone sins are all aton'd,
Ev'n the future sealing.

From "Magyar National Anthem"
by Ferenc Kölcsey (1790-1838)
English translation by Watson Kirkconnell
The Bicentennial Hungarian Heritage Committee of New Jersey was formed on March 10, 1975 with the goal to join our country's bicentennial celebrations by making known the contributions of Hungarians to the life of New Jersey on the economic, scientific, and cultural levels and by pledging the active loyalty of Americans of Hungarian descent to the ideals of the founding fathers of this nation.

The Committee elected the Rev. Imre Bertalan as its chairman, Miss Priscilla Hunyady to be secretary, and John Nemish to be treasurer. Members of the Committee at its formation were: Laszlo Abonyi, Alexander Bernath, Gabor Bodnar, Laszlo Dienes, Dezso Fodor, Dr. George Frederick, the Rev. Julian Fuzer, Lajos Hajdu-Nemeth, Dr. Otto Hamos, the Rev. Dr. Andrew Harsanyi, the Rev. Stephen Horvath, the Rev. Laszlo Hunyady, Laszlo Karoly, John Kerekgyarto, the Rev. Matthew Kiss, the Rev. Dr. Andrew Kosa, William Kukor, Mrs. John Martin, the Rev. Szabolcs Nagy, Bela Pandak, the Rev. George Pogany, George Pregg, Lester Sabo, Paul Somody, Laszlo Szabo, Joseph Tegze and the Rev. Francis Vitez. The Committee has been incorporated.

Among the projects outlined at the Committee's first meeting was a Mobile Exhibit to be taken to the various communities throughout the State of New Jersey displaying the contributions of Hungarians to the life of New Jersey in the past and in the present. Also two printed publications, one entitled Hungarians in New Jersey, containing a detailed history together with a Who's Who Among Hungarians in New Jersey. This latter part wishes to include not only prominent personalities, Nobel Prize laureates and other leaders in the sciences, in arts, and in economics but also — and most emphatically — common people who are not "common" at all in the ethymological sense of the word because they have built their lives and labor into the growth and excellence of the State of New Jersey. These "common" people made Hungarians a highly respected ethnic group among the many nationalities in New Jersey. In this book we envision several thousands of entries.
The other publication is this booklet. The main part consists of "biographies" of Hungarian churches and civic organizations presently operating in New Jersey. The editors of this booklet asked every church and organization they knew of to submit their "biography." Most of them responded, and the reader will find a fairly complete collection of them. A few, like St. Stephen's in Trenton and St. Elias in Carteret, did not consider themselves Hungarian churches any longer. Others have, in fact, lost their Hungarian character. Some, in spite of follow-ups, did not give a positive reply. All these will be reviewed in the historical survey of the forthcoming volume.

The rest of the contents of this booklet, including the pictorial section, were added to give only glimpses of Hungarian participation in New Jersey's life and history. It should also serve as a foretaste to a more detailed history of Hungarians in this State.

The editors who put this booklet together were Bela Bacskai, Laszlo Dienes, the Rev. Dr. Andrew Harsanyi, Michael Hegedus, and the Rev. Matthew Kiss. They all had their share in compiling the material and writing up the articles. Dr. Andrew Harsanyi was responsible for the final composition and shape of the booklet. The editors wish to emphasize, however, that each church and civic organization is responsible for the material included as well as for the views expressed in their respective biographies.

The art work on the cover was made by Janos Tokay. The printing work was done by the Rev. Andrew Hamza and Istvan Hamza. To them the editors wish to express their sincere appreciation.
ADDING OUR BRAWN AND BRAIN —
SHAPING LIFE IN A NEW WORLD

E pluribus unum — out of the many peoples who have found haven on American shores, there has formed a mighty Nation; just as out of many States time and statesmanship forged a single Country. What did a comparatively small band of newcomers from the fertile, yet tragic vale of Duna-Tisza, once protected by the Carpathian Range, contribute to the greatness of New Jersey and these United States?

Legend has it that there may have been an odd Magyar among the Vikings. Some suspect a few of them midst the crew of Christopher Columbus... But there is no doubt that the name America stems from Imre; since there is no other with this name on record among those canonized than the first heir to Hungary’s throne, St. Emericus. Consequently explorer Amerigo Vespucci, “godfather” of the new continents must have been baptized with Imre as his patron.

There are hints that George Washington may have had a maternal ancestor with a Magyar strain. But much before that, in 1583, it was a Hungarian historian, Oxford scholar Stephen Budai, who in classic Latin detailed an eyewitness report on the first English expedition’s landing. While Budai was swept overboard in a gale, his charts guided the “Mayflower” to shore 37 years later.

While Colonel Kováts was recruiting and organizing the American cavalry in the North, a large number of Hungarians arrived among the French expeditionary force, to relieve Washington’s tired men in the crucial stages of the conflict. The inclusion of Magyars among the French is due largely to the prompting of László Bercsényi, Grand Marchal of France, who was able to guide abroad Rákóczi’s crack cavalry, when he was in charge of the Kuruc leader’s bodyguard.

Our BICENTENNIAL prompts us to present a cavalcade in a nutshell. Some of our people’s contributions are quite out-
standing, while most of them little known and unpublicized. It is high time to offer a glimpse of our sincere endeavor, enriching life in New Jersey in particular. Our State, situated as it is at the epicenter of the Boston-Washington megalopolis, provides home and workplace for a good portion of Hungarian immigrants.

A resourceful Englishman, the first to survey the New Jersey coastline, is well known to all schoolchildren, for he was founder of the original permanent settlement in historic Jamestown. But where is it taught that this fabulous John Smith took a leaf from that great commoner king, Matthias Corvinus (whose 500-year-old, priceless books are treasured by America's most prestigious universities), by pressing his "Gentlemen Adventurers" into physical labor in order that the first Virginia Colony may survive. Popular misconception surmises Smith to have been a sea-captain, partly because later he was made Admiral of New England, the region he thus named. But the fact is that he was made Captain of the Hussars in Western Hungary and after having distinguished himself in the defense of that country, he merited the recommendation of Sigmund Báthory of Transylvania, and with that he was able to join the 1607 expedition, becoming its leader.

Hard working men and women followed in the path of Smith. They settled on farms, labored in mines and forests, and even their young worked in factories. America's richest have smoked cigars rolled by teenage Magyar girls brought over on contracts of indenture, free only when their passage was worked off.

When the combined Austrian and Russian armies overwhelmed Louis Kossuth's struggle for independence, the first political refugees came in droves. "The Great Liberator" himself made a whirlwind tour, and spoke in New Jersey centers as well. Left behind were his followers, 800 of whom became officers for the Union Army, many distinguishing themselves on battlefields, later in American public administration, and also in the fledgling American diplomatic corps abroad.

New Jersey industry relied on the steady working diligence of Hungarian immigrants for over a century. The cruel dismemberment of Hungary and the still more disastrous consequences of the WW II forced the emigration of a multitude which otherwise would have made good in their native environment. Sophisticated artisans, displaced professionals, and research scientists
thus rounded out the pioneer immigrant complement. As a result, especially since Kilmer became a word known the world over, the Bicentennial finds a wide spectrum of Magyar talent and enterprise.

All Hungarians in New Jersey, in every walk of life, sought the company of each other spiritually, culturally and socially. This endeavor brought forth churches, schools and social clubs...

In this age of abrupt changes, trials, and tribulations, we are proud to adhere to the noblest American traditions, also to the heritage of our forebears. This sampler of past performances attempts to show that this segment of our State’s citizenry strives to do its level best.

Our brochure also aims to strengthen the hope of young and old for a bright future, based on an impressive foundation. This may be a modest bouquet for a magnificent Bicentennial, but it is submitted as a token of what we are and what we offer as an appreciation for a New Homeland.

Long may it enjoy peace and prosperity!
Hungarian language newspapers in New Jersey

Hungarian emigrants that settled in New Jersey established their churches of different denominations and founded their religious, social, and fraternal insurance societies as far back as the 1890s. It was not until 1906, however, that the first printed Hungarian language weekly newspaper appeared on the scene. It was the Passaic Free Press (Szabad Sajtó) which later was merged with a paper called Passaic and Vicinity (Passaic és Környéke). The Free Press was published individually for over 60 consecutive years. Among its editors were the following: Hermán Virág, the first editor-publisher, Cornelius Csongrady, Charles D. Papp, Stephen Huebner, Tibor Bartok, Eugene Lang, Nándor Karl, Paul Nadanyi, Izso Szekely, Eugene Markos managing-editor, and Laszlo I. Dienes, editor-publisher. Another Hungarian weekly publication, the Hungarian Republic (Magyar Köztársaság) was launched in Trenton in the same year, edited by Dr. Eugene Antal, but it ceased publication shortly after.

In 1908 the Magyar Herald (Magyar Hirnök) was established in New Brunswick, edited and published by Mr. Pogany. Into this weekly merged several other New Jersey Hungarian publications until finally, in 1973, all the existing Jersey papers merged into one united Hungarian weekly, the Magyar Herald (Magyar Hiradó). The Magyar Herald's editor was for several decades Hugo Kormos of Highland Park, whose sympathy and connections with leftist groups was well known. Upon his death the paper was purchased by Laszlo I. Dienes, who merged it with his other New Brunswick weekly, the Hungarian Journal (Magyar Hírlap) accepted by all Hungarian churches and organizations of that area.

Chronologically the next Hungarian publication in the state was the Trenton and Vicinity (Trenton és Környéke) in 1909, which appeared only for a few months. In 1911 another weekly was started in Trenton, the Hungarian Journal (Magyar Hírlap), edited by John Walko, published by Anthony Varady.

In 1913 the Independence (Függetlenség) was founded by
a young Hungarian newspaper man from the old country, Alexander O. Zambory who on November 27th of that year published the first issue made on a proof-machine. He edited and published this weekly until 1920 when he sold it to Anthony J. Orosz. The new editor and publisher, a young former Hungarian army officer fresh from the war, took his job very seriously, worked hard, and for the 15th Anniversary of the paper published a large-size Jubilee Album with a sub-title "The History of the Trenton and Roebling Hungarians — 1876-1928." The 114-page Album is a master-piece of its sort, with an overwhelming amount of valuable information regarding the history of Hungarian churches and societies of Trenton and Roebling. If all the editors of Hungarian newspapers had done the same kind of thorough job in publishing similar Albums, we would now have a full history of the Hungarians in New Jersey.

In 1919 a newspaper called Reformed Church Informer (Református Egyházi Értesítő) was published by the Rev. Geza Korocz, also of Trenton. This paper merged with the Independence in 1922.

In 1921 Alexander Zambory moved to Perth Amboy where with the help of Louis Csipo he started a new paper, the Perth Amboy Herald (Hiradó). He edited and published this weekly for the following 19 years until 1940 when he sold it to Laszlo I. Dienes, whom he invited to be his managing editor from Bethlehem, Pa. after he was named secretary to the Perth Amboy Housing Authority and director of the newly built, federally financed William Dunlap Homes. Even after he took his new position, Zambory remained with the paper as editor in chief, contributing his editorials and joke columns to the Hiradó for several years thereafter. He was the "Grand Old Man" of the Hungarian press. He took active part in the "Hungarian life" to the day of his death in 1958. He was honored by the City of Perth Amboy by naming a street at the site of the Housing Project Zambory Street.

Prior to his Perth Amboy activities, Zambory started another weekly in Trenton with the help of a print-shop owner, Maurus Gerenday. The Jersey Herald (Jersey Hiradó) was launched early in 1921. Gerenday and later his son, Nicholas Gerenday, edited the paper for over 35 years. Upon the death of the Gerendays, the paper was published for a while by an Italian publishing firm. In 1964 it was merged with the Independence. The Independence, Orosz’ paper, was edited for several years
after his sudden death by Eugene Szamosszegi. In 1952 Dienes purchased the paper and published it with managing editor Szamosszegi and Balazs M. Kovacs until its merger with the Magyar Herald in 1972.

In Linden, N.J. there was a Hungarian weekly called The News (Az Újság) edited by Alexander Gondos, Jr. This paper was alive for several years until 1929. In the 1920s there was another weekly in New Brunswick, edited by Stephen Fedak, called the New Brunswick Hungarian News (New Brunswicki Magyar Újság).

In 1923 The Cross Paper (A Kereszt Újság) was launched in Trenton by the Rev. Dr. Szabo and Dr. Aloisius Szabo. In 1927 this weekly became a daily Catholic newspaper, and was published as such for the next half year when it was sold to the Toth brothers in New Brunswick. Later it became The Good Shepherd (A Jó Pásztor) and moved to Ohio.

In 1928 a weekly newspaper was published in Newark called the Newark Journal (Newarki Hírlap) by editor Dr. Paul Nessi. The paper was later purchased by Charles Eisler who hired an editor named Paul Acs to whom he sold the paper. Acs published this weekly for some 20 years. After his death the paper was "managed" by a medical doctor couple with limited knowledge in journalism. Finally it was purchased and merged into the other Hungarian weeklies. Also in 1928, a Weekly Review in New Brunswick was started by Barnabas Toth as its editor. Finally, the Hungarian Journal (Magyar Hírlap) was launched in 1932 by its owner Dr. Emery Csema. Upon his death in 1945, the paper was sold to Alexander Kolumban of Elizabeth and the Rev. Andrew Kosa of New Brunswick. It changed hands again in 1947 when the Rev. Leslie J. Carey purchased and edited it until it finally went into Laszlo I. Dienes' ownership in 1948. It was merged into the Magyar Herald in 1952.

As we can see from the above "history," there were plenty of Hungarian newspapers and, evidently, plenty of readers in New Jersey throughout the past 70 years. High union costs and other difficulties necessitated the unification of the remaining papers into one single united Hungarian weekly, the Magyar Herald (Magyar Híradó) which is at present the only existing Hungarian publication of the state. Nationally circulated church and organization publications were or are printed in New Jersey; but these are not exclusively New Jersey papers. By the same token, old-
established Hungarian papers, which are published in New York and in Cleveland, Ohio, formerly daily newspapers, are circulated in New Jersey: the *Amerikai Magyar Népszava* (New York), one of the oldest Hungarian newspapers in the United States and the *Liberty* (Szabadság) of Cleveland, Ohio which was founded in 1893.

The New Jersey Hungarian Press, as such, had one thing always in common: its interest in the local Hungarian community life. The editors of these newspapers were always “New Jersey Hungarians,” they knew their own people, they personally knew many of their readers and patronizers, and they took active part in every worthwhile Hungarian movement in this State. No New Jersey Hungarian editor ever became rich on his newspaper. And when it came to personal sacrifice, financial or otherwise, the editor was always there, ready to serve. During World War I and World War II in the organized movements of Hungarians to help the country and to help the war victims, the Hungarian editor was out in front with his newspaper and his personal efforts as well. During and after WW II, when Hungarians were organizing their relief movements, the editors traveled to far away places to take part in mass-meetings of the national relief organization. Millions of dollars were collected and shipped over to Europe in medicine and goods to help the needy in the “old country” and in Western Europe’s refugee camps. The editors did their utmost to realize this without ever asking for a single dollar for their publications and its many ads and articles for the good cause. On the contrary, they gave from their own pocket. Neither the history of the New Jersey Hungarian Press, nor the history of “Camp Kilmer” and what followed can be written without mentioning the day-and-night hard work and active participation of the Hungarian editors.

The days of the Hungarian Press in New Jersey and in the rest of the United States are counted. Soon there will be no editors of the old stock left, no editors of new schools will follow their steps. Hungarian newspaper publishing is not a business, certainly not a money making proposition. It never was one. Only a fool can throw money into such an enterprise, and only a fool can sacrifice his life for such an endeavor. There were many such fools during the past 70-80 years. Will there be any in the future?
SCHOLARS AND SCIENTISTS

New Jersey can boast more of them than perhaps any other State. At least as far as Hungarian scholars are concerned. For it was here that Dr. Edward Teller drove Leo Szilard to Einstein's hideout to persuade him to see President Roosevelt with the plan for the use of the atom. Nobel laureate Eugene Wigner of Princeton is also in the forefront of these discoveries, which are literally earth-shaking.

It was in New Jersey that Dr. Maria Telkes conducted breakthrough experiments with solar energy for everyday use. Under the guidance of twin-brothers Aladar and Victor Olgyay, designers of the Hungarian Pavilion at New York's World's Fair, a generation of American architects have received modern ideas.

The recipient of the first American science medal from the hands of President Eisenhower, with a $50,000 prize, was "Johnny" von Neumann. The original calculation of this mathematical genius launched our computer age. He was among those whose education in Hungary provided a splendid base for research of the highest order.

One has only to glance over the faculty roster of other Princetonian Hungarians whose works this prestigious university has published. Dr. András Alföldi is universally respected for his studies of classical history. Another laureate, George Békesy has opened a new phase in sensory inhibition. András Hámos, who is Bicentennial Preceptor, wrote on Medieval Arab literature. Lectures of Fr. Sandor Jaki are praised in both Princeton and Seton Hall.

Dr. Károly Kerényi has a series of scholarly lectures honored by the Bollingen Foundation. His volume on Asklepios delves into the archetypal image of the physicians' existence in Athens of old. Prof. Béla Királyfalvi has a treatise on the aesthetics of philosopher György Lukács.

The late Eugene Pacsu trained a generation of chemists. George Pólya wrote about scholarly methods on how one can become a good guesser with fair certainty.

A collection of five superbly illustrated volumes on the art of Michelangelo Buonarotti bears the name of Charles Tolnay. His monumental work of 2,142 pages is avidly sought by museums, university and public libraries.
Colonel MICHAEL KOVÁTS de Fabricy offered his services to Benjamin Franklin who represented American interests in Paris. At first appointed Drillmaster, then Commander of the Pulaski Legion, he covered General Washington’s flanks at several New Jersey battles, Egg Harbor and Ocean Island among them. He was known to be a strict disciplinarian, who demanded that his men issue receipts for requisitioned animals and foodstuffs in order that the farmers may be reimbursed later. A brave cavalry officer, he died in battle defending the port city of Charleston, South Carolina.

2,200 cadets in Revolutionary War gala uniform parade every Friday afternoon on Colonel Kováts Parade Ground, of Citadel Military Academy, Charleston, South Carolina, known as “The West Point of the South.”

Cannon booms, a rocket’s red glare swooshes toward the ocean, Old Glory flies to the top of the flagpole and a 100-piece military band strikes up the Rákóczi March... (How many New Jerseyites on their way to or from Florida have missed this heart-warming spectacle!)

Kováts fell mortally wounded where this prestigious institution was later built. American Hungarians presented his bronze relief, a masterpiece by sculptor Alexander Finta. General Mark Clark, in accepting the memorial during a review, stated that American eyes will always be on the people living within the Carpathian Basin.
LOUIS KOSSUTH’S LETTER to Plainfield, New Jersey — His sister, Mrs. Louise Kossuth Rutkay, resided in Plainfield for a period and from Turin, Italy, Kossuth wrote this letter on June 22, 1880. This and other Kossuth letters are in the archival collection of the American Hungarian Foundation, 177 Somerset Street, New Brunswick, New Jersey.
Puskás’ relationship with the “Wizard of Menlo Park” must have been a close one, for he addressed the great inventor as “My dear Edison.” In this letter from Paris, dated October 28, 1878, Puskás notifies Edison that he was awarded the gold medal at the International Exposition, which Puskás as his representative for all Europe, is sending by express.
THE BEACON THAT BECKONED TO 23 MILLION HUMANS

For 90 years this colossal Lady of bronze turns her back to the shore closest to her, to New Jersey, where so many whom she lured across the frantic Atlantic found haven. As “Mother of Exiles,” she saw over 23,000,000 “tempest tossed, huddled masses” of humanity reach shore either at Castle Garden or Ellis Island.

This symbol of liberty, rising some 333 feet above New Jersey waters, tells more to an Hungarian than to most others. For its creator, Frederic Auguste Bartholdi was an ardent promoter of revision of a dictated peace treaty. He fought as a soldier in the defence of his birthplace in Alsace. He wished to draw attention to its loss, hoping that with the help of the United States the injustices could be remedied.

Sculptor Bartholdi contacted Gustave Eiffel, of Paris tower fame (who also built the Margit Bridge in Budapest), to make engineering calculations for a colossal monument. The French people raised $250,000 in order that an enormous torch could be presented to America as a reminder, for without French help the British would have won in 1779. When the Liberty Statue arrived, Fort Wood on Bedloe’s Island, which was selected for its site, was found to be inadequate to support the 225 tons of weight.

Liberty Statue would have been placed on ground level, devoid of impressiveness, were it not for an immigrant from Hungary, Joseph Pulitzer who collected hundreds of thousands of dollars for its granite foundation. It was also his crusading daily paper, “The World” which collected sufficient funds to have the torch permanently illuminated. President Wilson personally turned on this eternal light before Christmas, 1916. Just as it was he who proclaimed each nation’s right for self-determination — a noble principle so cruelly circumvented since then that there are more civilized people now under foreign domination than ever before.

The Immigration Museum recently installed in the base of the Statue of Liberty gives full credit to Pulitzer’s efforts. It also exhibits a life-size couple of Magyar immigrants, whose sack-cloth garments could hardly be considered typical. But prominently displayed “Házi áldás” with its message in the native vernacular will touch any Magyar’s heart who visits this American shrine, whose beacon was magnet for millions who were seeking new opportunities.
The largest single employer in the New Brunswick area, JOHNSON & JOHNSON, provided the first opportunity of livelihood for a great number of newcomers from Hungary. It is said that General Johnson was personally acquainted with many of them. This group photo is a rare one from the firm's archives.

MACK TRUCKS, known the world over for their dependability, have also produced FWD four-wheel-drive heavy duty military vehicles. Workmen, Hungarians among them, are seen here in the old New Brunswick plant's assembly room.
STEAMSHIPS crossed the frantic Atlantic before the advent of the airplane and brave were the souls who dared the bouncy waves for a week or more before touching ground in the Old World en route to visit relatives. Taking a group picture before sailing, therefore, was a must between the two world wars, as this candid photo showing 30 New Jerseyites attests.

A STREET PARADE, with the ladies in all their finery and the men in bowler hats or homburgs— all wearing cockades and sashes to fit the occasion. The candid shot was taken by one Adams, 7 Meeker Avenue, New Brunswick. It must have been March 15th, but what year — who knows?
Versatile conductor Stephen Bendes with his Franklin, N.J. Hungarian miners' band. Between the years 1918 and 1935 the indefatigable Bendes organized similar brass bands in the Magyar Communities of Boundhaven, Passaic and Perth Amboy as well.

In almost all churches Summer Schools have been (and in some still are) conducted teaching for 2-4 weeks Hungarian language, history, folk songs and of course, bible stories. This picture shows participants of the Summer School of the Hungarian Reformed Church of Carteret in 1919.
MAGYAR-MADE CABLES CRADLE WORLD'S MIGHTIEST SPANS

Not one of those tens of thousands who were left lifeless on the battlefield of Mohacs in 1526, could have dreamed that their later kin would have anything to do with spanning the New York Narrows, by then already discovered by Giovanni da Ver-razano. Yet ever since Augustus Roebling joined Brooklyn with Manhattan in 1869, his suspension system proved not only graceful but practical — relying on wires made in New Jersey.

Immigrants, an untold number from historic Hungary among them, manned the hot furnaces and drawing machines in Roebling and Trenton. Their handiwork now adorns the widest rivers or bays from Portugal to Japan. In the United States alone two dozen of our longest bridges are suspended on Jersey-made cables, whether they be the Triboro or Whitestone, the rare twin-span of the Delaware estuary, or Philadelphia's Benjamin Franklin, or Walt Whitman.

Some of these, like the Verrazano, are suspended on no less than 143,000 miles of Roebling-designed cables.

When your auto crosses any of these modern marvels that link distant shores, have a thought for those who helped make the dream of a Roebling or designer Ammann a reality. For their vision must have been higher than the steel towers which rise 700 feet above the watertable.
Winner of the coveted Coffin Award and two more distinctions for achievements in electrical engineering, ALBERT BELA ALAXAY of Avenel, N.J., invented several life-saving devices for the U.S. Navy during World War II. Among them was a trace-eliminator, successfully used by submarines against detection by enemy planes. Today this is known as "Disposall" kitchen sink food-waste grinder, which the late inventor demonstrates above. "Formex" cables withstanding extreme temperatures are another of Alexay's devices. Other of his inventions are silent, economical refrigerators and air-conditioners; automatic machinery for manufacture of light bulbs, used by General Electric, Westinghouse and other nationally known brands.
RED CROSS AMBULANCES were donated by a number of Hungarian organizations throughout New Jersey. The Dodge ambulance shown above is one of the two which were provided for “our boys” by the Reformed Church of New Brunswick.

THE FIRST RCA COMPUTER was born at Princeton. John Rajchman, chief of the experimental laboratories there, praised the Rev. László Hunyady, who was engaged in assembling the 10,000 minute parts of the epoch-making instrument, for his role in building this pilot project on which now an industry is founded. Sharp eyesight, steady hands and the patience of a Job was necessary to arrange the intricate assembly. Several wires, with thickness of a mere fraction of the human hair had to be threaded through the small rings, requiring over 50,000 delicate operations.
At a dedication ceremony held at Camp Kilmer for the unveiling of a memorial stone in remembrance of the Hungarian Freedom Fight of 1956, were Father Luke Mairajoldy, Mrs. Peter Kara, Mrs. Frank Suto, Father Basil Vegvari, and Major General James D. Alger, Commanding General, 11th C.S. Army Corps, who accepted the plaque on behalf of Camp Kilmer. Some 32,000 Hungarian refugees were given shelter at the post in 1956-1957.

Folk dancers of the Hungarian Scouts in New Brunswick, who won well deserved acclaim outside of New Jersey as well, including Washington, D.C. Our photo shows them in festive “Pálső” costumes of Northern Hungary, which they have themselves sewn and embroidered.
The year was 1908 when a few venturesome pioneering Catholics, motivated by their deep faith, decided that the most notable achievement would be the erection of a church where they could gather together to worship the Lord in their own way, in their own language. The enthusiasm displayed by this courageous little group attracted the attention of Father Ladislau Perenyi, pastor of the Perth Amboy Church. Under his guidance and with his assistance this dream was destined to become reality. However, not until October, 1914 did the first significant phase of this development begin to take shape when the Rev. John Szabo received his appointment to the pastorate.
of this church. Immediately the Hungarian Catholics of Carteret proceeded with the formalities to establish a parish. Having attained that status, they were privileged to hear Mass on Sundays as a separate unit in the local Polish Church.

Soon they had their own church, a small frame structure, and right beside it a rectory, too. Father Szabo continued to fulfill his apostolic duties for six years. After two years while Fr. Stephen Csaktornyai ministered to the Carteret people, the Rev. Rudolph Hudecz was appointed pastor. His three years of pastorate had its tragic event — the little church was completely destroyed by fire — and its encouraging ones: the start of a building program for a new church and for St. James Hall. His successor, the Rev. Joseph Szabo, put the building program into operation and completed it, too. The pastorate of the Rev. Ladislaus Csanyi was a period of expansion. The Hall was enlarged and equipped with modern utilities. His was also a period of spiritual growth. To the only existing parish organization, the Holy Rosary Society (1915), four others were added: the Catholic Men’s Club, St. James Club for the youth (1928), the Mothers’ Club (1932), and St. Elizabeth Girls’ Club (1933).

Father Csanyi was succeeded by the Rev. Julius Kish. After his short stay the Franciscan Fathers were entrusted with the care of the parish and Father Mark A. Hajos, O.F.M., was named pastor. Under his leadership debts were paid, the grounds landscaped, and an organ was installed. More significant than these material improvements was the coming of the Daughters of Divine Charity to assist in the training and education of the young. Among the organizations the Catholic Men’s Club became the Holy Name Society and the St. Elizabeth Girls’ Club the Sodality of Mary. Other new organizations: the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, St. Cecilia Choir, Boy Scout Troop, and the Society for the Propagation of the Faith.

Upon the departure of Fr. Hajos in the fall of 1946 and after half a year of interim service of Fr. Desiderius Velle and Fr. Gaudens Gergely, the Rev. Dr. Anthony Huber was named pastor. Fr. Huber was a very able administrator but an even more outstanding spiritual leader. He spent over 17 years in Carteret.

Succeeded by the Rev. John F. Chonko, in 1964, St. Elizabeth Parish gained both a new leader and a friend. St. James Hall was rebuilt and redecorated not only with the parishioners’
money but also with their and their Pastor’s labor. The most recent monument to the vitality of this parish and its leadership is the full remodeling of the church — inside and out — at a total cost of $150,000 in 1975.

R. C. CHURCH
OF ASSUMPTION
112 Maple Avenue
Irvington, N.J.

This congregation was founded in 1907 in Newark. The Rev. Ladislaus Fényes was its first pastor. The religious services were held in St. Mary’s Church on High Street. In the marriage register we find the notation: “Curam communitatis suscepi 15 aug. 1908. Rev Carolus Boehm.” (I assumed the care of this congregation.) Father, or later Monsignor Charles Boehm was the first priest who came to America to take care of the Hungarian immigrants. Newark was however not his first assignment. He founded here various parish societies. After the Rev. Victor Kubinyi and the Rev. Paul Bognár, the Rev. Francis Sasváry became pastor in 1913. In 1916 he bought a church on Belmont Avenue for the congregation with an adjacent rectory and, under it, a parish hall. They held meetings, dances and dinners there serving home made sausage, “hurka” and other Hungarian specialities, all prepared by the undefatigable ladies of the parish societies. Under the next pastors, the Rev. Ákos Sittó and the Rev. Dr. Stephen Ditelján, the congregation had a “dalárda” (choir) with no less than seventy members. After Father Ditelján’s death, in 1945 Father Richard Molnár became the pastor and from 1951 Father Benignus of the Benedictine Fathers. Though the congregation lost its church and was obliged to relocate back to St. Mary’s, Father Benignus did his best to keep it alive, organizing church affairs, outings, pilgrimages, etc.

After the 1956 uprising in Hungary, the present Pastor, Dr. George Pogány was put in charge. In 1960 he bought a hall on Bloomfield Avenue, which for the next ten years was a known meeting place among Hungarians. After the 1967 riot in Newark, Father Pogány, with the generous help of the parishioners, bought a suitable house in Irvington, and transformed the first floor into a church. Archbishop Boland came to bless it in 1969. The second floor serves as rectory and there is also a meeting hall under the church. Next to the church is the parking lot. In the opinion of the neighbors who are all very friendly, this church of ours is a “warm and cosy place.”
After having completed their studies three Basilian students who left Hungary during the last months of 1956, received the sacrament of Holy Orders and journeyed to the United States and Canada to serve in various parishes. Yet their goal was a permanent home and a monastic community. Faith, prayer and zeal combined led to the purchase of a 125-year-old farmhouse in Matawan, New Jersey. In March, 1964, Fr. Basil M. Rakaczky arrived in Matawan to assume the dual role of first Superior and first inhabitant of the new monastery. Soon two brothers joined him in Matawan while Fr. Stephen Skinta and Fr. Joseph Erdei continued their parish work and their efforts providing for the material welfare of the monastic community.

The building program in Matawan was gradual but consistent. Two rooms of the old farmhouse were transformed into the first Chapel. In 1965 the monastery received a new Chapel: this time the former barn and machine shop was converted for this sacred use.

In 1966 Fr. Stephen Skinta, who originally purchased the property, was named Superior. The Basilian Boys’ Camp was started in the summer, and in September the outdoor Shrine Altar was erected in a beautiful cove of the wooded area on the property. It was at this Shrine Altar that an annual pilgrimage had been started under the guidance and protection of the local Hierarch, Bishop Michael J. Dudick.

In 1968, at the annual Pilgrimage, Bishop Dudick blessed the newly erected Stations of the Cross which wind their way through the verdant land around the Shrine Altar.

In January, 1969, Father Athanasius Welekyj, O.S.B.M., Superior General of the Basilian Order, conducted a visitation of the community of the Basilian Fathers of Mariapoch. A final step towards their community life was when in August, 1969, the Fathers were relieved of their parochial duties. The monastery in Matawan became their “home” in the fullest sense.
Fr. Joseph J. Erdei became the new Superior in 1971. After much deliberation and discussion with neighboring parish priests Bishop Dudick approved the plans to build a community center on the monastery grounds. Construction began in 1972 and after much hard work and sacrifice Dedication Day of Assumption Center arrived: July 22, 1973. Thousands of people gathered on the monastery grounds for this occasion: Archbishop Kocisko, Bishops Dudick and Mihalik were present together with sixty priests and twenty-five sisters.

The Community of the Basilian Fathers was also honored by the visit of Cardinal Mindszenty during his stay in New Jersey.

The Basilian Fathers of Mariapócs have created a monastic community in Matawan which steadily attracts new men into the Novitiate of the Order and satisfies the spiritual needs of a great number of faithful pilgrims while rendering valuable community services as well.

It was a burning desire to worship God in their traditional and beloved Eastern Rite that lead the founders of St. Joseph’s Hungarian Byzantine Rite Catholic Church to establish their own parish in New Brunswick, N.J. These faithful were mainly immigrants who had settled here from the counties of Ung and Bereg in the Sub-Carpathia region of Hungary.
The parish was chartered in 1914 and the building of the church and the rectory was completed in 1916. Expenditures for the two buildings was $22,000. A small amount by modern day standards, but certainly a tremendous outlay for our people who in many instances landed on our shores with little else but the clothes on their backs.

Membership increased pronouncedly during the twenties as many more Magyars immigrated to this U.S.A. The depression years of the thirties bore a heavy burden upon the faithful, but inspired leadership and the hard work and sacrifices of the loyal members helped to eventually overcome the financial burdens of those lean years.

In 1927 when membership was at its height, the parish purchased ground in nearby Edison complete with a large farm house. After adding a dance hall and other service pavilions, it became a place of recreation and social events, not only for the parish but for many Magyar groups as well. The property was eventually sold in 1972 after the area had been completely encircled by a housing development.

A part of the inner-city dilemma, St. Joseph's finds itself no longer surrounded in great numbers of its members living within walking distance of the church but rather in the nearby suburban areas of Somerset, North Brunswick, Highland Park and Edison. And even though the peak years of the membership have passed, the parish looks with pride to the good Christian witness it has given to the greater New Brunswick area and to its own members as a parish unit.

As our country celebrates its Bicentennial and looks ahead with new hope and even greater promise to the century before us, we also look ahead with confidence and assurance that there is a valid place in the future history of our country for us as a people of God, deeply proud of our Magyar forebearers and grateful for the opportunity to be able to give further Christian witness through the means of our Byzantine Rite.

A Catholic church is, first of all a sacred place the purpose of which — as Father Congar says — is to compose man, collect his thoughts, calm his heart, inspire him with reverence and, at the same time, to invite him to go out beyond himself spiritually by opening to him the door of a world wider and higher than that of his ordinary life. A Catholic church is also a meeting place where Christians come together for the celebration of the Holy Eucharist and the proclamation of the Gospel. It is intimately connected with the Real Presence of Christ in the Blessed Sacrament. For these reasons, a Catholic church is a glorious place where art, architecture, furnishing all convey the feeling of God’s Kingdom. As such, to the human heart a Catholic church gives the feeling of welcome, yet it invites the one who enters to something other than the earthly and the profane.

In virtue of these principles, by vision and the energy of the Rev. John N. Szenczey, St. Ladislaus Church has been built in 1904 for the Hungarian Catholic immigrants in the city of New Brunswick. The Hungarians of the hub city have always loved their church and even those who were negligent in practicing their religion have been proud of it. In New Brunswick St. Ladislaus is known as “the pretty church of the Hungarians.” In an editorial on October 2, 1973, the New York Daily News characterized it as “glamorous and glorious,” and upon the death of Cardinal Mindszenty it was acclaimed as the Cardinal’s “cathedral in exile.”
Year-books, financial statements and official records of the years past speak of the continuous artistic and liturgical improvements of the church by all pastors. The greatest improvements on St. Ladislaus were done for its golden jubilee in 1954, and during 1972-1973 when the Rev. Asztrik Kákonyi of Hungary redesigned it according to the liturgical norms of Vatican II. The renovated church was dedicated by Cardinal Mindszenty on September 30, 1973. But the church has always been “the apple of the eyes” for all the priests who served at St. Ladislaus. The saintly founder, Fr. N. John Szenczezy (1904-1920) was followed by the Rev. Charles Radóczy (1920-1923). Since 1924 the church has been in the spiritual care of the Hungarian Franciscans: Fr. Eusebius Kalmár (1924-1928), Fr. Ladislaus Lomboş (1928-1931), Fr. Stanislaus Bende (1931-1932), Fr. Mark Hajós (1933-1937), Fr. Salesius Kiss (1937-1941), Fr. Capistran Bódy (1941-1957), Fr. George Borsy (1957-1973) and Fr. Julian Füzér (since 1973), assisted by Fr. Máté Kiss.

Next to the church, the joy and pride of the Hungarian Catholics in New Brunswick is St. Ladislaus School. It was built by Fr. Szenczezy in 1914 and enlarged into the present structure by Fr. Kalmár in 1926. It is the only parochial elementary school in the free world in which Hungarian is daily taught as part of the curriculum.

ST. STEPHEN R. C.
MAGYAR CHURCH
223 Third Street
Passaic, N.J.

At about the turn of the century, the plan for a new parish was born in the minds of the Hungarian community in and around the city of Passaic. By the year 1902, the foundation of the church community had begun and progressed to the point that on December 25, 1902, the Sacrament of Baptism was celebrated for the first time. On January 18, 1903, the first wedding within the parish was celebrated, and the first rite of Christian Burial had taken place on December 24, 1902. On March 21, 1903, St. Stephen’s R. C. Magyar Church was officially incorporated under the auspices of the Diocese of Newark.

This having been accomplished, the laying of the Church building’s cornerstone took place on June 21, 1903 and the Church building was consecrated on August 21, 1904 before which on
May 22nd of that same year the first Holy Mass had been celebrated on the feast of Pentecost.

During the years 1947-48 the interior of the church underwent a redecoration and again in the year 1953; the latter taking place because of a serious fire occurring during the summer of that year which destroyed most of the interior of the building. In 1968, a new roof was added after which in the year 1973, the church was totally redecorated with a total reworking of the church's pipe organ by its builder.

In connection with the Church's jubilee, Jozsef Cardinal Mindszenty visited the Parish on Sunday, May 19, 1974 for the day during which he was principal celebrant at a concelebrated High Pontifical Mass with 575 of the faithful of the community.

The building complex of the parish went forward during the same time in a similar pattern of growth. In the year 1937, the original St. Stephen School building and auditorium complex was completed, the auditorium having been blessed on March 15, 1937 on the Anniversary of Hungarian Independence; the School being dedicated on September 19, 1937. The Daughters of Divine Charity (FDC), took up residence at St. Stephen's in 1934, staffing the religious education program of the parish. A new convent for the Sisters was acquired in 1941 at 217 Third St.

St. Stephen's School opened its doors as a regular grammar school in September, 1946 with 30 students. An additional building at 211 Third St. was purchased in 1952 for additional classroom space inasmuch as the school's enrollment had reached 300 students. In November of 1950, work on a new Rectory was completed at 223 Third Street. In June 1952, the schoolyard was expanded by the acquisition of additional property after which, for the school year beginning September, 1952, the school opened with a full complement of eight grades in operation.

By 1965-66, at which time the school's enrollment had expanded to 330 students, it was decided that the school complex needed modernization and expansion. The new addition to the school was built and a complete remodeling and modernization of the original building was completed during 1966-67.

With the steady loss of vocations, the Daughters of Divine Charity found it necessary to leave St. Stephen's with the end of the 1972-73 school year. With an all lay faculty and administration the school continued until with rising costs and a dropping enrollment, a problem plaguing many parish schools in recent years, the burden of keeping the school became impossible. In an
effort to maintain the viability of Catholic education in the Passaic area, St. Stephen's consolidated its system with four other Passaic parishes so that in 1874, the Passaic Catholic Regional School was initiated with its primary division at St. Stephen's.


Parish Societies: Holy Name Society -- established in 1938 (Rev. John Gaspar); St. Stephen's Rosary and Alter Societies; The Third Order of St. Francis; Parish Council is presently being organized.

CHURCH OF OUR LADY OF HUNGARY
697 Gorlandt Street, Perth Amboy, N.J.

The fruition of dreams is what has made America great. It has enticed many to leave their homelands for "the land of the free and the home of the brave."

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Thus at the turn of the century, with various difficulties besieging the peoples of Central Europe, many Hungarians emigrated to the United States to build their dreams and seek financial security. A large group settled in Perth Amboy, New Jersey in what became known as the Budapest section.

These God-fearing people missed having a Spiritual Father who would take care of their spiritual needs. So the community decided to send a delegation to Bishop James A. McFaul of the Trenton Diocese to petition him to send them a priest who could preach to them in their native language. Thus it came about that Father Radoczy was sent to Perth Amboy in 1902 to establish a parish for the Hungarian people. Services were first held in a rented hall. In August of 1903 a wooden church was completed and blessed bearing the title: Holy Cross Church.

In 1906 Fr. Louis Kovacs built a rectory. The following year Fr. Ladislaus Perenyi founded Holy Cross Cemetery in Hopelawn. In 1908 Fr. Francis Gross was made pastor and he changed the name of the parish and cemetery to Our Lady Of Hungary. On November 5, 1910 the church was destroyed by fire.

The last flicks of fire were hardly extinguished when the parishioners, animated by the lively spirit of Fr. Gross, visualized a new and larger church built of brick and mortar. This dream was realized and the new church was blessed on the second Sunday of October 1912.

Fr. Gross realized the importance of Catholic education. Hence he asked the superior of the Daughters of Divine Charity to send some of her nuns to America from Hungary. On February 13, 1914 Sr. M. Hyacinth and Sr. M. Margaret arrived in Perth Amboy and established their first community in America. On September 8, 1915 they conducted their first regular day of school, using the basement of the church and some private homes. They later opened an annex on Smith and Dorsey Street and in Hopelawn, and not long afterwards moved to larger quarters on Convery and Smith Street.

More nuns arrived from Hungary and a convent was built in 1919 next to the Church. The following year a parish school with four classrooms was built at the foot of Cortland Street. At its peak the nuns taught over 700 children each day. In 1930 the country came upon hard times and the parish was divided. Hence Fr. Lawrence Horvath sold the school on Convery Blvd. to the State of New Jersey.
On October 8, 1949 the dream of Fr. Lawrence Horvath to have his parish free from debt was realized. In the meantime he had the church and the school redecorated. In December of 1957 the Rev. Stephen G. Horvath was appointed Pastor. He was the first American born pastor of Hungarian descent. Under his energetic guidance the parish continued to flourish.

The Church was completely refurbished; the cemetery was put into order; the new rectory was built in 1960 and ground was broken for a new modern school with eight classrooms, a kindergarten, cafeteria and gymnasium. On June 27, 1965 the school and Cardinal Mindszenty Hall was blessed by Bishop George W. Ahr.

In July of 1975 Fr. Stephen Horvath’s dream of burning the bank mortgage was realized. There is only one more dream to fulfill – and that too will come about through the continued sacrifices of the people of Our Lady of Hungary Parish – and that is to pay the remaining debt of $150,000 to the diocese of Trenton.

**ST. MICHAEL’S CATHOLIC CHURCH**

_(Hungarian Byzantine Rite)_

40 Hall Avenue
Perth Amboy, N.J.

The parish history goes back to October 25, 1912, when a group of Hungarian Byzantine Catholics, members of St. John the Baptist Greek Cat. Church, was granted a building fund collection for establishing a new parish. On Dec. 19, 1913 the Rev. Victor Kovaliczky celebrated the first Hungarian Byzantine Rite Liturgy in Our Lady of Hungary Latin Rite church. Under his leadership the parishioners purchased the old Danis building near Hall and Amboy Avenues and converted it into a church. Fr. Kovaliczky as pastor, served the parish for 18 years. Ground for St. Michael’s church was acquired in May, 1914. In the same month the parish charter was approved. Bishop Ortinsky solemnly dedicated the first church of St. Michael’s parish on Sept. 6, 1915. A frame house obtained in 1914 as a home for the pastor, was replaced by a larger rectory in 1916. Five acres of land were purchased for a parish cemetery and it was blessed May 30, 1917.

The second pastor of the Parish became the Rev. Nicholas Szabo, in 1932. He begun the construction of a larger new church
in 1936 and it was blessed by the Most Rev. Bishop Takach on May 30, 1937. Also the purchase of a home was approved for the use of convent. Under Father Szabo's administration up to December 1946, the church membership grew with Hungarian Americans of the Byzantine Rite joining from Woodbridge, Metuchen, South Amboy and Staten Island.

In Dec, 1946, the Rev. Albert Gajdos was appointed the third pastor of St. Michael's parish. Realizing the need for a permanent school, Fr. Gajdos undertook the project of constructing a new school and auditorium. The school was completed at a cost of over $350,000. The Most Rev. Nicholas Elko dedicated the building on July 3, 1955. The educational program of the parish was put under the direction of the Daughters of Divine Charity, who have served in the school since. Eight classrooms were furnished by 1956. School opened for classes in Nov., 1956. After the completion of the school, Fr. Gajdos realized the need for a new Rectory. Ground was broken on May 15, 1960 and the Rectory was blessed on July 16, 1962 by Bishop Nicholas T. Elko.

The Golden Jubilee of the parish was marked by another remodeling and renovation project at the church: repainting of the church, the installation of new flooring, and woodwork, and the installation of new pews. In recognition, Fr. Gajdos was made Diocesan Consultant in 1963. He was also honored by Pope Paul VI in being elevated to the rank of Domestic Prelate in October 1956. In 1972, Msgr. was appointed by Bishop Dudick Dean of the Central Jersey Deanery.

Msgr. Gajdos also initiated plans to construct a new convent for the Sisters of the Parish. It was dedicated and blessed by Bishop Michael Dudick on November 17, 1968. Msgr. died suddenly December 31, 1973. The Pontifical Requiem Liturgy was celebrated Friday, January 4, 1974 at St. Michael's Church. Internment took place in the parish cemetery.

The Rev. Fr. Stephen J. Skinta, O.S.B.M. followed Msgr. Gajdos as temporary Administrator of St. Michael’s parish until Feb., 1974, when the Rev. Fr. Basil M. Rakaczky, O.S.B.M. was appointed as the fourth pastor of St. Michael’s Parish. He continues his predecessors’ work.
Holy Assumption Parish was organized in 1913 by a few Hungarian immigrants who settled in the little town of Roebling and envisioned a beautiful church of their own, praising and singing to God in their own native tongue. Their church was built nine years later, in 1922, and was blessed by Father Francis Grosz, their new Pastor.

Their ambitions did not stop there. The next step was to have their own Catholic School, which had its beginnings the following year in the basement of the church. It was staffed by a Hungarian Order of Sisters — the Daughters of Divine Charity.

In 1939, the Franciscan Friars of the Custody of St. John Capistran from Hungary were assigned to Holy Assumption Parish.

Holy Assumption Parish was destined to grow. In 1940, it was made into a territorial Parish, including other ethnic groups along with the original Hungarian pioneers. A convent was built for the Sisters and the Rectory was enlarged and converted into a Friary. A large plot of ground bordering the Friary was purchased under the direction of Father Tarcisius Gerencsér, OFM., and part of it was made into a Cemetery.

As the congregation grew, it became evident that the church would need expanding, and so under the direction of Father Capistran Petrie, OFM., the church was enlarged and remodeled. The large enrollment meant that more classrooms were needed, and in 1958, the new Holy Assumption School and Cafetorium
buildings were erected under the direction of Father Julian Fuzer, OFM. At the present time, our Cemetery is being enlarged and beautified.

Today, Holy Assumption is a flourishing Parish, the largest in the Community of Florence Township, with a membership of approximately 1,900. The school has an enrollment of over 300 students. We have a very active P.T.A., Holy Name Society, Sodality and Altar-Rosary Society. The Catering Committee is very well known for its dinners and excellent service. Our parishioners are very proud of their church and school.

Holy Assumption is still staffed by Hungarian Priests, Brothers and teaching Sisters. A few of the original members are still a part of the Parish. One of the several Sunday Masses includes the reading of the Gospel in Hungarian, a Hungarian sermon and singing by a Hungarian Choir.

While we are proud of our ethnic origin, we love this beautiful country, our home, and are working together to make it prosper and grow.

Father Eugene A. Lenner, O.F.M. is the present Pastor, Father Augustine Juhasz, O.F.M. is Associate Pastor.

On December 26, 1905 in the historic town of South River, a group of Hungarians gathered in the home of Imre Sule and decided that the time had come to organize their own parish and to build their own church.
The first Mass for the Hungarian Catholics in South River was held on December 5, 1906 at St. Mary's Church under their new pastor Father von Kubinyi. The parish awarded a contract to erect a frame church building to Charles Eppinger. On April 1, 1907, the church of St. Stephen Protomartyr was completed and dedicated.

Money was raised to equip the church and the rectory with furnishings. On September 10, 1907 two brass bells were cast by Ignatius Gabai, a parishioner.

Disaster struck when, on February 16, 1921, the church was destroyed by fire. The congregation did not falter and instead planned to replace the old church with a larger and more beautiful building.

Father Alexander Bor came to St. Stephen's in 1939. During his administration all debts were paid and the parish flourished. Father Bor will long be remembered for his work and sacrifice. His death on February 4, 1949 saddened not only his own parish but all of South River.

The present pastor, Father Albert P. Poor celebrated his 25th Anniversary as pastor of St. Stephen's on June 23, 1975. He has been administrative head and spiritual advisor for more than one third of St. Stephen's history. He is responsible for its achievements and is credited for making the parish function successfully during many periods of economic crises. Despite the fact that there was no parochial school he established a religious educational program by hiring professional lay teachers.

The parish is now financially secure because the cooperation of its 300 families.

During this Bicentennial celebration the church of St. Stephen's honors its founders, the dedicated Hungarians and shares with all Hungarian Americans a pride in its heritage and a love and appreciation of this great nation.

OUR LADY OF MT. CARMEL
CHURCH
267 Smith Street
Woodbridge, N.J.

The Church of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Woodbridge, stands today in a green and shady park-ground which about 50 years ago was swamp land.
The church properties include the beautiful new church, erected in 1960, the school, remodeled from the original old church in 1961, the Parish Hall, rectory and convent.

The late Bishop Thomas Walsh gave the permission to the original small group of Hungarian families to organize their own parish, which was incorporated on April 26, 1921.

The names of John Csoma, Stephen Ruszkai, and Michael Bartus are mentioned in the parish history as the original collectors for the first building fund of $7,443.32.

The first Mass was celebrated on the first Sunday of August 1921.


The Rev. Vincent S. Lenyi was appointed pastor by Bishop Moses E. Kiley in 1934 and he found a debt of $24,800, the parish hall in poor condition, no rectory, school or convent. He encouraged the 220 families of the parish to make progress. In 1935 they remodeled the parish hall, in 1937 a rectory was built, most of the work done by parishioners. Bishop William A. Griffin gave permission to start with a new church building fund collection and the Ed. Flynn building was purchased for a Convent of the Daughters of Divine Charity. Bishop George W. Ahr gave permission to construct the new church in Feb., 1957. Edward McCarthy was the architect. Dedication took place on June 25, 1960. Expenses were well over $350,000.

Fr. Lenyi resigned for health reasons in July, 1964, after 30 years of pastorate. He died April 4, 1966. Fr. Thomas Kazmer was temporary administrator until the present pastor, the Rev. Michael M. Vincze, was installed by the Rt. Rev. Charles McCorristin, Aug. 27, 1964.

During his pastorate many improvements took place in the buildings and on the property. Unfortunately the school is closed
since 1970 because of the withdrawal of the teaching Sisters. But the Hungarian Catholics experienced many hardships during their history. The changes of Vatican II. and the encouragements of Cardinal Jozsef Mindszenty in May 1974 here in the parish, will strengthen them to continue to live and flourish for the following centuries in the United States of America.

St. Nicholas Hungarian Catholic Church of the Byzantine Rite, also known as the St. Nicholas Greek Catholic Magyar Church, is the smallest of the Hungarian churches in the City of Trenton. Originally, all the Greek Catholic Hungarians were members of the St. Mary's of the Assumption Parish (Byzantine Rite) which used the Old Slavonic language for all its liturgical services. Because of this language problem, the Hungarian members wanted to have their own Hungarian Parish and so with the blessings of the Church Hierarchy, this small group of some 121 persons, filled with hope and enthusiasm and backed up morally and even financially by the local Poci St. Mary's Hungarian Greek Catholic Sick Benefit and Church Society, on September 10, 1916 pledged themselves to become a new and separate entity in the family of God's Churches.

In 1917, the church building and the surrounding property of the St. John German Evangelical Parish was purchased and dedicated to the Patronage of St. Nicholas of Myra. On the 10th of September 1917, the corporation Charter was granted and
finally the Very Reverend Balog Mihaly, V.F., with the necessary
delegation from the Apostolic Administrator, the Rt. Reverend
Peter Poniatisin, solemnly blessed the Church edifice. For the
first year, the Parish was only a mission parish and received its
spiritual care from the priests in the neighboring Parishes i.e. the
Rev. Victor Kovaliczky, the Rev. Joseph Kovalcsik, the Rev. Alexis
Medveczky, the Rev. George Hritz and the Rev. Eugene Volkay.
The following priests served as resident pastors: the Rev. Gabriel
Csopey, the Rev. John Lukacs, the Rev. Louis Artim, and the Rev.
Victor Kovaliczky.

In 1918, the parishioners bought a home on 968 So. Broad
Street to serve as a rectory for its pastors. In 1919 they purchased
several acres of land for their parish cemetery and in 1924 ground
was purchased in the rear of the church building with the hopes
that some day a Parish Center would be built upon it. This partic-
cular dream became a reality in 1930.

In 1924, the Rev. Joseph J. Mackov was appointed as pastor
to St. Nicholas and he remained in this capacity until 1972 when
he retired. Father Mackov was then succeeded by the Rev. Peter
Kerenyi and the Rev. Alexander Bacinsky who died August 8,
1974 after having served for only a period of nine months. Since
then, the parish is being served and administered by the Rev.
Msgr. John A. Stim, V.F., V.E., who is also the pastor of St. Mary's
of the Assumption Greek Catholic Church, Trenton, N.J.

The first parish committee consisted of Baltovics Istvan, Toth
Janos, Lipcsei Miklos, Molnar Mihaly, Gombos Istvan, Lukacs
Ede, Vanczak Mihaly, Rinyu Gyorgy, Dudas Laszlo, Szantai Mi-
haly, Sarkadi Jozsef, Duvin Joseph, Krivacs Laszlo, Cilly Imre,
Lengyel Gyorgy, Kozma Andras, Horanszky Mihaly, Bagle Janos,
Csoba Jozsef, Szucs Laszlone, Hutka Mariaska, T. Toth Janosne,
Borecsky Anna, and id. Anderko Janos.

Presently, Stephen Lekka and Alex Fribek are the lay members
on the church Board of Trustees.
Before 1903 the Rev. Gábor Dókus, Sr. from South Norwalk, Conn., occasionally visited Carteret to hold Hungarian Reformed worship services and to administer the sacraments. On September 10, 1903 a congregation was organized at a meeting moderated by the Rev. Zoltán Kuthy from New York. The first Board of Elders and officers included Stephen M. Kovacs, chief elder, John Bartok, vice-chief elder, Stephen Kazup, secretary, Stephen Fabian, Louis Kaposi, Stephen Pasztor, Louis Czerna, Frank Szopo, elders, and Charles Gyorgy, John Szopo, Balázs Fazekas, Frank Magyar, collectors. A call was issued to the Rev. Sándor Vajó, assistant minister in Nagyvárad, to become pastor. The church became affiliated with the Danubian Church District of the Reformed Church in Hungary in matters concerning both “doctrine of faith and church government.”

Pastor Vajó left for Trenton, N.J. in 1906; the Rev. Alexander Fazakas became the new pastor. He served until 1909 when he left Carteret in the course of an exchange of pastoral charges with the Rev. Stephen Csepke. July 4, 1907 was the date of
the laying of the cornerstone of the church edifice; it was dedicated a year later, July 4, 1908. Total cost of the building was $4,700, and that of the first church bell, in 1910, $137. Furnishings in the new church were bought gradually: pulpit in 1914, pews in 1916, balcony in 1917. In 1918 a new 845 lb. bell was installed. The old bell was given to the local Fire Department. Monthly church “dues” were set $1 per family.

In 1919 the present parsonage was built at a cost of $8,000. Since the Fall of this year the pastor, who up to that date lived in Woodbridge, had been residing in Carteret. On August 17, 1919 the association between the Carteret and Woodbridge churches was terminated. In the post-war nation-wide discussion concerning denominational affiliation of Hungarian Reformed churches in the USA, the Carteret church chose to become independent, that is unaffiliated with any other denomination. On December 9, 1924 the Carteret church participated at the Organizing and Constitutional Assembly of the Free Magyar Reformed Church in America, thus becoming one of the charter members of this new, independent, Hungarian Reformed denomination. It has been affiliated with this denomination, now called the Hungarian Reformed Church in America, ever since. Since 1966 it has been the seat of the Dean of its Eastern Classis.

Pastor Csepke was succeeded in 1923 by the Rev. Charles Vincze, and he in turn by the Rev. Sándor Hegyi in 1929; the Rev. Sándor Daróczy was pastor from 1935 to 1957. Major building improvements in this period were: brick steeple in 1927, stain-glass windows in 1941, and finally, in 1952, a Parish House, “Bethlen Hall,” a few blocks away from the church on Cooke Avenue, at a cost of $68,000.

Sunday School instruction was introduced in 1908, Summer School in 1909, English language worship service every Sunday in 1946. The Man’s Sick Benefit Society was founded in 1907, the Lorántffy Zsuzsanna Society in 1922, Boy Scout Troop in 1928, and a Junior Women’s Society in 1937 (reorganized in 1948). The first conference for Hungarian Reformed women in America was held in Carteret in 1928.

Major renovations of the church were undertaken in 1953 and in 1967, the latter at a cost of $45,000; of the parsonage in 1963 and 1971, and of Bethlen Hall in 1967-68. Much of the cost of all these buildings and renovations was borne by the various church organizations; the last donation of the Lorántffy Society to pay off a mortgage in 1974 exceeded $11,000. Labor
donated by members has also been of great value from digging the foundation of the church in 1907 to finishing the "Upper Room" in Bethlen Hall in the early sixties.

At the 70th anniversary, in 1973, a large number of former members came from near and far to worship with the congregation, among them former pastor Daróczy. The Carteret church, now about 400 members strong, practices open communion.


The Rev. Dr. Andrew Harsanyi has served as pastor since 1957; he has been Dean of the Eastern Classis since 1966.

In 1952 the Rev. Laszio Hunyadi, as a representative of the Hungarian Reformed Federation of America, visited the members of the Federation in Linden, New Jersey, and learned of their yearning for church services in their native tongue. He offered to hold a service for them. The Hungarian Round Table Charitable Association offered its hall, gratis, for the service, which was held on September 28, 1952. Eleven people attended this
service. After the service, it was resolved that the Rev. Hunyady should hold services every Sunday.

On December 7, 1952, it was resolved to establish and organize a church. The elected officers were: Marton Thoma, chief elder; Pal Biro, treasurer; Janos Egry, secretary; Janos Szollosi, Pal Jakab, Lajos Misley, and Janos Kenyhercz, elders; and Mrs. Laszlo Hunyady, organist.

On February 15, 1953, members of the consistory proposed to purchase a suitable house for a church at 1135 Clark Street, and they offered interest free loans to buy the property. The property was bought, and the Hungarian Reformed Federation gave a first mortgage loan.

The first service at the new location was held on Palm Sunday, 1953.

The plan for alteration was drawn by the Rev. Hunyady, and the alterations of the building began in April, 1953. All work was done gratis by members and friends of the congregation.

The Rt. Rev. Dr. Karoly Vincze donated a bell; Jozsef Gyure electrified and installed it; Mrs. Marton Thoma donated an electric organ, a silver holy communion service, and white brocade cloths for the Lord’s Table. The sister Hungarian Reformed churches offered a helping hand by giving permission to our members to visit and collect donations from their members.

The dedication service was held on September 27, 1953. The Rt. Rev. Dr. Karoly Vincze offered the prayer of dedication.

The present officers are: Laszlo Ruszkay, chief elder; Sandor Horvath, vice-chief elder; Ferenc Bodnar, treasurer; secretary is the pastor; Aladar Barcza, Gabor Incze, Mrs. Eva Kuchta, Istvan Mihaly, Bela Misley, and Mrs. Julia Nemeth, elders; and Miss Piroska Hunyady, organist. The Rev. Laszlo Hunyady continues to serve as pastor.

Services are held in Hungarian. In the Magyar Sunday School the pastor teaches all children to read and write in our Magyar tongue.

THE BAYARD STREET
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Bayard and Schuyler Streets
New Brunswick, New Jersey

Occasional services for Hungarian Reformed people in New Brunswick were held in the basement of the German Reformed Church as early as 1900. In 1903 the Hungarian community leader
Ferenc Nagy and Paul Hamborszky, a student pastor from Princeton arranged for bi-weekly services in the People’s Mission House. In 1904 a pastor was elected in the person of the Rev. Jozsef Kozma and the church was incorporated as a Hungarian Presbyterian Church. The Rev. Kozma left in 1905 taking some of the congregation to form a Reformed Church. The Rev. Paul Hamborszky now led the remaining Presbyterians who had been meeting in the chapel of the First Presbyterian Church. First Church helped the Hungarians in many ways to develop an independent congregational life; at times, however, there were differences, too, even a lawsuit concerning property rights.

The first Hungarian church in New Brunswick opened its doors on October 15, 1905 in a former school building on Hale Street. From here, in 1908, the congregation moved to the church previously occupied by Second Presbyterian (merged with First Church in 1907) on Hamilton Street and Easton Avenue, and, finally, in 1909 to its present location on Bayard and Schuyler. This church, originally belonging to the Methodists, burned out in 1908; the Hungarian congregation acquired the property and rebuilt it. The tablet on the church wall read: “Magyar Church 1909.”

After an attempted reunion in 1912 with the members who left in 1905 to establish a Reformed Church the separation became final in 1915; the Rev. Paul Hamborszky chose to go this time with the Reformed congregation.

Pastors of the church (the name was later changed to The Bayard Street Presbyterian Church) were the following: the Rev. F. B. Kovacs and the Rev. Laszlo Gerenday (1915), the Rev. Zsigmond Laky (1916-1926), the Rev. Charles Papp (1926-1942), the Rev. Louis Balint (1942-1957), the Rev. Joseph Rasky (1957-1970), the Rev. Joseph Bodnar (since 1971).

The oldest among the several organizations of the church is the Lorantfy Zsuzsanna Society started by the Rev. Laky and his wife in 1917. Another women’s group, called the Women’s Guild, for the American-born, English speaking generation was formed in 1951. English-language worship services began in 1937.

During the many years since 1909, the church building underwent several renovations, a Fellowship Hall was added, the old manse remodeled — to all these undertakings the church’s members contributed not only money but much of their talent and labor in the true sense of Christian stewardship.
The beginnings of the unorganized church life of the Hungarian Reformed people can be dated to the year 1900 when the Spirit of God first touched the heart of the Hungarian people of New Brunswick and they began to worship God in their native language. Finally, in 1903 with the help of the First Presbyterian Church, they organized themselves into a "Mission Church." The Rev. Geza Kaciany became the first Pastor of the congregation and was soon followed by the Rev. Paul Hamborszky.

In 1915 the congregation was reorganized and they built their present church edifice on the corner of Somerset and Division Streets. Dedication was on March 21, 1916. The ministry of the Rev. Hamborszky ended in 1922. He was followed by the Rev. Adam Schodle.

The great architect of the congregation has been the Rev. Andrew Kosa, D.D. whose service began in 1925 and ended in 1963. Under his 38 years of dedicated service, the church developed into one of the largest Hungarian Reformed Churches in America.

The present Pastor, the Rev. Imre Bertalan, succeeded him in 1963.

The story of the Magyar Reformed faith in the city of New Brunswick has been written by the dedicated life of Pastors, Elders and their people. We remember gratefully and with pardonable pride the contribution which our founding fathers made to the life of our community. Both, at the place of worship and at the place of employment, they gave a shining example of faithfulness, dependability and loyalty. Their love for God’s house, for
family and for work knew no wavering. Their example will cause us to go forward with new zeal to make notable contributions to the religious, cultural and civic life of our community. The story of the Hungarian Reformed people in the city of New Brunswick is worthy of remembrance and continuation.

The Rev. Imre Bertalan, Pastor, the Rev. Dr. Andrew Kosa, Pastor Emeritus; Frank Joszay, Stephen Palagyi, Fred Bernath, Lay Leaders; George Dozsa, Secretary; Frank Kosa, Treasurer.

ASCENSION EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
247 Somerset Street
New Brunswick, N.J.

Spurred by the pleading of several Hungarian Lutherans, Paul Bendes wrote to the Rev. Istvan Rusza, pastor of the First Hungarian Lutheran Church in Cleveland, in the Fall of 1908, and invited him to come to New Brunswick to conduct a Communion Service. This first service was held on October 11, 1908, in the Hungarian Reformed Church.

However, Pastor Rusza did not conduct this first service. The Rev. Gyula Boczko came to serve in his place. Nonetheless, Pastor Rusza did labor in New Brunswick for several months gathering members and funds so that a second service could be held in January, 1909, and regularly thereafter, in the German Lutheran Church (now Emanuel), New and Kirkpatrick Streets. A congregation was officially incorporated in December, 1908, as the First Magyar Evangelical Lutheran Church.

Soon the new congregation was ready to call its first pastor. The Rev. Istvan Rusza was offered this position, but he declined. The Rev. Gyula Boczko was then called as the first pastor in March, 1909. After a few short months of intensive organizational work, Pastor Boczko resigned and returned to Hungary.

In April, 1910, the Rev. Karoly Nemeth was called; he began his work on August 5, 1910. With his efforts the congregation dedicated its first house of worship on Plum Street on December 26, 1910. Pastor Nemeth resigned his office in July, 1912.

The Rev. Erno Steigler began serving the Church on September 1, 1912. During his pastorate, a parsonage was secured on Harvey Street and a sizeable church lot on Somerset Street at Plum Street.

The Rev. Alexander Szabo followed as pastor. Beginning his work in 1915, he served the congregation for 25 years. Under his leadership the present church site on Somerset Street was acquired.
and the present two church buildings were erected and dedicated on Thanksgiving Day, 1919. Shortly before his death in January 1940, Pastor Szabo also introduced English language worship to the congregation.

The Rev. Julius Sathmary was next on the scene. He served the congregation for 14 years until his resignation in June, 1954. The continuation of bilingual worship, Sunday School classes, church and basement remodeling, and modernizing the parsonage and church office were among the major events of his pastorate.

The Rev. Louis Bell succeeded him. During his tenure the congregation paid its debts, took a long look into matters of benevolence, stewardship, Christian education and evangelism, and began to re-evaluate its role and place in the community.

The Rev. Joseph Molnar, III came to First Hungarian Lutheran Church in June, 1959. During his pastorate the name of the congregation was officially changed to Ascension Evangelical Lutheran Church; a new parsonage was purchased in the Township of North Brunswick; and the mortgage on that parsonage was cancelled late in 1966.

The Rev. George W. Ricker, Jr. is the present pastor of the church. He began his work in February, 1967.

The Johns Manville asbestos factory had its beginnings in 1914 over thousands of acres of uninhabited farm-land. The workers, among them hundreds of Hungarians, mostly from Carteret, settled around the factory building and Manville was born. Within a year
the church was organized, on July 25th, 1915. The same year the members erected the sanctuary which was the first permanent place of worship in Manville. The pastors in these 60 years were: Paul Hamborszky, Louis Hamory, Andrew Kosa (30 years), Imre Bertalan, Zoltan Szabo, John Carey, Denes Tamas, Zoltan Kiraly, and presently Andrew Hamza.

The small — never over 50 families — but faithful congregation made exemplary sacrifices to maintain the bilingual ministry. Step by step they enlarged the church building, built a tower and an auditorium, purchased additional land and built a modern parsonage in 1955.

At present the church has 80 confirmed members, an English service at 10:00, and a Hungarian at 11:00 each Sunday. The Church School meets each Sunday at 9:00 a.m. in five graded classes. The Ladies Aid and the Mary and Martha Guild are vital church-supporting organizations.

The present elders are: Freda Adams, Rose Daku, Victor Daku, Laszlo Egry, John Katko, James Kline, Otto Palagyi, Geza S. Sanislo.

Since 1970 the church belongs to the Calvin Synod of the United Church of Christ.
the minister's salary, and the congregation promised the additional $450. The sanctuary was built and consecrated in 1905.

The membership in 1906 was reported to be 144. Today it is over 500.

The first choir, with forty members, was organized in 1907. The choir is still active, singing regularly at church services and presenting cantatas on festive occasions.

Following the advice of the Reformed Church in Hungary, the congregation accepted the Tiffin Agreement in 1921. This meant that the congregation became part of the Reformed Church in the U.S.A.

The Lorantffy Zsuzsanna Ladies Aid was organized on October 28, 1928, and even today, with 90 members, is actively participating in all church and social activities. Since 1935 in November of each year the well known Hungarian Food Festival is held.

The famous Church Quartet and the Calvin Club were organized in 1932.

The church became a charter member of the Magyar Synod of the Evangelical and Reformed Church in 1939.

To serve the needs of the growing congregation new plans for an educational building were discussed. The dreams came true in 1959 when the Calvin Hall was dedicated.

Since 1948 English worship services have been held every Sunday.

The first issue of the Church Visitor — the quarterly church paper — was sent to the members of the congregation in 1955.

In 1955 the Hungarian School, Hungarian Choir, and Calvin Brotherhood were organized, and hymn recordings were made.

The Rev. Imre Bertalan and the church members united in a unique work of Christian charity in 1956 by aiding the Hungarian refugees.

Through the work of the Calvin Brotherhood, a new organ was dedicated in 1964.

The ministry of the Rev. Dr. Aladar Komjathy and the Elders was a new milestone in the history of American Hungarian church life.


The Youth Fellowship was reorganized, a new Hungarian School, with 40 children, was established, and an Embroider Workshop and a Folk Dance Group was started.
The Sunday School, with 12 teachers, the Calvin Adult Fellowship, the Loranty Zsuzsanna Ladies Aid, the Board of Elders, and all the members of the congregation are working together for the celebration of the 80th Church Anniversary which will be held on September 28, 1975.

The John Calvin Magyar Reformed Church of Perth Amboy was organized on June 16, 1929. It joined the Hungarian Classis and later became a member of the Magyar Synod of the Evangelical and Reformed Church. The Church was organized under the leadership of the Rev. George Tukacs.

Before the organization of the Church, the history of the people was the same as that of all the Perth Amboy Hungarian Reformed population.

The church property and a manse were purchased for $23,000 and the building of a new church commenced. The church was completed and dedicated on June 4, 1930. This beautiful Hungarian-styled church is one of the outstanding Hungarian churches in America. The building cost $50,000 and the members willingly donated toward the new building and, in addition, loaned $20,000 to the Church.

Two houses with 50' x 100' lots were purchased for church use in 1955. For further expansion, in the summer of 1958, the congregation purchased the house next to the manse for $10,000. Further improvements were made on the church buildings.
The year of 1961 was a memorable one in the life of the congregation for during the first week of May, the Magyar Synod held its annual meeting in the Church.

By 1963 many repairs had to be made on the Church and at a cost of over $7,000 a new steeple was erected.

Two new properties were then purchased to enlarge the territory of the church to 100' x 200'. However, with the shift in population, only one-third of the congregation now lives in Perth Amboy proper.

The following organizations are active in the Church: Calvin Brotherhood, Ladies Guild, Sunday School, Junior Choir, Confirmation Class, Youth Fellowship, and Hungarian School.


Looking back on the history of the Magyar Reformed Church of Perth Amboy the roots will go back to the 17th century. In greater number Hungarians arrived during the great immigration wave between 1880-1910. As soon as these immigrants arrived they organized a church. It was first called the Hungarian Presbyterian Church of Perth Amboy, N.J. and incorporated in
1908. The first minister was Dr. Géza Kacziány, a professor and author of several books.

Under the second pastor, the Rev. Joseph Kozma, in 1905, the church members severed relationship with the Presbyterians and established their own church under a new charter and name: The Magyar Reformed Church.

When the Rev. Louis Nánássy was ministering to the congregation from 1908 to 1929 the church grew in number, spirit and in favor with God and men. Choirs, Men's and Women's Clubs, Young People's Circles for the junior and senior age groups were organized. A fine Boy Scout troop was also formed. The buildings of the church were erected with great sacrifice. In place of the first wooden structure a new brick church was built in 1925, the central school and auditorium in 1915, a chapel on Cortland Street, another one purchased in 1920 in Keasbey.

At the time when Hungarian churches were in the very early stage of their organization, the Perth Amboy congregation was the first to buy a piece of ground for use as a cemetery which is still one of the nicest burial grounds in the area.

After the First World War, the Reformed Church of Hungary was unable to help the newly formed congregations in America, and advised them to join one of the American Protestant denominations. Those who preferred independence, the Perth Amboy church among them, formed a new denomination in 1924 under the name The Free Magyar Reformed Church in America.

The Rev. Dr. Charles Vincze, Pastor from 1929 to 1954, carried the name and cause of this church and the Hungarians far beyond the boundary of this city. He attended international conferences at home and abroad. As arch-dean of the denomination he fought untiringly for the idea of uniting all Hungarian Reformed churches in a self-supporting denomination.

Following the death of Dr. Vincze the congregation elected the Rev. Dezső Abrahám as pastor under whose leadership the church built a new Social Center, dedicated in 1958. The Rev. Dezső Abrahám was later elected Bishop of the denomination.

After 20 years of service (1954-1974) he was called to the congregation in Allen Park, Mich.

Presently the Rev. Stefan M. Török is Pastor, elected in 1974. The leaders of the church are: Chief-Elder Mr. John Marincsak, Vice-chief-elders Mr. Steve Katko and Mr. Andrew Lovasz, Sr., Secretary Mr. William Orosz and Treasurer Mr. John Kovacs, Jr.
The history of our congregation began in 1904 when Charles G. Roebling, an engineer, started to build Roebling, our town. Here he built a modern wire rope factory and around it a beautiful residential town. The factory started to work in 1906. This attracted many of the new immigrants: Romanians, Slovaks, and mostly Hungarians. The Hungarians were the first who gathered for divine worship services and wanted to organize and build a church. The official foundation of this congregation took place only in 1913, and the church building was finished in 1915. The first pastor who served the Hungarian Reformed Church in Roebling was the minister of the Trenton Church, the Rev. Géza Korócz. The first full time minister was his assistant, the Rev. Francis Nagy.

The period after World War I was the most difficult time in the history of the congregation. The movements to join a great American church, like the Episcopalian or the Presbyterian, divided the congregation. During this decade more than fifteen pastors served the congregation.

In 1933 the Rev. Zoltán Béký of Trenton came and helped out the church. His service gave a new life and true Christian character to it. After a sudden growth of the Trenton Church, the Rev. Béký could not serve Roebling too, and the Rev. Dezső
Abrahám was called to serve. Under his leadership English services were introduced, and the Sunday School, the Young Women Guild, the Lorántffy Zsuzsanna Guild, and the John Calvin Society was founded. Sunday School rooms, a modern kitchen, and an office were constructed. A parsonage was bought as well as huge and beautiful Picnic Ground. The Church was renewed inside with a new electric organ, Lord’s table and Baptismal Font and stained windows were purchased. The Rev. Abrahám served here in 1948-54.

For two years the Rev. Dr. István Benkő, professor of theology at Temple University, served us. After him, in 1956, the Rev. Aladár Komjáthy was elected, and he led the congregation successfully till 1963.

From 1964 to 1970 the Barnabás Rőczey was our minister under whose care the Sunday School program was very successful.

From 1971 to 1974 the Rev. Steven Török renewed the spiritual life of the congregation, but unfortunately he was soon called to serve the big Perth Amboy Church.

After his leave the congregation faced the second most critical period of her history, not being able to find a bilingual, full time minister. The young student minister Gábor G. Nitsch had to return to his studies. Thus the congregation was to be the first in the history of the Hungarian Reformed Church in America to be forced to have an American minister. This problem may also face, sooner or later, all of the Hungarian congregations. The Rev. Raymond D. Patch was elected to serve beginning September, 1975.

Thus the Roebling Church’s 60 years were very important in the history of the Hungarian Reformed Church in America. Our first Bishop, the Rev. Zoltán Béky served Roebling for 15 years, the third and present Bishop, the Rev. Dezső Abrahám, served six years in this congregation. Several ministers earned Doctorates. The congregation is proud to have given truly outstanding ministers to the Hungarians in America.

The membership of today’s congregation, mostly second and third generation Hungarians, consists of 62 families with 140 souls, compared to the first reliable source of the 20th Anniversary of the Church, when there were 105 families and 314 souls. Mr. Elmer Soltesz is the present chief elder.
The history of the First Reformed Church of South River goes back beyond 1900, for there are indications that occasional services were held prior to that time in the German Presbyterian Church. The Revs. Frank Csamfordy and Stephen Virag of Trenton served the small group in those early years as supply pastors. The first official church records date from 1903. At the time the South River, Woodbridge, and Carteret Hungarian Reformed churches were sister mission churches, served for a short time by the Rev. Alex Vajo. He was succeeded in South River by the Rev. Paul N. B. Hamborszky of New Brunswick in 1905 as supply pastor. At that time services were held every Sunday afternoon at 2 o'clock.

The church was built in 1906 at a cost of $5,000, including furnishings and the lot. Two bells were installed in 1924. The parsonage was built in 1912. The church was enlarged and completely renovated with many improvements in 1958 at a cost of $50,000. More recently the property next to the parsonage, which contains the parking lot, a house for the church custodian, and a large garage with storage area, was purchased for $35,000. The church also owns the corner property next to the church. The insured value of all the buildings is a quarter million dollars.

During its history, the church was affiliated with various religious bodies. In the beginning it was the Reformed Church in the U.S. Later it was the Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A. Then later still, it came under the jurisdiction of the Reformed Church in Hungary, from which it — like other Hungarian Reformed
churches at the time—received missionary support until the First World War broke all ties with the Motherland.

Like many other struggling churches in those early years, the South River church found it necessary once again to look elsewhere for financial assistance. This time it was the Episcopal Church that was willing to take it under its wings. However, the arrangement lasted but a few years for it caused a great deal of dissension within the congregation. Finally, the church came within the bounds of the Reformed Church in America in 1927, and is affiliated with it to this day.

The congregation has been served by a number of pastors (twelve between 1895 and 1944, some of whom served only for a year or two—one for only five months). The present pastor, the Rev. Emil Varga, is in his thirty-first year as spiritual leader of the congregation, together with his wife who serves as organist and choir director.

English services were instituted on a regular basis in 1944 when the present pastor assumed his duties, and have since become the main service. Hungarian services are still held every Sunday for the few remaining older members of the congregation.

In 1882, Andrew Laky and his family from Göncz, Abauj County, Hungary were the first Hungarian Reformed immigrants to arrive in Trenton. Of the constantly increasing arrivals, it was the Reformed immigrants who established the first Hungarian
Church in 1894, under the pastorate of the Rev. Gustav Jurányi. The sanctuary was erected in 1898, under the Rev. Ferenc Csámfordi. After the dedication, the Rev. István Virág became the pastor. The first parsonage was then built and the first bell was installed. In 1909 when the Rev. Sándor Vajo served the congregation, the church severed ties with the Reformed Church in America, to which it belonged, and joined the Mother-Church in Hungary. In 1910, the Rev. Géza Koroczi was installed as pastor and during his 18-year pastorate the sanctuary was enlarged, a new pipe organ and the second bell was acquired, and the present parsonage was built.

In 1928, the Rev. Zoltán Béky became the pastor. In this year, the Trenton congregation joined the Free Magyar Reformed Church (now the Hungarian Reformed Church in America). When in place of an archdeacon a bishop was elected ecclesiastical head of the denomination, the Rev. Béky became the first bishop.

In 1931, a two-story school with auditorium was erected, one of the most monumental accomplishments of the Hungarian Reformed churches in the depression years.

The Rev. Béky, in 1964, was elected president of the Hungarian Reformed Federation, a fraternal organization which has its origin in the Trenton Church. The Rev. Stephen Kovács, who served the Akron, Ohio church of the denomination for 26 years, became pastor in 1965. In recent years, the church buildings were renovated, facilities in the school and parsonage modernized, additional Sunday School rooms built. A new organ and Lord’s table were bought. In this 700 membership church, the following organizations are active today: the Sunday School, the Lorántffy Ladies Aid Society, the Women’s Guild, the Men’s Club, the Young Married Couples Club, the Youth Fellowship and the Choir. Many of the church members have distinguished themselves in government, politics, education, industry and business. Mr. Anthony C. Beke is Chief-Elder.

Elizabeth's Hungarian church was organized in 1913 by the Rev. Michael Toth from Bloomfield Seminary and met in the
Third Street German Presbyterian Church with Mr. Charles Tóth as Chief-Elder. The congregation purchased the building at New Point Road in 1914, then added a wing in 1918. The Rev. Bertram Sathmary was called in 1925 followed by the Rev. Arpad Gyorgy in 1935. A parsonage was purchased in 1945 and the Rev. Charles Bogar was called in 1946. Mission aid from Elizabeth Presbytery was continued till 1960 when the church became self supporting. In the late sixties the church was threatened by an Urban Renewal Program and a new location had to be found.

Newark’s Hungarian church was organized in 1905 by the Rev. John Dikovics and met at the Broad Street Third Presbyterian Church with Mr. Stephan Papp as Chief Elder. By 1925 the congregation had constructed a new building on South 12th Street with the Rev. Joseph Malasics, Mr. Stephan Bodnar and others contributing their physical labors to keep the cost down. Mission aid from Newark Presbytery was continued to 1950, when the church became self supporting. The Rev. Joseph Rasky served many years and was succeeded by the Rev. Dr. Frank Kovach, who in 1967 guided the sale of the Newark church which was consummated just one week before the big riot.

In anticipation of a possible merger with the Elizabeth Magyar Presbyterian Church, a location in Union, N.J. was selected at the Second Presbyterian Church on Porter Road, thanks to the efforts of Elder Louis Hamara. The Rev. Laszlo Hunyady served until 1969 when the Rev. Bertram Sathmary was called to aid in uniting the two churches.

The Bethlen Magyar Church of Union, N.J. was incorporated in May of 1971 with a total membership of 102 and with the combined assets of the Newark and Elizabeth churches thanks to the efforts of the Rev. Granburg and the Rev. Booker and the approval of the General Assembly. Hungarian language services have been continued after the death of the Rev. Sathmary in 1972, by the Rev. Dezso E. Takacsy. Presently, operating expenses are shared with Second Presbyterian Church, and also capital improvements such as modernization of the kitchen and installation of central air-conditioning. Recent mission work has included: flood relief for Hungary, Pennsylvania and Argentina; a benefit event for a child with open heart surgery; and the donation of a room with furnishings to the Bethlen Home in Pennsylvania.

Moderator Rev. Benjamin E. McLaughlin, President and Chief-Elder Mr. Bela Kendi, Vice President Mr. Joseph Olah, Treasurer Mr. Andrew Doboviczky, Secretary and Clerk Mr. John Nagy Jr., President of Ladies Aid Mrs. Victor Kostin are the present leaders.
In 1904, recognizing the need and desire of the many Hungarian-American Presbyterians living in the area, the Mission Board of the Presbyterian Church began to organize a Hungarian congregation in Wharton. The new sanctuary was ready on September 16, 1906, and a large congregation praised God for their own sanctuary. The official organization and establishment of the Hungarian Presbyterian Church of Wharton took place on June 25, 1909, and the following elected elders served the congregation for the first time in an official capacity: Gabor Kosa (father of the Rev. Andrew Kosa), chief elder; Janos Kish, alternate chief elder; Miklos Bertha, treasurer; Menyhart Szasz, financial secretary; Istvan Simon, secretary; and Mr. Gabor Dull.

The Rev. Dr. Frank Kovacs was the first pastor in the life of the congregation. He started his service in 1915 and the congregation responded to his leadership immediately: a manse was purchased for $3,500 in the very same year. During his four years of service, the Ladies Aid Society, which has always played a very important part in the life of the congregation, was organized.

The Rev. John Dezso, the twelfth minister of the congregation, started his service on March 1, 1928. Under his new leadership there was great progress in every direction of congregational life. In 1954, the Church had 250 regular members. After nearly thirty years of faithful service the Rev. John Dezso died on December 9, 1955. He remains in the memory of the people as pastor in the true sense.
The move for the reconstruction of the Church and the Sunday School was started by the Rev. Dezso but was completed during the ministry of the Rev. Bela Szigethy, whose leadership proved to be a great asset for the Hungarian Church. The Rev. Szigethy has been ministering the weekly Hungarian language service in the United Presbyterian Church since 1978.

On November 1, 1964, the Hungarian Presbyterian Church merged with the Luxemburg Presbyterian Church and formed the United Presbyterian Church of Wharton. First the Rev. Sandor Farkas, then the Rev. Dr. Cseba Baksa, and finally the Rev. James F. Seunarine served as pastor in the new congregation.

This merger has not been an easy one, but in spite of the uncertainties and discouraging difficulties Mrs. Jolan Papp, with unbelievable courage and enthusiasm, leads the Hungarian Ladies Aid Society, hoping and praying for a better future.

If one would ask what the Hungarian immigrants brought to the United States when they came at the turn of the century, we would rightfully say that faith and hope were the only assets. They had a strong determination to work and build homes for themselves in this land of promise.

Their faith was justified and fulfilled. Everyone established his family nest and had enough material resources left to build a place of worship where he could give thanks to God for the bless-
ings of material well being and freedom that he found in the land of his immigration. Their ability to speak or understand English was limited; therefore, they felt that they could not worship God according to their heart's desire in the already established English speaking congregations. They gathered together in small groups for worship services, usually in the homes of the faithful or in the Hungarian Hall.

The group was fortunate when the Rev. Gabor Dokus of South Norwalk, Connecticut, made a then arduous journey to Woodbridge to keep their faith alive by conducting services for them. He felt there was a definite need to establish a Hungarian Church in Woodbridge. In 1903 he called the Rev. G. Kuthy of New York to help organize the congregation along with a few Hungarian Reformed people from Port Reading, South River, and Carteret. The response was gratifying because in 1904 they called the Rev. Alexander Vajo from Hungary to become pastor of the congregation.

In March, 1904, the congregation purchased five lots for $1,400; on August 27, 1906, the foundation was laid; and on May 30, 1907, the sanctuary was dedicated.

In 1940 a parsonage was dedicated; on January 14, 1962, a new church was erected and dedicated; and on September 15, 1974, a new educational building was dedicated.

The following ministers served this congregation: the Rev. Alexander Vajo, the Rev. Joseph Kozma, the Rev. Alexander Fazakas, the Rev. Stephen Csepke, the Rev. Dr. Frank Kovach, the Rev. Laszlo Hunyady, the Rev. Leslie Egry, the Rev. Laszlo Kecskemethy, and the Rev. Leslie Egry.

We offer our lives to the service of the Almighty God who blessed us richly.
The American Hungarian Federation, which is an organization of long history to represent and defend the best interests of Hungarians living in the United States, has its origin in Trenton, N.J. However, the Trenton Chapter of this organization became rather inactive during the past 20-25 years. The Trenton Hungarian community, the Hungarian churches and organizations, always felt the need of the Trenton Chapter of the American Hungarian Federation and they were pleased to know that in 1974, mostly due to the tireless efforts of Mr. Jenő Agárdy, a freedom fighter of the 1956 Hungarian revolution, the Trenton Chapter was revived and it began a very active life. Presently, the Trenton Chapter has about 80 dues-paying members who hold their monthly meetings in the school of the Hungarian Reformed Church. Its officers are as follows: Bela Pandak, president, Julius Csizmadia, vice president, Joseph Dobos, treasurer, Anthony S. Beke and Andrew Varga, controllers, Steven Kovacs, secretary and Steven Mező, recording secretary.

The most amazing achievement of the Trenton Chapter during its one year old existence is a Hungarian language school. About 50 students, from age of 6 to adulthood, learn the Hungarian language, under qualified teachers. Classes are held in the school of the Hungarian Reformed Church every Saturday.

Beside the customary social events (suppers, banquets, picnics) the Trenton Chapter sees its goal and purpose in presenting serious Hungarian cultural programs to the local Hungarian community. In 1974 Tibor Tollas, the well known Hungarian poet and writer, held his literary program, gratefully received by the Hungarian community. This year, the Rev. Imre Bertalan from New Brunswick gave a lecture about the genuine Hungarian folk-songs.

The Trenton Chapter of the American Hungarian Federation is the only Hungarian organization which includes only Hungarians and their spouses, even if they are not of Hungarian origin, and its purpose is to cultivate the Hungarian life and promote the Hungarian cultural heritage.
Just 20 years ago, Americans devoted to enriching our educational scene founded the American Hungarian Foundation (formerly named American Hungarian Studies Foundation). From small beginnings and through sustained development, as a nationally recognized foundation, its program's projects and educational services have expanded. The objectives of the American Hungarian Foundation are devoted to furthering the understanding and appreciation of the Hungarian cultural and historical heritage in America. The Foundation seeks to serve as a bridge between the Hungarian and American cultural traditions and to enhance a better understanding of the contributions of each. As part of its program, it supports fellowships, scholarships, publications, research, and academic programs at universities and colleges. Over $320,000 in grants and support have been awarded to aid Hungarian studies.

A non-profit, tax-exempt organization, the foundation maintains a library of 30,000 volumes. Its archival and museum collection includes rare books and manuscripts, as well as research materials about the contributions made by persons of Hungarian origin to American life since colonial days.

A current, major project of the foundation is to publish the history of Hungarian pioneers, immigrants, and their families in the United States and to relate their contributions to American life. Regional and state histories are also planned along with popular histories of communities and various professions.

The following institutions are only some which have received grants and fellowships from the foundation: Rutgers University, Elmhurst College, Case Western Reserve University, Loyola University, Columbia University, New York University, University of Chicago, Kodály Training Institute in Massachusetts, National Endowment for the Humanities, and Center for Applied Linguistics.

Bequests and gifts of funds, books and museum objects received by the Foundation increase in number annually. Individuals, churches and fraternal groups provide the annual support needed by the Foundation. Member donors yearly receive complimentary books published in English about Hungary and
Hungarians. Hungarian heritage books and LP records are available through the Foundation.

The Hungarian Research Center of the Foundation publishes the Hungarian Studies Newsletter, and it has embarked upon issuing a new series, Hungarian Reference Shelf, which is devoted to scholarly studies and research.

The George Washington Award and the Abraham Lincoln Award are presented yearly by the Foundation to distinguished figures in the sciences, arts, and humanities. The annual Carousel Ball in New Jersey is arranged for the benefit of the Foundation.

For the "Third Decade of Development," the foundation has announced several American Bicentennial projects. It also looks to the establishment of a larger endowment fund and the erection of a Hungarian Heritage Center with a Hall of Fame and the Library-Museum Research Center. These goals require new funds totalling $1,680,000.

The officers of the foundation for 1974-75 are: Menyhart J. Marko, chairman of the board; E. Eugene Oross, vice chairman; Dr. Peter C. Goldmark, president; August J. Molnar, executive director; Dr. Bela C. Maday and Dr. Paul A. Radnay, vice presidents; Joseph J. Horvath, secretary; and William J. Kukor, treasurer.

CSAKY-GASKO MEMORIAL
POST 387
Passaic, New Jersey

The Csaky-Gasko American Legion Memorial Post No. 387 is unique as it is sponsored by the Hungarian Reformed Church of Passaic. Andrew Csaky and John Gasko, after whom this Post was named, were members of the church when, as servicemen during World War II, they were killed in action.

The Post was organized in 1946 with a handful of members upon the urging and persistent efforts of the Rev. Victor Racz.

The Post has grown slowly but steadily over the years with a Ladies Auxiliary Unit formed and organized in 1958, also a Junior Auxiliary Unit in 1966.

Varied have been the activities of Post No. 387, such as Children's Annual Christmas Party, Boy Scout Troop, Sponsoring
Boys and Girls State Programs, Salk Vaccine Program, Hospital Parties at Veterans’ Hospitals, gift packages to men in Service and in hospitals, annual “God and Country Services,” Funeral Service Ritual for Departed Comrades, Fencing Team Tournaments, participation in various community activities as well as in annual patriotic celebrations and parades; erection of a Memorial Monument to Andrew Csaky and John Gasko.

**HUNGARIAN AMERICAN ATHLETIC CLUB**

198 Somerset Street
New Brunswick, New Jersey

On July 4, 1913 a baseball team called New Brunswick Young Hungarians won a smashing 16-2 victory over the then famous Middlesex team of firemen. This victory prompted the thirteen young Hungarians to organize themselves into a club with the goal to promote all kinds of sports among Hungarian young people. The founding thirteen were Gyula Tóka, Mihály Gödry, József Köpencey, Kálmán Kovács, Pál Vajkó, István Hensperger, Lajos Tóth, Jr., György Szegeczky, János Dudás, Lajos Tóth, István Hudás, András Lánchzi, and János Panykó. In order to start a treasury they held a ball and by selling 324 tickets, they netted $35. Their first meeting place was two rooms in the house of Mihály Gödry offered for this purpose. In 1915 they were able to rent appropriate clubrooms in the newly erected St. Ladislaus Hall. Then, in 1921, they bought a house on Somerset Street which served as a clubhouse until 1959 when the present edifice was built at the same location.

The Club developed a busy program by organizing various teams: bowling, wrestling, track, and a second baseball team. In addition, they had a choir and an amateur theatrical company. After World War I a soccer team was added; reorganized in 1946 this team won championships several times in the thirties and forties. In 1951/52 they were champions of the Union County League and, in 1961, of the East.

The baseball team was active until the late fifties. The basketball team was started in 1936 and won several championships; so did the bowling team. Active and successful are the Club’s fencers. Also, fishing and hunting trips are organized regularly.

The Cultural Department, organized in 1961, made a great hit in sponsoring a contest for Hungarian Folk Dance groups
The Hungarian Reformed Federation is the largest Hungarian Reformed Fraternal Organization in the U.S.A. The Federation was founded by a few dedicated Hungarians in Trenton, N.J., in 1896.

Looking back at this event — the work of eight decades — and considering it in the light of present conditions, it was a daring undertaking to start a national organization with so few members and insignificant capital about $272. The intention was good and God’s blessings followed. By January 1, 1898 there were 956 members of whom 867 were Protestant, 86 Roman Catholic and 3 of the Jewish faith. These statistics prove the fraternity of the Federation which has not known religious prejudice but brought under its flag all Hungarians believing in fraternity. Our
Federation still stands by this principle. In 1907 our Federation was chartered by the Congress of the United States which would insure without a doubt the rights of the Federation to function in all States where it applied for a license.

The Federation has its Home Office in Washington, D.C., 3216 New Mexico Ave., N.W. Today, we have our own Bethlen Home in Ligonier, Pa., with a Children and an Old Age Home for 100 people. The Federation spent more than 2 million dollars on these charitable homes. The Federation today has assets of more than 18 million dollars, and more than 50 million dollars insurance in force. The Federation helped to build more than 100 churches, schools, cultural centers in the United States and in Canada through mortgage loans.

The Officers of the Federation are: The Rt. Rev. Dr. Zoltan Beky, President; the Rt. Rev. Arpad George, Secretary; Mr. Paul St. Miklossy, Treasurer; Mr. Laszlo L. Eszenyi, Controller. We have on our Board of Directors two members from New Jersey: the Rev. Imre Bertalan and Mr. Joseph Molnar, Jr. Our District Office is located at 216 Somerset St., New Brunswick, N.J. 08901. (201) 846-424. We welcome anybody to be a member of our Federation.

THE HUNGARIAN REPUBLICAN FEDERATION OF NEW JERSEY

Hungarian-Americans are not the largest ethnic group in New Jersey but the significance of their contribution stems from the high quality of their activities. They have contributed to the life of the Garden State in the field of humanities, arts, literature, athletics and politics.

Many Hungarians viewed the American political system with great interest and enthusiasm upon settling in the new land. After becoming American citizens they have joined the political party of their own choice. Those who have arrived between 1948 and 1956 were particularly conscious of great political events of the latter years and as a result they moved in large numbers under the umbrella of the Republican Party. This is probably due to the fact that the Republican Party has a special stake and recognition of the ethnic groups of America and the Party believes just as the nationalities believe that pride in America is reinforced by pride in national heritage.
Those who were prone to adopt easily the Republican philosophy organized the Hungarian-American Republican Federation of New Jersey way back in 1966; they have elected Mr. Lajos Hajdu-Nemeth as their first state chairman and Alexander Hody as secretary. This organization belongs to the New Jersey Heritage Group Federation, a Republican affiliation, whose first Hungarian state chairman was Julius Belso in 1973-1974.

The Hungarian Republican Federation of New Jersey has organizations on the county level in Middlesex (Dezso Fodor, chairman), Somerset (Istvan Vajtay, Chairman), Passaic (Laszlo Karoly, Chairman), Bergen (Laszlo Abonyi, Chairman) and Essex counties (Dr. Otto Hamos, Chairman). Our organization also belongs to the Hungarian-American Republican National Federation under the chairmanship of Mr. Lajos Hajdu-Nemeth. The following New Jersey Hungarian Republicans are charter members of the organization: Laszlo Abonyi, Chas. Andreanszky, Gabor Bodnar, Albert Bessenyei, Jr., Dr. Otto Blazsek, Tibor Fekete, Dezso Fodor, Alexander Hody, Mike Homa, Michael Hegedus, Ferenc Koreh, Albert Koszukulics, Joseph Lothringer, Dr. Andras Pogany, Bela Schmidt, Andrew Sandor, Paul Somody, Joseph Teszar.

The organization takes great pride in the fact that in 1971 Dr. Edward Teller, the famous nuclear physicist, addressed the membership of the Federation at a formal dinner. As Republicans we are pleased with the success of the past 10 years. A very close working relationship has been established between our organization and the State and National Republican Party based on common principles. Our work resulted the recognition from former Governor Cahill, who appointed three Hungarians for different state commission posts, and the appointment of Dr. Andras Pogany, a Seton Hall University professor, to the New Jersey Bicentennial Commission. Another great recognition came from the Middlesex County Republican Committee when Julius Belso, our state executive chairman, was nominated for assembly man at large in the county of Middlesex. He was the first Hungarian ever nominated by either party for such office.

Hungarian American Republicans maintain a high standard of principles and work for the betterment of all citizens within a truly democratic Republic of the United States of America, their chosen new country.
Scouting became very popular in Hungary well before World War I soon after Lord Baden-Powell launched his youth campaign. Between the two World Wars no other nation devoted as much interest in this youth program as Hungary. At the 1924 International Jamboree in Denmark, Hungarian scouts scored right behind the United States and Great Britain, two victorious nations, despite the fact that it was a vanquished and impoverished country.

For the 1929 Jamboree held in England, Hungarian Chief Scout Count Paul Teleki led a contingent of 852. The Hungarian Scouts performed so well that Hungary was unanimously selected by the international board as the site for the next Jamboree. Gödöllő and 1933 is still remembered by many American guests. Practically all civilized nations sent representative contingents. The population of the model camp was 30,000 Scouts.

World War II ended for Hungary even more disastrously than did the first one. There were still some of the "Eagle" troop among the escapees who vowed to rekindle the Scout ideal. It was midst the miseries in which the displaced persons lived that Hungarian Scouting was born anew. A handful of "Eagles," led by Gábor Bodnár, again proved that youthful enthusiasm can conquer seemingly insurmountable obstacles. Thus began 30 years ago a systematic work of organizing, which gradually spread to every corner of the globe where Hungarian emigrants had set foot.

Since Gábor Bodnár, main cog of the "Founding Eagles," landed with his family in New Jersey, this State has become the World Headquarters of reborn Hungarian Scouting. With the Old Sod under Soviet domination where Scouting was banned, New Jersey became the focal point of a world-wide Hungarian Scout program. At present it comprises 5,000 Magyar boys and girls, most of whom have been born in countries as far apart as Austria and Australia.

The 1975 Hungarian Jamboree, held in August just outside of Toronto, Canada, was a double anniversary: the 65th year
of the movement’s founding in Hungary proper and its re-forming in the Western world three decades ago. The fact that official Canadian welcome was extended to over 1,000 Scouts at this historic 10-day camp is proof that the “Eagles” have achieved something abroad which is quite unique in Hungary’s millennial history.

Dedicated leadership and a steady afflux of new boys and girls guarantee an active Scout-life. Their careful nursing of the Magyar language, history, and folk traditions, and their dance and song festivals are not only popular everywhere but augur well for the future. The three decades of Hungarian Scouting in the Western world measures up well to the traditions of Hungarian Scouting in the Old Country and to the ideals of this movement all over the world.

In addition to having its World Headquarters in New Jersey, there are several active Hungarian Scout Troops in our State (Garfield, New Brunswick, Passaic).

HUNGARIAN ROUND TABLE CHARITABLE ASSOCIATION
431 Maple Avenue
Linden, New Jersey

In October, 1916 Istvan Tomko and Gyula Fazekas, members of the New York Pork Table Association (Disznóasztal Társaság), organized its first branch in Linden, New Jersey. Although the name of this society was not so dignified its services were great in helping many Hungarian families in need.

The by-laws of the Association did not permit the holding of real estate property. When the Linden branch was given the opportunity to acquire some property the membership decided to withdraw from the New York Association; they formed their own one on May, 1917 under the name The First Hungarian Round Table Charitable Association of Linden. They received support from the Mayor of the city and from several loval people. A Mr. McDonald donated two lots for the Association’s perpetual use so long as they follow their charitable program.

Now they are close to their 60th anniversary still faithful to their original goal. With a well-kept club-house they are providing a busy social and cultural program for Hungarians in Linden and its vicinity honoring the old timers and welcoming the younger generation.
The charter members of the Association were: J. W. Kugler, S. Tomko, J. Babos, H. Grosch, J. Fazekas, J. Kovacs, P. Woltrich, P. Herincs, M. Farkas, S. Rokta.

Former Presidents (some of them served more than one term): J. W. Kugler, C. Danninger, J. Krahling, S. Seaman, P. Herincs, A. Kalla, Sr., J. Fazekas, Alex Papp, K. Dudás, G. Hornyák.

The present officers: Frank Alexai, President, Aladar Barcza, Vice-president, Miss Rose Gombas, Financial Secretary, John Kocsis, House Manager, Steve Konya, Recording Secretary, Zoltan Gerzsényi, Treasurer, William Dolinsky and Coloman Dudas, Trustees.

THE KODÁLY CHORUS OF NEW JERSEY

The Kodály Chorus, a mixed choir of over sixty voices, came into being in January 1974. Dedicated to the furtherance of the noble Hungarian choral traditions, developed in the 1930s through the inspiration and composing genius of Béla Bartók and Zoltán Kodály, the Chorus has weekly rehearsals on Tuesday nights at the Hungarian Scout Home in New Brunswick. Membership is open to persons of good musical ear and decent voice.

The repertoire consists of sacred and secular works of the contemporary Hungarian masters and the great classics of the last four centuries. The choir’s speciality is the singing of choral pieces built on Hungarian folk melodies and arranged by the composers of the so called Bartók-Kodály School.

The choir received wide recognition in and out of New Jersey. September 13 marks its third appearance at the Garden State Art
Center, they sang several times in New Brunswick, gave a full program of their own at the Kirkpatrick Chapel of Rutgers University, were invited to sing at Middlesex County College, made guest appearances in Washington, D.C. and Bridgeport, Connecticut.

The lion’s share in the task of organizing the Chorus goes to Dr. Lajos Boros, the teaching and conducting is being done by Andrew Hamza.

Officers of the Chorus are: Dezso Fodor, Manager; Kati Schmidt, Secretary; Elizabeth Teszar, Treasurer. Those desirous to join should contact the Conductor at 201-725-6774.

MAGYAR SAVINGS AND LOAN ASSOCIATION
101 French Street
New Brunswick, N.J.

During the early years of the twentieth century many Hungarian immigrants settled in the New Brunswick area. There were several cigar manufacturing companies here, and many of the young Hungarian girls became experienced cigar makers. Others came to work at the Johnson and Johnson Surgical Dressings manufacturing company.

Soon some of the immigrants became small businessmen in the community. Hungarians were always proud and industrious and were anxious to own their own homes, but found that the only way they could buy the homes was to save a sufficient amount to pay for the entire purchase.

Hungarian businessmen wanted to help their fellow countrymen and formed the Magyar Building and Loan Association of New Brunswick, patterned after the other established associations in the State of New Jersey. The charter was granted in August, 1922 for the operations of the Magyar Building and Loan Association. The first President was James Szabo.

The method used for savings was the share series method whereby a subscriber deposited a specific amount per month, usually $5.00, and the shares series matured in about twelve years. The depositor then received a check for $1,000.00 (which included principal and accrued interest).

The money received by the Association for deposits was invested in granting home mortgage loans to many Hungarians, enabling them to purchase homes by making a down payment and making monthly payments to the Association. Mortgage loans were usually liquidated in ten to twelve years.
The Association progressed well throughout the years and maintained its strength during the depression years of the 1930's.

During the 1950's, the Federal Government encouraged small building and loan associations to apply for insurance of accounts by the Federal Savings and Loan Insurance Corporation and to accept larger savings deposits to make available more funds for home mortgage loans. A great shortage of homes developed during World War II when construction of residential homes were virtually at a standstill.

The Board of Directors of the Magyar Building and Loan Association, under the leadership of Louis Gyarmati, President, wisely applied for insurance of accounts. In September, 1954 the Association was permitted to accept insured deposits and to open its first full operation office at its present location in a converted store at 101 French Street, New Brunswick, N.J., managed by James Kosa, Executive Vice President.

Deposits grew rapidly and many home mortgage loans were granted. From one million in assets in 1954, soon the assets grew to ten and fifteen million dollars in the early 1960's.

The Board of Directors, with Thomas G. Radics, President, and William J. Kukor, Executive Vice President and managing officer, soon realized that the existing office building was inadequate and began to make plans for larger quarters.

Several decaying properties were purchased adjacent to the office building. The old building was demolished, and a modern, well designed and furnished building was dedicated to thrift in November, 1965.

A branch office was opened in South Brunswick in 1970. Assets at that time totaled over $58,000,000.

A Board of Directors of twelve professional people and businessmen manage the operation of the Magyar Savings and Loan Association. They are E. Eugene Oross, Chairman; Michael Huszar, Vice Chairman; Julius Belso, William Biro, R. Joseph Ferenczi, Joseph Fliszar, William J. Kukor, Dr. Rudolph G. Matfleder, Joseph J. Staudt, Joseph Stefel, Andrew J. Szegesky, and Eugene J. Szeles. Legal counsel for the Association is John A. Smith.

The officers of the Association are William J. Kukor, President; Robert B. Tugya, Vice President; Irene M. Gyarmati, Secretary; Ethel L. Kiss, Treasurer; Robert E. Pastor, Assistant Secretary; Patricia M. Mayo, Assistant Treasurer; and Robert F. James, Jr., Branch Manager at South Brunswick office.
Hungarians under the banner of the Democratic Party have been successfully organized throughout the state of New Jersey in the different communities from as far back as 1914. The Hungarian Democratic clubs of Trenton, New Brunswick, Perth Amboy, Woodbridge, South River, the Passaic-Garfield area, etc., were instrumental in helping to office in local governments outstanding Hungarians throughout the many decades. The capital city of Trenton had a Hungarian-born Mayor for many years (Andrew Duch) as well as councilmen (George Pregg and others). Among the City Commissioners (later: Councilmen) of New Brunswick and Perth Amboy there were Hungarian-born members for many decades, with the help and work of the Hungarian Democrats. In the boroughs of Carteret, South River and other communities in Middlesex county, the mayoral post was filled by Hungarians more than once and Hungarian Democrats were and are members of township and borough councils in many communities in our county, as well as in other counties in the State. There was a time when we counted a total of six communities in New Jersey with a Mayor of Hungarian descent! The Mayor of Edison Township, one of the largest communities in Middlesex county, was Anthony M. Yelenics for over 12 years, with Dr. William Toth serving as councilman there even today. In appointed jobs in the different municipalities and counties throughout the state there were and still are many Hungarian-born citizens; municipal and county judges, clerks, office holders, all of them Democrats. Thus, the organization of Hungarians into local Democratic clubs were successful and fruitful throughout the many decades, the result proves.

The necessity of organizing a county-wide Hungarian Democratic group in Middlesex County is not a new idea. It was an old dream. Yellowed pamphlets and circulars of 30-40 years ago are telling us how the Perth Amboy and New Brunswick area Hungarian Democratic clubs were trying to get together, were holding joint meetings, were aiming for a "Common Council" and so on. It is the natural consequence of honest, loyal, good work of Hungarian Democrats for over a half century in Middlesex
county that they are aiming for higher offices to attain just representation of Hungarian-born citizens on county and state level and in the Democratic Party itself. Endorsement and official nomination of Hungarians by the Party to county and state positions, consideration of the wishes of the many thousand Hungarian voters of this county is the aim and purpose of the Middlesex County American Hungarian Democratic Organization.

Early in 1974 the old dream started to be realized. An organizing group met and worked out the details for calling a mass-meeting to establish the county-wide organization. In the summer of 1974 the meeting was held in New Brunswick, more than a hundred Hungarian Democrats gathered, a cross-section and representative group of every section of Middlesex county and the Organization became a reality with former Mayor of Edison, Anthony M. Yelencsics as its first president. The meeting elected G. Paul Beck, Mayor of Highland Park as first vice-president, Stephen Drusby, Joseph Fekete, Gertrude Josay vice-presidents, Jean DeFrank recording secretary, Laszlo I. Dienes corresponding secretary, Joseph Horvath treasurer, Stephen Toth sergeant-at-arms and Joseph Ferenczi and Robert Lecky as legal counsels. Legal papers were drawn up and the Organization received its Charter from the State of New Jersey.

The Middlesex County American Hungarian Democratic Organization as a top-level representative organ of Hungarian Democrats in this and the neighboring counties proved itself to be exactly that. Within one year the number of its card-holding members jumped to nearly 500. A Dinner-Dance honoring Congressman Ed Patten and the other County Democratic candidates held in the Pines Manor in the fall of 1974 was a tremendous success and a Victory Celebration after the General Elections at which leaders of the County Democratic Organization as well as the victorious candidates and other officials were also present was as successful as it was planned for. In short: the Middlesex County Hungarian Democrats achieved so far all what they were organizing for. One of the great undertakings of the Organization was a great get-together of Hungarians at a Picnic outing held recently at the Ukrainian Village where thousands of good old Hungarian faithfuls met and had a good time together.
A group of Hungarian Catholics in Perth Amboy organized the *Our Lady of Hungary Sick and Death Benefit Society* which was incorporated on September 19, 1915. The Rev. Father Francis Gross, then pastor of Our Lady of Hungary Church having been instrumental in the organization within his parish, was elected Ecclesiastical Advisor to the new society, John Mitruska became its first president, Albert Tanko vice-president, Michael Stumpf treasurer, John Faubl secretary, Joseph Lukacs corresponding secretary, Peter Chizmar head book-keeper, Julius Andrassy and Joseph Lukacs, Jr. controllers, Andrew Karoczkai orderly, Frank Zsegnyan and John Gyori sergeants-at-arms.

In the following year, 1916, two branches were organized: one in Carteret (then: Chrome) and one in New Brunswick. John Makkai was the first president of the Carteret Branch, Imre Danecsecs of the New Brunswick Branch.

With the approval of the society’s first By-Laws, the aims were legally sanctioned: to serve with fraternal love, visit the sick and pay the weekly sick-benefits, bury the deceased with a Catholic funeral and pay the death benefits to the beneficiaries. A Mortgage Committee was formed to provide mortgage loans to members with low interest rates and low monthly payments. All these benefits were given for the nominal monthly membership dues of $1.50, which is still in effect today.

As the years passed the Society maintained practicing Christian brotherly love, cultivating apostolic work within the Catholic religion and keeping the Hungarian heritage in language and culture. Besides being good and faithful citizens of the United States, the Society as a whole has participated in many social, civic, religious and community work. During World War II the Society purchased an ambulance and presented it to the U.S. Armed Forces.

Sixty years later the tradition and aims of the Society are being carried out still today.

Presently serving as president in Perth Amboy is Alexander F. Zegan, assisted by the following officers: William Toth, Rose Chismar, John Horvath, William Kun, Michael Kardos, John Yuszasz, Gordon Zegan, Margaret Kardos, and Walter Kibala.
Stephen Suhaj heads the Carteret Branch as president, assisted by officers: Joseph Bucskak, Robert Sloan, John Remias, Mrs. John Remias, Albert Tomory, Mrs. Albert Tomory and Mrs. Stephen Suhaj.

William Horvath serves as president in New Brunswick, assisted by the following Branch officers: John Hatt, Stephen Hutter, Irene Gyarmati, Joseph Vargyas, Charles Kish and Arthur Bertha.

The Our Lady of Hungary Sick and Death Benefit Society will celebrate its Sixtieth Anniversary on October 11, 1975 with a Dinner-Dance at the Our Lady of Hungary Church’s “Cardinal Mindszenty Hall” in Perth Amboy.

RAHWAY AMERICAN HUNGARIAN CITIZENS CLUB
807 Old Raritan Road
Clark, New Jersey

A number of American citizens born in Hungary met on February 22, 1922 and organized the Rahway American Hungarian Citizens Club. Their aims were to bring together socially their compatriots and to assist them in becoming good American citizens.

The Charter members were:
Marton Thoma, President
Joseph Simola, Vice President
Laszlo Drago, Financial Secretary
Geza Mihalovics, Treasurer
Pal Szabler, Recording Secretary
Sandor Papp, Auditor
Jozsef Heidt, Auditor
Jozsef Gumpel
Laszlo Kromer
Karoly Francisky
Erno Halasz
Pal Lagler
Antal Wnenk
Janos Kerekes
Jozsef Freind

They held meetings at the homes of the members, but, due to bad times, suspended meetings through 1928, 1929 and 1930. Then, several members mortgaged their homes and others lent their life savings and they managed to purchase the present site in Clark, New Jersey, for $800. With the remaining $400, they purchased materials and the members put their hearts and hands into erecting the clubhouse in 1930. They later added on a bowling alley (now in disuse) and, in 1937, a ballroom, doubling the size of the building.
This is one of the few clubs in the area which is trying to hold to the old traditions, such as hanging the grapes and wearing Hungarian costumes at the Harvest (Grape) Festival. They hold at least two picnics and four dances a year, open to the public. Bartending, cooking and all arrangements for festivities are by members, strictly on a non-paying voluntary basis. It is through such efforts that the Club is thriving.

Presidents: 1. Marton Thoma  
2. Jozsef Heidt  
3. Andras Korbelyi  
4. Geza Mihalovics  
5. Lorincz Nadler  
6. Jozsef Gampel  
7. Gyula Fulop  
8. Janos Markus  
9. Andras Zboray  
10. Ignac Buchbauer  
11. Pal Salkovics  
12. Ignac Buchbauer  
13. Marton Thoma  
14. Jeno Nyulaszy  
15. Jozsef Bodnar  
16. Laszlo Krupp  
17. Ferenc Hidi (currently)

Present active and perpetual membership is 170; patrons number 100.

They are proud to be Americans in this bi-centennial year and proud of the heritage that is being fostered at the friendly Rahway American Hungarian Citizens Club, where new members with the same high ideals are always welcome.

ST. GEORGE CATHOLIC UNION
A Fraternal Insurance Society
Perth Amboy, N.J.

The St. George Catholic Union (originally: St. George Greek Catholic Hungarian Union) was organized in May 1914 by the Right Rev. Victor Kovaliczky. Its first meeting was held at the St. Michael's Auditorium in Perth Amboy, N.J. with a total of 43 members.

The first Convention was held on April 2, 1916 in Perth Amboy with 4 branches represented: Perth Amboy's two branches, Carteret Branch and Keasbey Branch, with a total of 33 delegates. The Society's original aim was to organize the "Greek-Catholic" Hungarians (Roman Catholics of Byzantine Rite) throughout the United States in a religious, cultural and benevolent association with sick and death benefits to its members and to preserve their Hungarian heritage.
By 1918 the Society has grown to seven branches and by 1922 the membership has grown to a total of 1064 members in branches throughout the states of New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Michigan and Connecticut.

In 1943 a reorganization movement started and with the help of actuaries and professionals the entire structure of the Union was placed on modern insurance business basis with membership rates according to ages, legal reserves, etc. In 1945 the St. George Catholic Union received its license of operation as a fraternal insurance society from the Banking and Insurance Department of the State of New Jersey. Its members received regular insurance policies. Besides the Whole Life certificates, new 20 Year Endowment and 20 Year Payment Life certificates as well as Juvenile policies were issued, all with cash surrender, or extended insurance values and all with compliance of relating laws. The solvency ratio of the Union is one of the highest among all fraternal insurance societies in the entire United States and the yearly actuarial report on the Union’s assets and financial operation is constantly favorable.

The present Supreme Officers of St. George Catholic Union are: Andrew Fohl president, John Krilla vice-president, Oliver R. Kovacs counsel and Helen Duska secretary-treasurer. The society’s Main Office is located at Rooms 405-6, 175 Smith St., Perth Amboy, N.J. 08861.

THE WILLIAM PENN ASSOCIATION

The William Penn Association is a Fraternal Benefit Society, organized February 21, 1886 in Hazleton, Pennsylvania and incorporated under the insurance laws of Pennsylvania November 29, 1886. Home Office relocated to Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania in April 1926. Its aims and purposes are: To create funds for mutual aid as permitted by any jurisdiction where the Association is authorized to do business; to disburse funds among the aged and sick members, widows and orphans as designated beneficiaries of deceased members as provided in the membership certificates; to retain and foster in the United States of America Hungarian culture and heritage as established by the Association’s Founding Fathers.

The William Penn Association is licensed as a Fraternal Benefit Society in seventeen States; among them in New Jersey.
The William Penn Association is governed by a quadrennial General Convention, a Board of Directors and managed by an executive staff of Officers.

The William Penn Association, as was the case with most pioneer fraternal societies, was founded by well-meaning Hungarian coal miners who knew little or nothing about the life insurance business. As a result, the first benefit certificates were assessment certificates on a term basis. In 1924 rates were placed on a sound actuarial basis and from that time on the growth of the Association was on a sound basis.

During the depression years the William Penn Association fulfilled all of its obligations to its members, every claim was paid when due and the Association's sound financial structure was maintained.

The Association during World War II, Korean conflict and Vietnemese conflict paid its claims in full on all servicemen who gave their lives in the line of duty.

The William Penn Association organized its Juvenile Department in 1923 and has been insuring children since that date.

Organized by coal miners in the anthracite region of Eastern Pennsylvania, coal miners were insured on a standard basis for life insurance.

The Association throughout its history and prior to the time federal, state, county and city social agencies provided for the needy and aged, was providing for the care of widows and orphans.

In all of the wars in which the U.S.A. participated, our Association purchased its fair share of Liberty Bonds, War Bonds; during World War II purchased an ambulance, fostered Hungarian schools for children, promoted intellectual and cultural activities; helped the persecuted, such as the Displaced Persons after World War II and the Freedom Fighters of 1956; sponsored the American-Hungarian Relief Organization to aid those in refugee camps, prepared a Hungarian-English Dictionary for refugees, printed and distributed Hungarian books for American born to learn Hungarian; arranged Tours to Hungary between the two World Wars.

Each year the Association sponsors a National Bowling Tournament in various large cities.

Since the depression days it has maintained a Scholarship Aid program. In 1969 the William Penn Fraternal Association Scholarship Foundation, Inc. was organized. Outright scholarship grants are now made to qualified student members attending college.
The Association publishes a quarterly magazine for its members. The Branches (Lodges) of the Association, in addition to the Home Office sponsored fraternal activities, visit the sick and infirm members, pay last respects to deceased members, conduct Hungarian language classes, support and sponsor sports activities and youth activities.

In 1955 the former Verhovay Fraternal Insurance Association and Rakoczi Aid Association of Bridgeport, Connecticut merged to form the William Penn.

With the merger came a modern organization with insurance programs to meet today's needs.

The Association is planning to build the first of what it hopes to be many apartment buildings for retired people.

Present National Officers: Elmer Charles, President; John P. Balla and Louis L. Varga, Vice-Presidents; Albert Stelkovics, Secretary; Julius E. Somogyi, Treasurer.

THE WORLD FEDERATION
OF HUNGARIAN FREEDOM
FIGHTERS
Union City, New Jersey

When on November 4th, 1956 Soviet troops crushed the Hungarian Revolution more than 200,000 Hungarians fled to the West to avoid physical harm, mental anguish, or simply to live in freedom.

The World Federation of Hungarian Freedom Fighters was organized almost immediately after the fall of the revolution, simultaneously in Paris, France and in Chicago, Ill., U.S.A., by active participants and refugees of that historic event. These freedom fighters felt — and still feel — that the message of the Hungarian Revolution should be kept alive by those who can represent it in the free world: those who can speak up while the Hungarian people cannot. The World Federation, therefore, emphatically works for the implementation of goals and demands as expressed by the Hungarian Revolution of 1956. These are: 1. The immediate withdrawal of Soviet troops from Hungary and restoration of Hungarian sovereignty and national independence corroborated by the 1947 Paris Peace Conference, signed also by the Soviet Union; 2. Release of all political prisoners including those Hungarians who are still (since 1947) kept in Soviet-Siberia;
3. Restoration of the right of self-determination, by internationally supervised free elections, with the participation of multiple political parties; restoration of human rights in every aspect of life, public or private, in Hungary. The World Federation of Hungarian Freedom Fighters is dedicated to serve the principles of liberty and democracy against all form of totalitarianism in any color whatsoever. Therefore, it is dead set against any oppression, exploitation, discrimination, racial or religious persecution or intolerance of any kind as the Hungarian Revolution rejected these in 1956. It also repudiates extremism or inhuman means in order to achieve goals, whatever praiseworthy they may be in themselves.

The World Federation now expands to North America (U.S.A. and Canada), Europe and Australia. The membership is composed mostly of Hungarians who participated in the 1956 revolution but anybody who shares the Federation’s beliefs and is willing to work for the implementation of its principles and goals is welcome to join. In 1973 the Federation had approximately 10,000 members.

The membership meets at our World Congresses held since 1958 every two or three years. Such Congresses were held in Paris, Brussels, Bad Godesberg, Washington, D.C., Ottawa, London, and the most recent one, in 1973, in Washington, D.C. The continental organizations have many local chapters. The Hungarian Freedom Fighters Federation, U.S.A. has chapters in Washington, D.C., New Brunswick, N.J., New York and vicinity, Baltimore, Boston, Chicago, Cleveland, Buffalo, South Bend, Los Angeles, just to mention a few.

In 1960 General Lajos Veress de Dalnok was elected President of the World Federation of Hungarian Freedom Fighters. General Veress, a three star general, was commander of the Second Hungarian Army at the end of World War II. In 1944 he resisted the German military occupation of Hungary; after the war he again became a leading figure in Hungarian resistance, now against Soviet and Communist aggression. He was sentenced to death by both, by the Nazis and by the Communists; the death sentences were in both cases reduced to life imprisonment. After spending 9 years in prison the General was liberated by the freedom fighters in 1956, came to the West and headed the Federation’s activities until his retirement in 1973.

The Seventh World Congress held in Washington, D.C. in 1973 unanimously elected Dr. Andras Pogany, a former Budapest
attorney, now university professor, the new president of the World Federation (from 1966 to 1973 he was national chairman of the Hungarian Freedom Fighters Federation, U.S.A.).

The Information Bureau of the Hungarian Freedom Fighters regularly sends news material to Hungarian language publications all over the world. Separate membership newsletters are published in the U.S.A. and in Canada; in Europe "Nemzetor," published since 1957, is the Federation's semi-official news-organ. It has several foreign language editions.

Since 1960 the World Federation every year bestows Freedom Awards on persons who, in a given year, contributed most to the welfare and eventual liberation of Hungary. Ten years after the 1956 revolution, in 1966, the Federation published two books remembering the "thirteen days which shook the world": *The Hungarian Revolution in Perspective*, edited by Dr. Francis Wagner and *City in the Darkness*, the memoirs of Dr. Andras Pogany. In the same year the Federation's Los Angeles chapter published a highly artistic picture-book on the events of the 1956 revolution.

The address of the General Secretariat is P.O.B. 214, Union City Station, Union City, N.J. 07087.
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