

AHS PRESIDENT WRITES IIE PRESIDENT

Dear Mr. Holland:

Please allow me to thank you in the name of all my fellow-students for the work which the IIE has done in behalf of the Hungarian students. Because of a year's work, you have greatly contributed to the fact that more than 700 boys and girls have started on their new road in life in the continuation of their studies. We will do our best to prove, through the results of our studies, that all assistance we received was worthwhile.

Please relate our gratitude to the Executive Secretary of IIE, Mr. Richard G. Raymond, Director of the Hungarian Program, and all the others who had a part in making the Hungarian Program a reality.

Placement of Medical Students Difficult

THERE ARE 127 medical students registered with the Association. Eighty per cent of these students had begun their studies in Hungary.

In order to aid the medical students, the Association of American Medical Colleges and the National Committee for the Resettlement of Foreign Physicians, joined with the World University Service and the Institute of International Education in starting an emergency placement program.

With little available information on the academic background of the students, examinations were necessary before any placement program could be effective. Screening Boards were established at Cornell Medical College, Northwestern University Medical School, and the University of California School of Medicine in San Francisco. Every student was assigned, on a geographical basis, to one of the Screening Boards. Examinations were held in June, 1957, and were conducted by experienced examiners in the basic sciences and clinical fields.

Thirty-seven medical students took the examinations. All these students had previously attended a university for at least two years in Hungary. Twenty-six passed, eleven failed, mainly because of inadequate knowledge of the language. Of the twenty-six students who passed, twenty were placed by November 15. Two of the eleven who failed were also accepted. Thus the total number of medical students admitted was twenty-two. Among these, twelve are first-year students, seven are in their second year, and three are in their third year.

Aside from the twenty-two students placed in medical schools, forty-six gained admittance to pre-medical or liberal arts colleges. Fifty-nine students, however, have not yet been placed.

IIE: SCHOLARSHIPS AND EXCHANGES

What is the IIE?

THE INSTITUTE of International Education is one of the oldest and largest private organizations in the field of educational exchange in the world. It was founded in 1919 and in its 38-year history, it has awarded scholarships to more than 25,000 persons—foreign students, teachers and specialists who come to the United States, and Americans who go abroad.

IIE Foreign Student Programs

During the last academic year, IIE provided services that helped 2,900 foreign students from eighty-one countries and territories to study in 526 United States educational institutions. IIE received the applications from these students through voluntary scholarship committees in their home countries and matched the candidates with available opportunities. The majority of these students were graduates, and almost every field of study was represented.

US Student Programs

During the past year, IIE served as the selection agency for the United States government, for nine foreign governments, and for thirty private organizations for awards offered to American students to study abroad. A total of 1,412 awards for study in thirty-four countries were granted. IIE also assisted in selecting 308 United States students to participate in summer school programs offered by four British universities and the University of Vienna. Under IIE-related programs, 1,417 Americans studied abroad in fields as varied as archeology, theater arts, and modern painting, as well as the regular academic courses.

Specialist Programs

Last year, programs of a non-academic nature were administered for 418 specialists from fifty-two different countries. These specialists included men and women from the professions (doctors, lawyers, journalists, and engineers,) from business, from government, and from the cultural fields.

The IIE Hungarian Program

Traditionally, the IIE has worked only with exchange students who return home

after a year or two of study. In face of the dramatic plight of the Hungarian refugee students, however, IIE, in co-operation with World University Service, set up a special program aimed at getting scholarships and placements at American colleges for these young men and women.

This was a "crash program." It needed and received the co-operation and understanding of the whole educational community, the President's Committee for Hungarian Refugee Relief, the foundations and resettlement agencies.

Who Sponsors IIE?

The extent of the IIE programs is made possible through a long list of donors who provide the funds for all types of scholarship awards. These donors range from the United States Government to foundations such as Ford, to colleges and universities, private organizations, business concerns, and foreign governments. IIE has earned its reputation in the way it has used these funds. Long experience has made the IIE experts in the careful selection and placement of thousands of exchanges yearly.

Task of the IIE

IIE provides more than day-to-day administrative services. Through its publications and personal counseling it serves as a central clearinghouse of information on all aspects of exchange of persons. In the last few years the Institute has taken more initiative in creating new programs and setting up new awards. At a time when propaganda is often substituted for truth, the Institute believes that international exchange can be a deciding factor in the battle for men's minds.

IIE Officers

Kenneth Holland, President
Donald J. Shank, Executive Vice-President
Albert G. Sims, Vice-President for Operations
Pearl G. Purcell, Executive Assistant to the President
Richard C. Raymond, Director of the Hungarian Program

IIE Regional Offices

Five regional offices participate actively in the programs of the IIE. These offices in Chicago, Denver, Houston, San Francisco, and Washington are local centers for information on international exchange.

Report on Hungarians in Universities

MANY FRIENDS of Hungarian students joined forces, enabling the students to begin their studies this year. Up to October 1, the combined program-committees of the Institute of International Education and the World University Service managed the technical details. At their invitation, they received 1,068 offers from various institutions of tuition exemption or scholarships.

By November 15, 745 of the above offers had been accepted by 290 institutions. Fifty-nine scholarship placements are now being processed. Two hundred and sixty-four offers had to be turned down, however. There were four main reasons why these offers could not be utilized:

- * they were offered by non-accredited institutions
- * the institutions withdrew their offer from the IIE-WUS program and filled these places themselves
- * the offer had expired before it could be used
- * the scholarship was for a field for which there were not enough applicants, such as liberal arts for women, theology, teaching, etc.

Aside from those placed by IIE-WUS, 188 students found places for themselves, or were aided privately. Twenty-one students studied only English at various universities. This means that at the present time, there is a total of 954 Hungarian students studying in the United States.

Student placement, however, did not stop after the term had begun. It was taken over by the WUS on October 1, and has since been carried on in co-operation with our Association. It is hoped that 150 more students will be placed by the beginning of the February term. The remainder will be placed before the school year begins in September, 1958.

The work at present is twofold: scholarships offered by universities have to be continually utilized, and the support of large business concerns and technical organizations has to be won. The support of business and technical firms is especially important because almost half of the Hungarian students had been taking technical courses in Hungary. Among those already placed, more than 350 are taking engineering courses.

The Spring placement campaign was introduced by an appeal from the AHS,

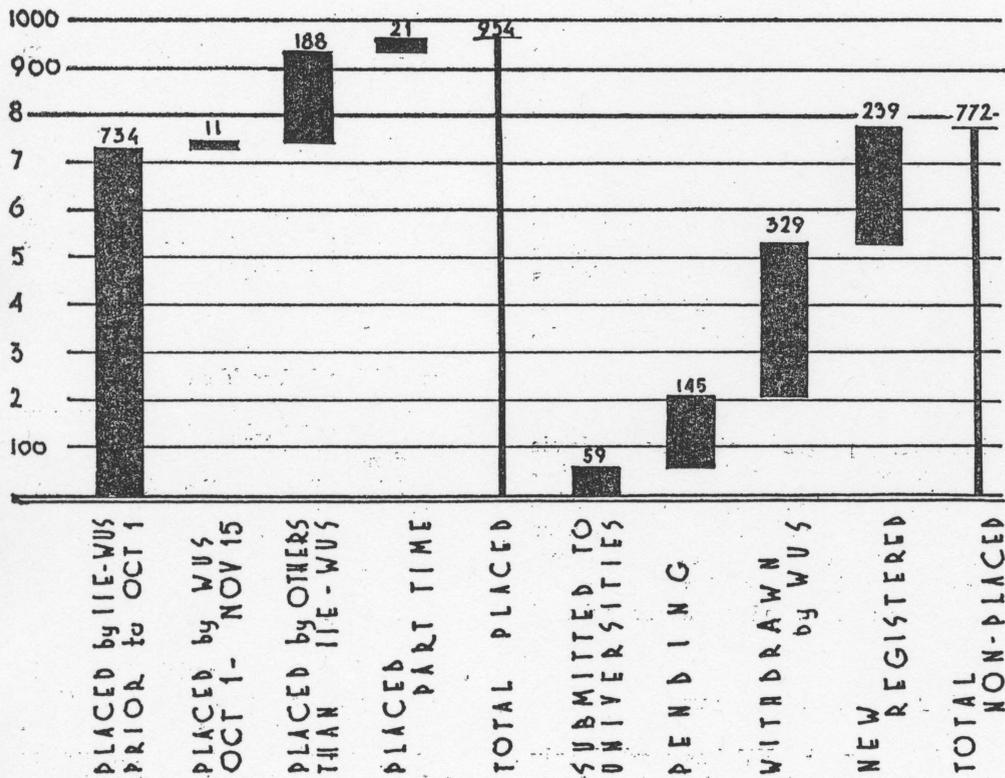
directed at its own members. As a result, Hungarian students have aided their fellow students. *They have collected enough money to provide for a full year's scholarship for two Hungarian students who arrived from a Yugoslav camp.* The amount, about \$2,000, is perhaps not large, but it demonstrates the co-operation and strength of the Hungarian community of students.

The success of Hungarian students at universities was watched with great interest. It is true that about four to five per cent dropped out at the beginning of the school year because of insufficient preparation, language difficulties, or social problems. But the majority of students held their own, keeping up with their American fellow students. An example of this are the results achieved by twenty-five Hungarians at the University of Berkeley in the first three months of the year:

Excellent	3	12%
Good	12	48%
Fair	8	32%
Poor	2	8%

These figures compare favorably with the figures of American students at Berkeley.

STUDENTS REGISTERED
IN THE U.S.A. = 1726



Policy Committee of HRSP Revealed

THE JOINT POLICY COMMITTEE for the Hungarian Refugee Student Program included the following members:

Dr. George N. Shuster-(Chairman),
President, Hunter College

Kenneth Holland-President, IIE

Albert G. Sims-Operating Vice-President, IIE

Richard C. Raymond-(Director of Program),
Director of U.S. Dep't. of IIE

Wilmer J. Kitchen-Executive Secretary, WUS

Tracy S. Voorhees-Chairman of President's Committee for Hungarian Refugee Relief

John A. Krout-Provost and Vice-President, Columbia University

Dr. Buel Gallagher-President, City College of New York

Charles Sternberg-International Rescue Committee

Father Francis Hurley-National Catholic Welfare Conference

John Simons-Foundation for Youth and Student Affairs

(Representatives from resettlement committees such as HIAS, and the Lutheran Refugee Service.)

Facts and Figures

English Language Training Centers used throughout the Refugee Student Program:

Bard College, New York—for 325 students
 St. Michael's, Vermont—for 100 students
 Schools which trained groups of ten to twenty-five students:

Columbia Teachers College, New York, N.Y.
 Wellesley College, Wellesley, Mass.
 Southwestern Louisiana Institute, Lafayette, La.
 University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, N. M.

Temple University, Philadelphia, Pa.
 Manhattan College, New York, N.Y.
 Carroll College, Helena, Mont.
 Queens College, Flushing, N. Y.
 Elmhurst College, Elmhurst, Ill.
 Earlham College, Richmond, Ind.
 University of Illinois, Urbana, Ill.
 Georgetown University, Washington, D.C.
 University of Oklahoma, Norman, Okla.
 University of Miami, Coral Gables, Fla.
 Indiana University, Bloomington, Ind.

Contributions to the Hungarian Refugee Student Program:

International Rescue Committee	\$125,000
First Aid for Hungary	76,000
Kellogg Foundation	50,000
Milbank Memorial Fund	15,000
Other Sources (including Commonwealth Fund)	30,000
TOTAL:	\$296,000

"Crash Program" Successful

DURING the Revolution, the Hungarian people made a desperate attempt to free themselves, even though they were eventually crushed by military forces.

The Revolution produced an exodus of people seeking safety in other lands. Hundreds of young men and women students eventually made their way to the United States.

The President's Committee for Hungarian Refugee Relief, set up to meet the Hungarian refugee emergency and headed by Tracy S. Voorhees, concluded that a stepped-up program was necessary to take care of the young Freedom Fighters whose education had been interrupted by the Revolution. A Joint Policy Committee for the Hungarian Refugee Student Program had previously been set up by the Institute of International Education and the World University Service. It was chaired by Dr. George N. Shuster, president of Hunter College. Representatives were included from the Institute of International Education, the World University Service, the

International Rescue Committee, the National Catholic Welfare Conference, and resettlement agencies. John A. Krout, provost and vice-president of Columbia University and Mr. Voorhees, both of the President's Committee, also served with this group.

The committee soon realized that there were a large number of Hungarian students coming to the United States and that placing these students in American colleges and universities demanded a "crash program." The committee therefore called on the services of the Institute of International Education and the World University Service. IIE-WUS immediately went to work to meet the emergency. At the same time, IIE and WUS sent a letter asking for scholarship help to more than 1,200 accredited colleges and universities in the United States.

It soon became apparent that many of the Hungarian students did not speak English well enough to study in American classrooms. In order to meet this problem IIE last spring set up an English language training program. Bard College in Annandale-on-Hudson, New York and Saint Michael's College in Vermont offered their facilities for the establishment of English language centers. Over 300 Hungarian students went to Bard for an intensive two-months English language training and 100 others studied at Saint Michael's for fifteen weeks. In addition, fifteen colleges and universities set up English language programs for small groups, totaling 225 students. Funds to support these programs were given by the Rockefeller and Ford Foundations and the Rockefeller Brothers Fund. The schools handling these programs also made large financial contributions.

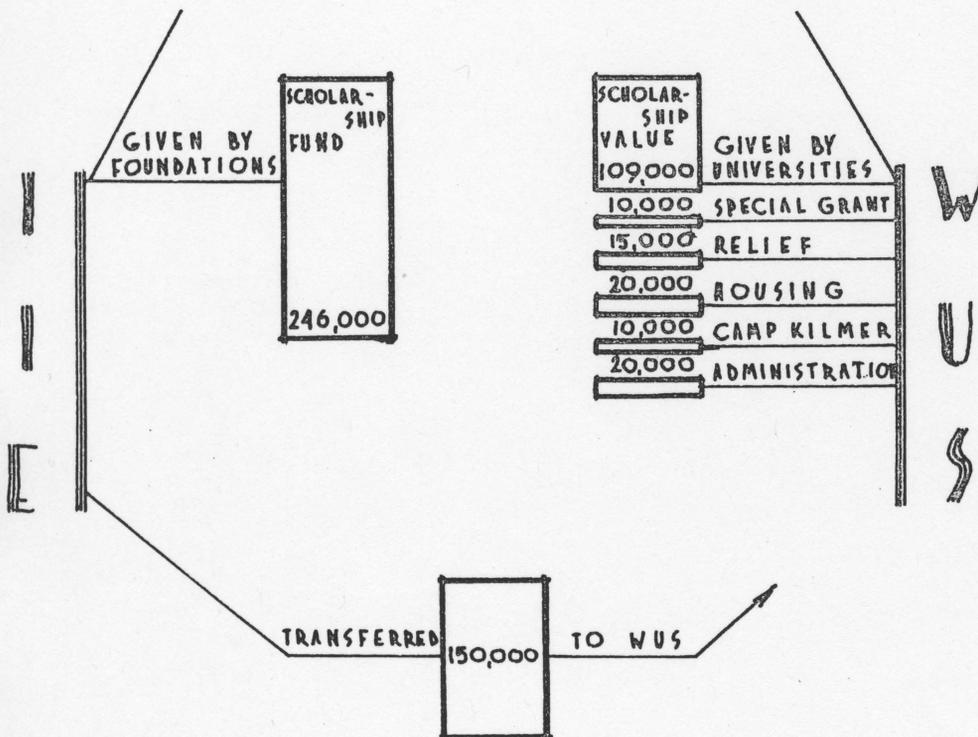
Meanwhile, the letters sent out soliciting scholarships had brought an unexpected response. Approximately 500 scholarship offers came in immediately, and before the termination of the IIE-WUS Refugee Program on October 1, 1957, a total of 1,086 scholarships, full and partial, were offered by American colleges and universities.

In less than one year the emergency of the Hungarian refugee student was met. As of October 1, the integrated unit of IIE-WUS was terminated and the remaining activities turned over to WUS alone. The IIE-WUS unit had been in joint operation since April 15, with its cost underwritten by a special grant from the President's Fund.

The program was summed up by Mr. Richard C. Raymond, director of the joint IIE-WUS student project: "We have managed to place all the highly qualified and exceptional Hungarian students who came to this country."

I I E - W U S HUNGARIAN FINANCIAL PROGRAM

\$ 396,000 + \$ 184,000



ENGLISH SUMMARY OF THE HUNGARIAN SECTION

Lorinc Szabo. One of Hungary's most famous poets, he is represented here by six poems. According to the news, the Hungarian government wanted him to sign the publication by Giro. "I shall remain silent," said Lorinc Szabo, and until his death last month, he never went back on his word.

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Hungarian Workshop. Laszlo Nemeth's article concerns the necessity of establishing a creative "workshop" dealing with Hungarian affairs. The article was written in September 1956, a little more than a month before the Revolution. Nemeth wrote of the revolutionary, spirited people. "Sometimes the mechanical organization puts such oppression on life that people are worriedly asking, 'which is stronger, the skeleton or the human soul reaching for totality?' But there are always more and more signs showing, that without slaves, you can't have a market."

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Sopron in Canada. The University of Sopron which is more than 100 years old, received refuge in Vancouver, Canada. There, as one of the faculties of the University of British Columbia, it continues its work. Students worked all summer to earn the following year's academic costs. The situation is good: students are studying and with their teachers, are preserving the traditions of the University of Sopron.

Essay about Monterey. The book, *Tortilla Flat*, by John Steinbeck enchanted some Hungarian students. They set out for Monterey, California. Instead of finding the type of people Steinbeck described in his book, they met a group of Hungarian refugees who lived a Bohemian life. These refugees and their life in Monterey are described in a humorous essay.

* * *

The Hungarian Situation. The "instantly executing" judgment was stopped, but everything possible is being done to break the resistance of the "silent writers." The exchange of Party members' books, as well as recent dismissals in the state machinery are evident. Agricultural collective concerns are maintained, and everything is being done to break the stubbornness of the youth. This is the situation in present-day Hungary.

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News from Hungary. The Hungarian government has attempted to establish a stronger regime. Through legal publications and "promise-covered" warnings, they want to end the remaining resistance. At the same time, the Party's paper criticized the unpreparedness of educators. "It isn't right, for example, what happened at the Institute of Technology, where students before classes asked the instructor several sneaky questions. He took these to be provocative and left the class."

Editor's Message. One of our fellow-students writes from Iowa, that the student newsletter should not only relate news from all over the world, but that it should also nurse the mother language. This is especially noticed by students who live in largely American surroundings. They have few chances to receive anything written in Hungarian. As a result, they have little contact with Hungary or with the Hungarian language. "This is true," the editor answers. "Our paper tries to present as much material in Hungarian as possible and we are always looking for more articles. We welcome contributions from our readers, whether it be news, features, or drawings."

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Letter from Sweden. We have friends everywhere. A letter was delivered to the editors from Stockholm, Sweden, in which the author gives an account of the city's characteristics.

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Two Christmas Poems. The Association wishes all its members and their friends a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year by printing two Christmas poems of Endre Ady and Attila Jozsef.

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Notices. The Association will announce to its members all important events, including scholarships, meetings, and dances.

The Hungarian Student is an official monthly publication of the Association of Hungarian Students in the United States.

Subscriptions are \$5.00 a year for any person or organization. No fees are paid for published articles and all material for publication must be received by the 15th of the month prior to issue.

Application for Second-Class Mail Privileges is pending at New York, New York.

Editor-in-Chief: L. G. PAPP

Managing Editor: A. B. NAGY

Editorial Office: 22 East 38th Street,
New York, 16, New York

Business Office: Room 308, 44 Bromfield Street,
Boston, Massachusetts

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Hungarian Refugees Hit by Unemployment

WASHINGTON, May 31 (AP).—"At home we had other troubles," writes a refugee from Communist Hungary now living in Detroit, "but no trouble to find work. I haven't been out of work for such a long time in my whole life as in the last eighteen months."

His desperation reflects a growing problem among the 38,041 Hungarians who fled to the United States after the abortive revolt in October, 1956.

Generally, the refugee has fitted remarkably well into his new life here. Complaints are few.

But among those employed by industry, from 25 to 30 per cent have been laid off in the last six months. These figures—collected by relief organizations—mean 4,000 to 5,000 persons, about two-thirds of whom don't receive unemployment compensation.

Another major problem facing most of the refugees is the question of a permanent resident status.

The first group of 6,131 Hungarians, who escaped during the early days of the uprising, received regular visas and are immigrants. The remaining 31,910 are parolees, offered asylum in the United States by President Eisenhower.

Congress May Help

While the problem of permanent status for the refugees may soon be solved by favorable Congressional action, unemployment may not prove to be so simple to overcome. So far the recession has affected only industrial workers, the group that didn't know unemployment in Communist-ruled Hungary. And it's hard for them to

understand how this happens in the free world.

Relief officials fear unemployment is likely to increase the number of disillusioned who might want to return to Hungary.

Apparently unworried, government officials point out that only 298 refugees returned voluntarily to Hungary. This proves, they say, that the layoffs "resulted in nothing serious."

How do the refugees find life in America?

An unofficial poll by letter among all age groups, from all walks of life, indicates that for the most part they are adjusting rapidly and skillfully.

Many letters spoke proudly of what had been achieved in a short time.

"We work hard, but at least we know why," wrote an agronomist. "According to an old Hungarian saying, money does not make you happy. Well, it does here."

Ivan Bors, an engineer, wrote about his seven-room house, 1950 Cadillac and new furniture.

Bela Szeneczey, an industrial worker in Pittsburgh, is proud that he has \$1,000 in the bank.

Except for unemployment no one discussed personal grievances.

U. S. Practices Criticized

But there were criticisms of certain aspects of American life:

1. Youth.

"Freedom is the greatest treasure of man, but its excesses can produce man-eating flowers," said Francis Zold, a former newspaper man, now a

fencing instructor in Los Angeles. He added: "American children get accustomed that if they do something wrong there is nobody to punish them and grow up believing that they can do whatever they want."

2. Technical skill.

All industrial workers and engineers agreed that the standard of technicians here is lower than that in Communist Hungary. One wrote:

"Watching them with the eyes of a European, the American worker is not adequately skilled. There is enormous waste in the factories, they work slowly, employing often

primitive methods. With only a few exceptions, the American engineer knows less than his opposite number in Europe."

3. Foreign affairs.

A number criticized what they called the "lukewarm attitude of the United States in foreign affairs." A young physicist, an active fighter in the 1956 revolt, said: "The weakness of American foreign policy represents a horrible danger for the whole world."

These impersonal criticisms more than likely mean that most Hungarians are taking a personal pride in their new home.

HUNGARIANS— H T K— ..
SET & HOLD FOR ORDERS
PRFS TO CITY DESK
FRI PLS—

By **HARRISON E SALISBURY**

Rising unemployment among the 38,248 Hungarians who were given asylum in the United States after the 1956 revolt is arousing concern among government and welfare agencies.

Comprehensive figures on Hungarian joblessness are not available. But a sampling, especially of hard-hit automotive and steel centers, leaves no question that the situation in some localities is serious.

Economic difficulties appear to be one blemish upon a strikingly positive record of achievement in the resettlement and integration of the Hungarians.

Eighteen months after the first refugees arrived at Camp Kilmer, near New Brunswick, N. J., it is agreed by most social agencies, that no other immigrant group has adapted so rapidly and so constructively to the American way of life.

Rivals Alger Stories

The number of Hungarian success stories already enacted on United States soil rivals the classic tales of Horatio Alger. A brilliant record, despite many special problems, has been made by the Hungarian students.

41 - 41 - 41 -

However, a dark shadow overhangs the achievements of the Hungarians and of the many communities and social agencies that got them off to such a good start.

That is the shadow of economic stress that stems from the recession in American business. This began to be felt within a few months of the placement of the first Hungarian settlers.

The economic difficulties have, in recent months, loomed larger and larger in the lives of many recently arrived Hungarians. Whether they have reached the point of justifying an organized program of action—possibly of a Federal nature—is a matter of some controversy.

Such big national voluntary agencies as the National Catholic Welfare Council, World Church Service and HIAS, the Jewish agency, are closely watching the situation. So far they believe local community action is adequate to meet Hungarian needs.

This view is challenged, sometimes quite sharply, by some of the community agencies in the field that must cope with the day-by-day problem of trying to find jobs, aid and assistance for the Hungarians.

Tracy S. Voorhies, President Eisenhower's coordinator for the original movement of Hungarian refugees, has been engaged in recent weeks in a private, unofficial exploration of the situation. He wants to ascertain whether special intervention is justified and what form it might take. Mr. Voorhies' examination of the problem is still in progress.

The concern of some Washington officials relates not only to the plight of the Hungarians as individuals. It is also directed to the unfortunate image of America that would be created abroad if a substantial number of Hungarians encountered persistent economic difficulties and if a considerable number returned to Hungary.

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Thus far, the recession and loss of jobs have swelled only slightly the trickle of Hungarians applying for repatriation. The numbers going back from the United States are not out of line with the totals returning to Hungary from other countries. The number who voluntarily have returned from the United States is slightly less than 500, not even 1.5 per cent of the total. Last month seventeen were repatriated. Fifty-five others have been cleared to return and seventy-four more have applied for voluntary repatriation.

Increase Noted

In recent weeks the number of applications has tended to rise. There are tell-tale signs in Detroit and Cleveland that continued economic distress will substantially increase the flow-back. Catholic Charities in New York City have had 118 repatriation applications referred by the U. S. Immigration Service since Jan. 1, 1958—three times as many as in the previous six months.

No central agency has figures on how many refugees have lost jobs. Dr. B. C. Maday of Coordinated Hungarian Relief, Washington, suggests that unemployment is about 10 to 15 per cent—perhaps 3,000 to 4,000 persons. He believes about 10,000 have lost jobs but more than half have obtained other positions, often less desirable and lower paid.

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An independent check by The New York Times of some of the principal areas of Hungarian settlement indicates that Dr. Maday's figures are low. Some field workers in Cleveland, for example, estimate that nearly 800 of the approximately 2,000 refugees who were settled there are jobless. Dr. Maday's estimate was 200.

In Detroit the estimate of unemployment runs up to 70 or 80 per cent of the 1,600 refugees now believed to be in the area. Dr. Maday's figures was 200.

The principal areas of unemployment are those associated with the automotive and steel industries. These happened to be regions to which many Hungarians were directed. There is also substantial unemployment among Hungarians in Connecticut industrial towns.

All Worked in 1957

Torrington, for example, a year ago was a model settlement area with fifty Hungarians, all working. Today it has 150 refugees, of whom only a handful have jobs. Bridgeport and New Haven report extensive refugee unemployment.

47 — 47 — 47 — 47

Accurate figures for New York City are not available. The city absorbed about 5,200 of the 9,000 Hungarians who settled in New York State. Many have drifted here in search of work.

Catholic charities, which handled about 3,500 of the New York City total, have no figures on unemployment. Jewish agencies settled 1,250 Hungarians here. Jobs were found for about half. Of the half, 367 have lost jobs and returned for re-placement in the last ten months.

The New York Association for New Americans, the Jewish placement agency, does not regard this as excessive. It says, however, that it is having difficulty placing professional persons, particularly chemists and engineers.

In general the ratio of unemployment runs higher among refugees than in the total population. Most employable Hungarians obtained jobs on the eve of recession or even after it started. They were "last in, first out" when the lay-offs started.

Automotive Problem

By general agreement the most difficult situation confronting the Hungarians is that in Detroit and the other automotive cities.

41 — 41 — 41 — 41

The Rev. Andrew Jacobs of Holy Roman Catholic Church in Detroit, a leader in settling Hungarians, is alarmed.

"Many of the Hungarians have had only five or six months' work in their eighteen months here," he reported. "The situation is pretty bad. About fifty have returned to Hungary from this area. There is a whole slew of people ready to go back."

Father Jacobs said that some Hungarians youngsters had been taken into the Army, then discharged when "they didn't learn fast enough." He added:

"Now they are on the street—with nothing. No job. No unemployment compensation. One came in the other day. He was one of the freedom fighters. He said, 'I'm going to have to leave. I can't beg. I can't ask people for money. I'll go back to Hungary. Sure. I'll sit in prison for six months. But then it will be all over.' "

'Can't Tell My Mother'

Father Jacobs said another young Hungarian had told him tearfully, "What am I going to write home? I can't tell my mother that I have to beg to live. I don't know what to do. I can't go out and break into places."

Father Jacobs said he knew of one jobless Hungarian who had taken a brick, smashed the window of a jewelry store and told the police, "Come and get me. At least now I'll have a place to sleep."

For a time a soup kitchen was run by the Detroit Hungarian churches and societies. A fund of \$67,000 was raised with contributions. Two free meals were provided daily and emergency rent advances were made. These funds were exhausted last fall.

About 300 Hungarian refugees in Detroit are estimated to be drawing unemployment aid. There are twenty-four Hungarian cases on the Wayne County, Mich., relief rolls.

The Rev. John Paul Nagy of the Free Magyar Reform Church of Detroit estimated that about eighteen persons had completed applications for return to Hungary. They include one family with five children.

Restlessness Cited

"The younger men who are unemployed," Father Nagy said, "are restless. Some of them are talking about returning because they know they at least would have work. These people are used to working. There never was a time in Hungary when there wasn't a job. Work was compulsory."

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The situation in Cleveland was described by Steve Esterhas of the Hungarian Catholic League as "not good." The Hungarians were the first to be laid off. Many were not eligible for unemployment benefits or relief. Older-generation Hungarian immigrants raised funds for a soup kitchen for the freedom fighters.

"But we ran out of money," Mr. Esterhas reported. "The kitchen is closed. We were feeding forty to fifty people a day. Now they are on charity."

In the Chicago area, where about 2,500 Hungarian refugees are settled, unemployment is estimated by Catholic relief agencies at about 30 per cent of the employable workers. These agencies expressed concern about what they described as a tendency of some young Hungarians to drift about the country from job to job, often getting into trouble. Few refugees are entitled to unemployment compensation or public relief. Most hardship cases are being handled by the Hungarian community.

Similar Picture

With only minor variations in detail, the picture in Pittsburgh Buffalo and other larger communities in the iron and steel area resembles that in Cleveland and Chicago.

A sharp contrast, however, is provided in Milwaukee, Wis., where a notable community settlement job was done under the leadership of a committee headed by Charles O'Neill. Milwaukee took about 300 Hungarians. Refugees have lost jobs in about the same proportion as others in the city, but few Hungarians have remained without jobs.

Only one Hungarian family is on public relief. Only one person has returned voluntarily to Hungary—an unsettled woman of middle age.

"We had one couple which applied to return," Mr. O'Neill reported. "These people were downhearted and discontented. They had lost their job. A story appeared in the papers about them. They got a job. That ended it. There has been no more talk about going back to Hungary."

73 - 73 - 73 - 73

On the other hand, Torrington, Conn., where an excellent settlement job provided jobs and homes for fifty Hungarians last year, has had very bad luck. About 100 more refugees were attracted to the city by their countrymen's success.

90% Without Jobs

Today, according to the Rev. Norman E. Sutterlin of St. Paul's Church, 90 per cent of the 150 have lost their jobs. Some are getting unemployment benefits. A few are on relief. Some drifted to other communities. One man who holds a doctor's degree in political science left Torrington for New York City, where he became a porter in an office building.

No group of Hungarians has made a finer record in the United States than the students. The Hungarian Students Association, headed by L. G. Papp, estimates that about 1,800 students reached the United States.

About 1,100 are continuing their education here, 912 through the assistance of the World University Service, and 200 through private means. Not a single student in this group—as far as the Students Association and the University Service can ascertain—has returned to Hungary.

This does not mean that the Hungarian students have not had difficulties. Many have had language troubles, sometimes causing them to leave school. About half have had full scholarships, including funds for room and board. The others have received free tuition but have had to work in their spare time. Most of them are working this summer—if they could get jobs.

Not Biggest Problems

The economic questions are not the major problems for the students.

Mr. Papp classified the youngsters—most of whom were actual participants in the Hungarian fighting—in three categories. He said 10 per cent were very happy and satisfied to “change their poor country for a very good nice life.” Another 10 per cent is “unhappy, dissatisfied and very critical—critical of everything just because it’s different,” he said.

But 80 per cent of the students take a middle path. There is much that they like, much they don’t like.

“What we students like”, Mr. Papp said, “and what all Hungarians like is our freedom here. We can go where we wish. We can do what we wish. And we do not feel like strangers. We do not feel people look down on us because we are foreigners.”

Mr. Papp named three major difficulties in adjustment for Hungarian students: Relations between young men and young women, health and medical care and religion.

Mr. Papp said that Hungarian young people found their American college companions “about ten years younger than we are.”

“American college boys and girls don’t have real relations—they have play relations,” he said. We find it very unhealthy.”

Others Share Views

Mr. Papp’s views were shared by a representative group of students that included Bela Lukas, 22 years old, studying at Stevens Institute of Technology, Hoboken, N. J.; Charles and Laslo Hollosy, 20 and 24, respectively, studying at Notre Dame University in Indiana; Eva Varga Kiss, 21, studying at the University of Miami, and George Olgyay, 28, a Columbia University graduate student.

Mr. Lukas said American girls “are interested in youngster questions—big yellow cars, white socks. They almost never read. All they like is TV.”

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Miss Kiss said she found American boys very badly informed. They know little about their own culture and nothing about that of Europe, she contended.

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The students agreed that a big problem was proper medical and dental care. Many colleges do not have clinics. The youngsters do not have money for expensive treatment, nor are they covered by medical insurance plans. In Hungary they were accustomed to free state medical care. This has been a problem, they said, for all Hungarians in the United States.

Churchgoers Compared

Mr. Papp, a Calvinist Lutheran, said he felt religious feeling was much deeper in Communist Hungary than in democratic America.

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"Religious feeling has been very deep in Hungary," he said, "ever since the Communists came in. Even people who did not go to church before go now. In Hungary we went to church to be quiet, to pray, to think, to be close to God. Here there doesn't seem to be any real contact between man and God. There is something wrong. The churches advertise in the newspapers. They seem to be all ceremony."

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Miss Kiss said that the church in Hungary did not place as much emphasis on ceremony. "I don't find what I feel in the American church," she said.

In Mr. Papp's opinion, about 60 per cent of the students hope eventually to return to Hungary—not the present Communist Hungary, but a liberated Hungary in which it would be possible for them to live as they desire.

Parents Delighted

They have been subjected to very few pressures or appeals to return to Hungary. Most of them are in correspondence with their parents. The parents are delighted to have them in America.

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A refugee well advanced on the path to American citizenship is not considered as likely apt to think of returning to his homeland—even if he loses his job—as one whose legal status is precarious.

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Two of her novels have been published in New York in Hungarian and are being sold in many parts of the world. A third will be published in the fall. With the royalties she hopes to publish English translations.

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70 — Seventy — 70

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The reason for these changes can be found in a long and complex immigration action in which Mr. Bastamov has been involved. No decision has yet been reached. If Mr. Bastamov is permitted to remain in the United States, the chances are that he will yet write a new chapter in the eternal American success story.

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Egon Seremely, once one of Budapest's leading jazz pianists, and his pretty wife, Johan, were touring America last year. Now they have settled down, working at the Jack Tar Hotel, Galveston, Tex., in one of a series of long engagements for a hotel chain.

32 — 32 — 32 — 32

Another couple who have made a rapid adjustment are Dr. and Mrs. Imre Berczeller, among the first Hungarian refugees to arrive in the United States. Dr. Berczeller is a resident physician at the Institute for Living, Hartford, Conn. Mrs. Berczeller is at the New School for Social research here, working on her doctor's thesis in the history of political philosophy and looking after her 8-year-old twins, Olga and Josef, who finished their second year of American school with ratings of excellent.

Established in New Home

Karl Rath, a Hungarian photographer-reporter, and his wife, Ildiko, who was seriously wounded fighting Russian tanks in Budapest, have become established residents of Harrisburg, Pa. Mr. Rath until recently was a news photographer for the Harrisburg newspapers. Now he is a photographer for the State Museum.

Two or three of the young unattached workers surveyed here in 1957 could not be located. Presumably they have taken jobs in other parts of the country.

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But one man is just where he was a year ago. He is Bela Feher, a Budapest stamp dealer who came here with his wife and three children. He is living in Patchogue, L. I., working as night watchman in a laundry and carefully saving his money against the day when he can re-enter the stamp business.

He has managed to get some of his stamps out of Hungary. His oldest boy, Mike, is 12 and seems to be mechanically inclined. Veronica, 10, has learned English rapidly and was on her school's honors list. Chaba, 3½ is chubby and healthy. The family has a second-hand car.

"Really there's nothing unusual about the Feher's now," a friend said. "They're just a normal American family, getting along in the world."

This characterization can be made of far more Hungarians than the Feher's. Regardless of temporary troubles, the vast majority of them are rapidly and efficiently integrating themselves into American life.

Had it not been for the unfortunate coincidence of the economic recession, this, undoubtedly, would have been the story in all parts of the country.

The New York Times.

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Times Square, New York 36, N. Y.

NEW YORK, MONDAY, JULY 14, 1958.

Recession Hurts Hungarian Refugees



The New York Times

Jobless refugees in Cleveland pass the time outside a Hungarian pastry shop. Estimates of the unemployed among 2,000 Hungarian refugees in the Ohio city range from 200 to 800. Many are not eligible for unemployment benefits.

Unemployment Marring Success of Resettlement

By HARRISON E. SALISBURY

Rising unemployment among the 38,248 Hungarians who were given asylum in the United States after the 1956 revolt is arousing concern among government and welfare agencies.

Comprehensive figures are not available. But a sampling, especially of hard-hit automotive and steel centers, leaves no question that the situation in some localities is serious.

Economic difficulties appear to be one blemish upon a strikingly positive record of achievement in the resettlement and integration of the Hungarians.

Eighteen months after the first refugees arrived at Camp Kilmer, near New Brunswick, N. J., it is agreed by most social agencies, that no other immigrant group has adapted so rapidly and so constructively to the American way of life.

Rivals Alger Stories

The number of Hungarian success stories already enacted on United States soil rivals the classic tales of Horatio Alger. A brilliant record, despite many special problems, has been made by the Hungarian students.

However, a dark shadow overhangs the achievements of the Hungarians and of the many communities and social agencies that got them off to such a good start.

This is the shadow of economic stress that stems from the recession in American business. This began to be felt within a few months of the placement of the first Hungarian settlers.

The economic difficulties have, in recent months, loomed larger and larger in the lives of many recently arrived Hungarians. Whether they have reached the point of justifying an organized program of action—possibly of a Federal nature—is a matter of some controversy.

Such big national voluntary agencies as the National Catholic Welfare Council, World Church Service and HIAS, the Jewish agency, are closely watching the situation. So far they believe local community action is adequate to meet Hungarian needs.

This view is challenged, some-

Continued on Page 13, Column 1

Rising Recession Unemployment Mars U. S. Integration of Hungarian Refugees

INDUSTRIAL AREAS SHOW MOST STRESS

Some Officials Fear Damage to Country's Standing if Repatriation Mounts

Continued From Page 1

times quite sharply, by some of the community agencies in the field that must cope with the day-by-day problem of trying to find jobs, aid and assistance for the Hungarians.

Tracy S. Voorhees, President Eisenhower's coordinator for the original movement of Hungarian refugees, has been engaged in recent weeks in a private, unofficial exploration of the situation. He wants to ascertain whether special intervention is justified and what form it might take. Mr. Voorhees' examination of the problem is still in progress.

The concern of some Washington officials relates not only to the plight of the Hungarians as individuals. It is also directed to the unfortunate image of America that would be created abroad if a substantial number of Hungarians encountered persistent economic difficulties and if a considerable number returned to Hungary.

Thus far, the recession and loss of jobs have swelled only slightly the trickle of Hungarians applying for repatriation. The numbers going back from the United States are not out of line with the totals returning to Hungary from other countries. The number who voluntarily have returned from the United States is slightly less than 500, not even 1.5 per cent of the total. Last month seventeen were repatriated. Fifty-five others have been cleared to return and seventy-four more have applied for voluntary repatriation.

Increase Noted

In recent weeks the number of applications has tended to rise. There are tell-tale signs in Detroit and Cleveland that continued economic distress will substantially increase the flow-back. Catholic Charities in New York City have had 118 repatriation applications referred by the U. S. Immigration Service since Jan. 1, 1958—three times as many as in the previous six months.

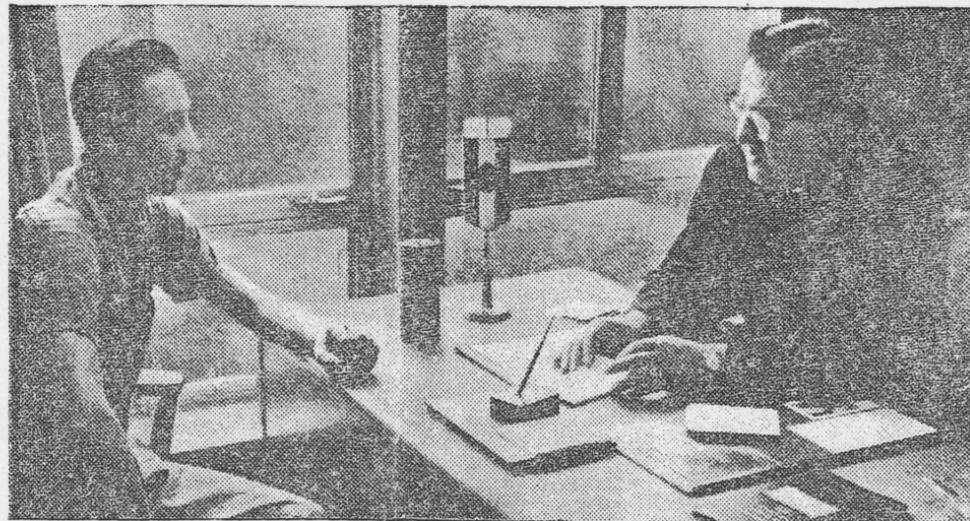
No central agency has figures on how many refugees have lost jobs. Dr. B. C. Maday of Co-ordinated Hungarian Relief, Washington, suggests that unemployment is about 10 to 15 per cent—perhaps 3,000 to 4,000



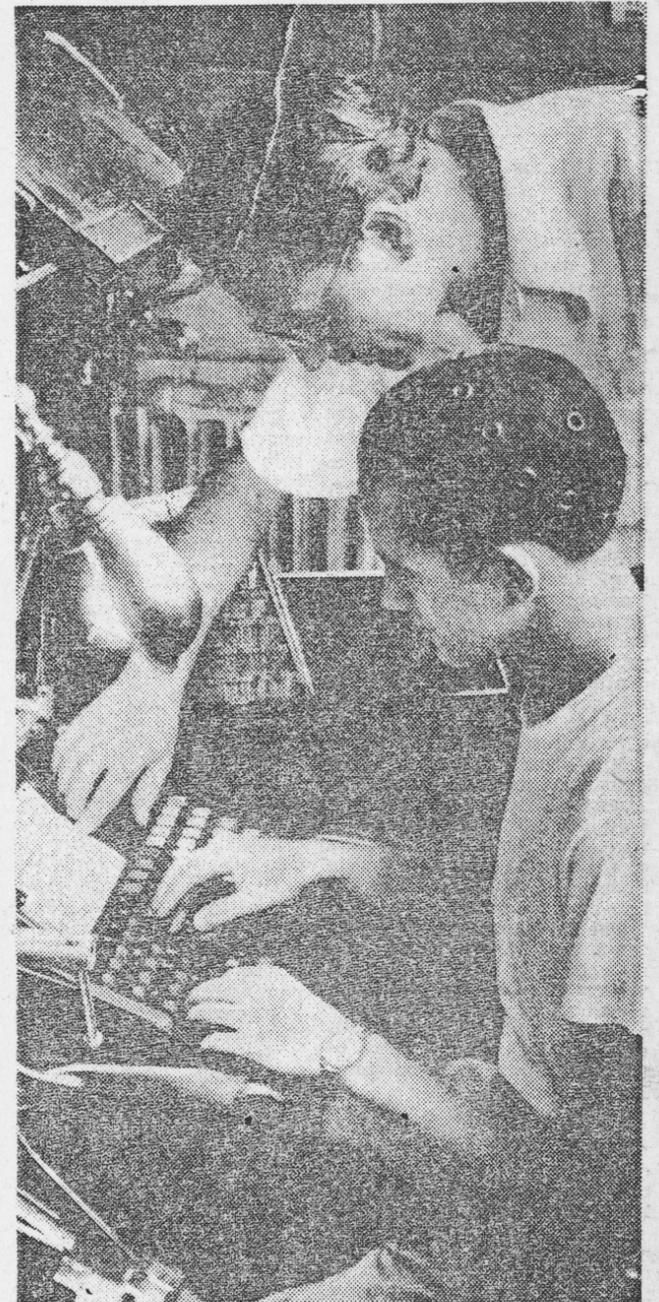
BALLERINA: Klara Andrasi, 13, seems headed for success in New York. She is the holder of four scholarships.



STUDENTS, in New York, discuss new-world problems with L. G. Papp, left, head of Hungarian Students Association. Students, from left: Charles Hollosy, Eva Varga Kiss, George Olgay, Laszlo Hollosy and Bela Lukas (partly obscured). As a group, students fared better than other refugees, but have had some difficulties adjusting to U. S. life.



ELECTRICIAN: Steve Pacai, unemployed, is counseled by the Rev. Andrew Jacobs of Holy Cross Roman Catholic Church, Detroit. Refugees there have been hit by recession.



APPRENTICE, at machine of Hungarian-language paper in Cleveland, receives instruction in trade from a printer.

The New York Times (by Carl T. Gossett Jr., Ernest Sisto, Neal Boenzi)

with nothing. No job. No unemployment compensation. One came in the other day. He was one of the freedom fighters. He said, 'I'm going to have to leave. I can't beg. I can't ask people for money. I'll go back to Hungary. Sure, I'll sit in prison for six months. But then it will be all over.'

'Can't Tell My Mother'

Father Jacobs said another young Hungarian had told him tearfully, "What am I going to write home? I can't tell my mother that I have to beg to live. I don't know what to do. I can't go out and break into places."

Hungarians have remained without jobs.

Only one Hungarian family is on public relief. Only one person has returned voluntarily to Hungary—an unsettled woman of middle age.

"We had one couple which applied to return," Mr. O'Neill reported. "These people were downhearted and discontented. They had lost their job. A story appeared in the papers about them. They got a job. That ended it. There has been no more talk about going back to Hungary."

On the other hand, Torrington, Conn., where an excellent settlement job provided jobs and homes for fifty Hungarians last year, has had very bad luck. About 100 more refugees were

and Laszlo Hollosy, 20 and 24, respectively, studying at Notre Dame University in Indiana; Eva Varga Kiss, 21, studying at the University of Miami, and George Olgay, 28, a Columbia University graduate student.

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persons. He believes about 10,000 have lost jobs but more than half have obtained other positions, often less desirable and lower paid.

An independent check by The New York Times of some of the principal areas of Hungarian settlement indicates that Dr. Maday's figures are low. Some field workers in Cleveland, for example, estimate that nearly 800 of the approximately 2,000 refugees who were settled there are jobless. Dr. Maday's estimate was 200.

In Detroit the estimate of unemployment runs up to 70 or 80 per cent of the 1,600 refugees now believed to be in the area. Dr. Maday's figures was 200.

The principal areas of unemployment are those associated with the automotive and steel industries. These happened to be regions to which many Hungarians were directed. There is also substantial unemployment among Hungarians in some Connecticut industrial towns.

All Worked in 1957

Torrington, for example, a year ago was a model settlement area with fifty Hungarians, all working. Today it has 150 refugees, of whom only a handful have jobs. Bridgeport and New Haven report extensive refugee unemployment.

Accurate figures for New York City are not available. The city absorbed about 5,200 of the 9,000 Hungarians who settled in New York State. Many have drifted here in search of work.

Catholic charities, which handled about 3,500 of the New York City total, have no figures on unemployment. Jewish agencies settled 1,250 Hungarians here. Jobs were found for about half. Of the half, 367 have lost jobs and returned for re-employment in the last ten months.

The New York Association for New Americans, the Jewish placement agency, does not regard this as excessive. It says, however, that it is having difficulty placing professional persons, particularly chemists and engineers.

In general the ratio of unemployment runs higher among refugees than in the total population. Most employable Hungarians obtained jobs on the eve of recession or even after it started. They were "last in, first out" when the lay-offs started.

Automotive Problem

By general agreement the most difficult situation confronting the Hungarians is that in Detroit and the other automotive cities.

The Rev. Andrew Jacobs of Holy Cross Roman Catholic Church in Detroit, a leader in settling Hungarians, is alarmed.

"Many of the Hungarians have had only five or six months' work in their eighteen months here," he reported. "The situation is pretty bad. About fifty have returned to Hungary from this area. There is a whole slew of people ready to go back."

Father Jacobs said that some Hungarian youngsters had been taken into the Army, then discharged when "they didn't learn fast enough." He added: "Now they are on the street—

Recently, Father Jacobs said, there has been some improvement in the situation. Temporary jobs have been found for some refugees. Others have been sent to the farm areas to help with the harvest.

Father Jacobs said he knew of one jobless Hungarian who had taken a brick, smashed the window of a jewelry store and told the police, "Come and get me. At least now I'll have a place to sleep."

For a time a soup kitchen was run by the Detroit Hungarian churches and societies. A fund of \$67,000 was raised with contributions. Two free meals were provided daily and emergency rent advances were made. These funds were exhausted last fall.

About 300 Hungarian refugees in Detroit are estimated to be drawing unemployment aid. There are twenty-four Hungarian cases on the Wayne County, Mich., relief rolls.

The Rev. John Paul Nagy of the Free Magyar Reform Church of Detroit estimated that about eighteen persons had completed applications for return to Hungary. They include one family with five children.

Restlessness Cited

"The younger men who are unemployed," Father Nagy said, "are restless. Some of them are talking about returning because they know they at least would have work. These people are used to working. There never was a time in Hungary when there wasn't a job. Work was compulsory."

The situation in Cleveland was described by Steve Esterhas of the Hungarian Catholic League as "not good." The Hungarians were the first to be laid off. Many were not eligible for unemployment benefits or relief. Older-generation Hungarian immigrants raised funds for a soup kitchen for the freedom fighters.

"But we ran out of money," Mr. Esterhas reported. "The kitchen is closed. We were feeding forty to fifty people a day. Now they are on charity."

In the Chicago area, where about 2,500 Hungarian refugees are settled, unemployment is estimated by Catholic relief agencies at about 30 per cent of the employable workers. These agencies expressed concern about what they described as a tendency of some young Hungarians to drift about the country from job to job, often getting into trouble. Few refugees are entitled to unemployment compensation or public relief. Most hardship cases are being handled by the Hungarian community.

Similar Picture

With only minor variations in detail, the picture in Pittsburgh, Buffalo and other larger communities in the iron and steel area resembles that in Cleveland and Chicago.

A sharp contrast, however, is provided in Milwaukee, Wis., where a notable community settlement job was done under the leadership of a committee headed by Charles O'Neill. Milwaukee took about 300 Hungarians. Refugees have lost jobs in about the same proportion as others in the city, but few

attracted to the city by their countrymen's success.

90% Without Jobs

Today, according to the Rev. Norman E. Sutterlin of St. Paul's Church, 90 per cent of the 150 have lost their jobs. Some are getting unemployment benefits. A few are on relief. Some drifted to other communities. One man who holds a doctor's degree in political science left Torrington for New York City, where he became a porter in an office building.

No group of Hungarians has made a finer record in the United States than the students. The Hungarian Students Association, headed by L. G. Papp, estimates that about 1,800 students reached the United States.

About 1,100 are continuing their education here, 912 through the assistance of the World University Service, and 200 through private means. Not a single student in this group—as far as the Students Association and the University Service can ascertain—has returned to Hungary.

This does not mean that the Hungarian students have not had difficulties. Many have had language troubles, sometimes causing them to leave school. About half have had full scholarships, including funds for room and board. The others have received free tuition but have had to work in their spare time. Most of them are working this summer—if they could get jobs.

Not Biggest Problems

The economic questions are not the major problems for the students.

Mr. Papp classified the youngsters—most of whom were actual participants in the Hungarian fighting—in three categories. He said 10 per cent were very happy and satisfied to "change their poor country for a very good nice life." Another 10 per cent is "unhappy, dissatisfied and very critical—critical of everything just because it's different," he said.

But 80 per cent of the students take a middle path. There is much that they like, much they don't like.

"What we students like," Mr. Papp said, "and what all Hungarians like is our freedom here. We can go where we wish. We can do what we wish. And we do not feel like strangers. We do not feel people look down on us because we are foreigners."

Mr. Papp named three major difficulties in adjustment for Hungarian students: Relations between young men and young women, health and medical care and religion.

Mr. Papp said that Hungarian young people found their American college companions "about ten years younger than we are." "American college boys and girls don't have real relations—they have play relations," he said. "We find it very unhealthy."

Others Share Views

Mr. Papp's views were shared by a representative group of students that included Bela Lukacs, 22 years old, studying at Stevens Institute of Technology, Hoboken, N. J.; Charles

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Heavy Police Guard Keeps Order As Hungarians Picket Reds Here

By ROBERT ALDEN

One of the heaviest concentrations of policemen ever assembled for a picketing demonstration was thrown around the offices of the Soviet delegation to the United Nations yesterday afternoon as 250 paraders marched noisily.

There were shouts against "Red murderers," but there was no violence and no arrests were made. This was in sharp contrast to the demonstration June 22 when seven policemen were injured and twelve pickets were arrested.

After that demonstration, the Soviet Union protested to United Nations Secretary General Dag Hammarskjold that such disturbances could result in the Soviet Union's being "deprived of taking part in the work of the United Nations."

There was also a reprisal demonstration against the United States Embassy in Moscow.

Yesterday's pickets, sponsored by local Hungarian groups, challenged the Soviet Union to carry out its threat to get out of the United Nations. They said that they would continue their picketing at the offices at Park Avenue and Sixty-eighth Street through this week.

2 Prison Vans in View

The police precautions yesterday were extraordinary.

One hundred and forty-seven uniformed policemen and thirty-five detectives surrounded the building. Fifty-five more patrolmen were in reserve at the East Sixty-seventh Street Precinct, two and a half blocks away. Two prison vans were parked in plain view of the pickets.

The police guard was so formidable that there was little

chance for the demonstrators to get out of hand.

A phalanx of police stood on the East Sixty-eighth Street sidewalk with their backs to the Soviet headquarters. In front of them were wooden barricades. The pickets were allowed a width of ten feet of sidewalk on which to march, and they were flanked on the curb side by twenty mounted patrolmen.

On the other side of Sixty-eighth Street another cordon of policemen and detectives was drawn up, and there was also a heavy guard on Park Avenue. No picketing was allowed on Park Avenue, where the entrance to the Soviet building is situated.

The picketing began at 3 P. M. with an angry waving of fists at the headquarters and shouts of "Go home Russkie." The shades on all the offices of the building were drawn and there was no sign of activity inside.

The pickets carried signs reading "You quit the U. N. Is it an ultimatum or bluff?" "Do our pickets make you nervous? This is just the beginning." "If you want to quit, quit Hungary first."

At times the crowd appeared to whip itself into a frenzy as the pickets shouted "Drop dead Khrushchev" and "Freedom for Hungary, you Red murderers."

Relations between the police and the pickets were sternly correct but not unfriendly.

After an hour and fifty minutes of picketing, the demonstrators dispersed. Some of them went to Sixty-eighth Street and Madison Avenue, where their leader, the Rev. Imre Kovacs, pastor of the First Hungarian Reformed Church, called on them to continue their picketing from 1 to 7 P. M. through the week.

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A year ago Mary Urban, Peter

year. Egon Seremely, once one of Budapest's leading jazz pianists, and his pretty wife, Johan, were touring America last year. Now they have settled down, working at the Jack Tar Hotel, Galveston, Tex., in one of a series of long engagements for a hotel chain.

Another couple who have made a rapid adjustment are Dr. and Mrs. Imre Berczeller. Among the first Hungarian refugees to arrive in the United States, Dr. Berczeller is a resident physician at the Institute for Living, Hartford, Conn. Mrs. Berczeller is at the New School for Social Research here, working on her doctor's thesis in the history of political philosophy and looking after her 8-year-old twins, Olga and Josef, who finished their second year of American school with ratings of excellent.

Karl Rath, a Hungarian photographer-reporter, and his

and carefully saving his money against the day when he can re-enter the stamp business.

He has managed to get some of his stamps out of Hungary. His oldest boy, Mike, is 12 and seems to be mechanically inclined. Veronica, 10, has learned English rapidly and was on her school's honors list. Chaba, 3½, is chubby and healthy. The family has a second-hand car.

"Really there's nothing unusual about the Fehers now," a friend said. "They're just a normal American family, getting along in the world."

This characterization can be made of far more Hungarians than the Fehers. Regardless of temporary troubles, the vast majority of them are rapidly and efficiently integrating themselves into American life.

Had it not been for the unfortunate coincidence of the economic recession, this, undoubtedly, would have been the story in all parts of the country.

The Three Strangers in Our House



Wilson and Anna McMakin. They planned to take in only one refugee. Instead they brought home three.

Two Christmases ago, the author and her husband stifled their misgivings and adopted three adult Hungarian refugees. This is how the experiment worked out.

By ANNA PROBST McMAKIN

Photographs by Ollie Atkins

"Now you are one of us." At their first meal together, the McMakins and their Hungarian guests joined hands during grace.





Maria was pregnant when she and her husband, Miklos, an engineer, moved in with the McMakins. Their son Nicky (above) was born four months later.



Everybody shared the chores in the suddenly crowded household. Despite the language barrier, Maria (center) became a close friend of Mrs. McMakin's daughter Judy (left).

The thing that had our friends looking at us in openmouthed wonder was that we had taken into our home, in the middle of a typical pre-Christmas rush, three Hungarian refugees—neither kin nor friends nor friends of friends, but total strangers with whom we could not exchange a single word. Everyone, that autumn of 1956, had read of the trouble in Hungary. And everyone knew that refugees were arriving daily at the point-of-entry, Camp Kilmer. But, when it came to sharing living space with them, most people were willing to “let George do it.”

Our reasons for daring to be different were simple. First, there was the emptiness of the house, now that our son was in Japan with the

Air Force, and our older daughter was in college, leaving only one child at home. There was the basic Christian principle of helping someone in need. There were the TV newsreels showing people walking down snowy roads that led, always, away from home. Last, there was the decision of the board of our church—North Avenue Presbyterian, in New Rochelle, New York—to sponsor some of the Hungarians.

At the board meeting, my husband, Wilson, had offered our absent son's room to the cause. One of the deacons, Dr. Adolph Adams, Hungarian by birth but a long-time resident of the United States, had agreed to help with the initial language problems. When our minister,

the Rev. Dan C. Thomas, announced what was happening, several other families expressed a wish to take in someone. My husband took this short list of names to the interdenominational Protestant organization called Church World Service, where the preliminary task of choosing Protestant protégés for Protestant families was being done.

Several weeks passed, and I was beginning to believe that nothing would come of all this. But one day, on impulse, I cleaned our son's room as for a guest. While I was working my husband, a vice president of the American Cable and Radio Corporation, phoned from his office to say that we were to go, next day, for a preliminary interview. (Continued on Page 69)

Learning to speak English was a hard job for the three Hungarians. Istvan (called Stephen) still practices, with the aid of a tape recorder.



One of the first things Miklos and Stephen wanted was a car, to them a symbol of the American way of life. Wilson soon taught them the intricacies of driving U. S. automobiles.



The Three Strangers in Our House

(Continued from Page 15)

The next day was Friday, December 14th—as miserable a wet, windy day as I have ever seen. When we arrived at 156 Fifth Avenue, we were told that five Hungarians were coming to meet us. Five! The thought of choosing among intelligent human beings, as one picks over sweaters on sale, was appalling! But, as we had felt from the beginning that God was guiding this venture, we left the decision in His hands.

When the five arrived, we were pleased by the musical softness of their voices. But they were untidy, and far from prepossessing. The young woman spread her kerchief on the radiator to dry, revealing a mass of tousled, blond hair. She looked so tired and apprehensive that I could make no estimate of her personality. Three of the men were below the American average in height. One had slick hair, and smoked incessantly. One was an unkempt boy with a pimply face. One had a small mustache that seemed at odds with his rumpled clothes. The fourth man was tall and dark, with a long nose and a shock of wavy hair that almost touched his collar in the back. "Bohemian"? Hungarian version of our long-haired and leather-jacketed "cats"? I thought of our sixteen-year-old Judy at home, and prayed that our wish to help a stranger be not the means of hurting our own child.

Like many other Christian people, I have often prayed for guidance—and then have wondered how to recognize it when it comes. But, in this instance, the formula was simple: Ask sincerely for direction, then act on impulse.

We had thought of taking one person the following week, but we took the woman and two of the men that very afternoon. We did not know what the men could do for their living, but Wilson promised to see them securely employed. I had no idea how I would go about teaching them English, but I determined to do it.

Having decided, we first phoned Judy to explain why she must move her possessions into her sister's room and share the room when Carol came from college for Christmas. Wilson and I then went home—to buy food for our doubled family. Afterward, he drove the car back to the city to pick up our guests and their luggage.

While Wilson was gone, Judy and I flew about, making her room fresh and inviting. I could imagine the hardship of the flight from Hungary and I wanted the wanderers to feel that here, at last, was a haven of peace, assuring that all would be well with them again.

When the car rolled in at six, there was a grand flurry of activity. The travelers had several boxes, one worn suitcase, and a duffel bag full of things given them by the Red Cross, at Camp Kilmer. I showed our guests their rooms, pointed out the empty drawers and closet space, gave them towels, showed them their bathroom and went downstairs to finish dinner.

As I worked, I rehearsed the names of the three. They were Miklos and Maria Madarasz, and Istvan Partos. Miklos (he of the long, wavy hair) was a "mechanical engineer"; Istvan (he of the small mustache) a "teacher of automotive mechanics." Miklos was Maria's husband, and Istvan was her cousin. The men were Protestant. Maria was Catholic. Beyond this, we knew nothing.

We agreed that, for this first meal together, we would all hold hands around the table while Wilson said grace. The words would be meaningless. But these were Christian people and the act of thanking God goes deeper than words.

The unbroken chain of hands we hoped would say, "Now you are one of us."

And so we sat down to dinner. Already they looked like different people. Maria had brushed her hair to a mass of waving gold. The men had exchanged the Red Cross clothing of the morning for the well-fitted suits which they had worn when leaving home. Now they looked the gentlemen they were.

Mealtime being conversation time, we now fully realized the problem we faced in our complete ignorance of one another's language. Wilson (the optimist!) had expected to buy an English-Hungarian dictionary that afternoon. But he couldn't find one. Fortunately, we were all blessed with a sense of humor. Before the meal was over we were able to laugh at our mutual predicament.

Dessert finished, I brought paper and pencil to the table. "Beans," I printed. Istvan (whom we soon were calling Stephen) drew the paper to him and printed alongside, "Bab." "Coffee"—"Kave." "Butter"—"Vaj." Sometimes Miklos, on my left, would swing the paper his way, if he remembered first the *thing* that was called "salt," or "cream." So the list grew in three different hands. At the top I printed, "Foods"; Miklos printed "E-lem"; and lo—our first vocabulary list! We were on our way!

Two things we had that made it not as impossible as it seems. Wilson, learning that Stephen spoke fluent German, had bought a German-English dictionary, so that, by going around a triangle, we could discover the meaning of one word at a time. Stephen already knew about a dozen English words. I knew as many in German. The one thing we all had in common was high-school Latin!

After Judy, Maria and I had finished the dishes, I joined the three men in the living room. Wilson and Miklos were watching television. Stephen was sitting on the couch, staring into space. What dreadful things was he remembering? *This will never do*, I thought. *The past is past, but the future is still ahead.* So I brought him a book of photographs, called *Look at America*, and sat down, with the newspaper for myself, to see if he would follow the lead. With the help of the German-English dictionary, he was soon reading the captions. But the dictionary was of no use with proper names; so I got the atlas to show him where, on the map, he would find the Grand Canyon or Lake Louise. That brought up the matter of distances. I found a book of mathematical tables, so that we could convert miles to kilometers. Those three books provided a means of communication among us for weeks.

Maria and Judy, meanwhile, were upstairs together, and two hours later came down, knowing each other's life histories entirely! I'll never know how they managed, but from that evening onward it was Judy who could interpret Maria's thoughts to Wilson and me. It was Judy who told me that Maria was expecting a baby in April—the first, though she and Miklos had been married for six years.

This single spark of light on the subject of these people's past lives served to emphasize the darkness of all that remained unknown. But the long evening spent together had convinced me that they were people whom we would be happy to have with us. And so to bed. It was still windy and wet outside. I lay listening to the rain and felt that I must surely burst with happiness—our four walls and roof could give shelter to the homeless ones!

At 5:30 Saturday morning, I was awakened by the pressure of my new respon-

sibility. Just what did these people need? To learn English and become self-supporting, of course. But what else? To face the future with confidence; to outgrow, if not to forget, the fear of being malignantly watched by their fellow man. To be watched over to prevent unhappy blunders, without having their dignity wounded by overprotection; to believe in the goodness of America, without thinking that simply *to be here* solved all problems. I began to see the way ahead as a complex pattern of chalk marks to be walked.

Have you ever tried to talk using nothing but nouns? Our word lists, thus far, were all of the names of things around us. For a verb, Miklos and Maria had to say it, in Hungarian, to Stephen, who looked it up in the German half of the dictionary, which gave the English equivalent. But, dictionaries being what they are, even that would be only the infinitive form. Somehow, I *must* get our verbs "on the road"!

At three A.M. on Sunday, after staring into the dark until an idea began to jell, I went downstairs to find my grandfather's German grammar. After several false starts, I put down, with German equivalents, the personal pronouns, and the "rule" for forming the past and future

Left at the Lift

When I depart this life, I
fear

The elevators, same as here,
Will pass me with
indifferent frown;

I'll ring for "Up"—they'll
all go down.

Elinor K. Rose

tenses. Then I ruefully realized that many of our verbs do not follow the rule. So the bookcase was under assault again, until it yielded up a fairly complete list of the irregular ones. I went back to bed.

After breakfast, I gave the lesson to Stephen, saying, with much finger pointing, "*This will help (helfen?) you. You will help them.*"

"Vann—have—you—this—make?" he asked.

"Oh, early this morning," I replied.

"Vas—for—you—much—vark," quoth Stephen.

But he did study it. And he did help Maria and Miklos.

Miklos, poor fellow, was almost mad with frustration. His love of accuracy demanded a grammar. But neither bookstores nor our library ever had one. The simplest grammar for school children assumes that the pupil can read English; so even these were of no use. Stephen found plenty of books written for German-speaking adults, and settled down, as if rooted to a certain chair, studying endlessly. ("I am *professeur*," he said. "I teach myself.") But Miklos had to depend on my blundering inventions.

Maria, meanwhile, was not under pressure, as were the men, to prepare herself for work in an English-speaking world. She had such a gift for pantomime that we could understand her anyway. "Maria say," said interpreter Stephen one evening, "she will learn to read with her child." Actually, she learned much sooner; and she learned to talk as a baby learns—by sound alone.

Christmas was almost upon us, and the cookies weren't even baked! The news

was out, now that we had taken our guests to church; and the phone, by itself, was enough to wreck any schedule. The Welcome Wagon paid a visit, we celebrated Wilson's birthday, we entertained Hungarian guests from out of town—all between Sunday, the sixteenth, and Thursday, when Carol arrived from college for the holidays.

But no matter how my time was occupied, my real concern was with the state of mind of our guests. The dreadful seriousness, which we had observed in the beginning, lifted somewhat the first evening. But still an underlying tension showed in their eyes. It was on the fourth day, Tuesday, while putting away the lunch dishes, that Maria began humming to herself. I thanked God; for that aimless little humming of a woman at her work comes from peace of mind, and from nothing else.

It was on Friday that Miklos let go his first gale of laughter—and my heart gave a leap. The boy sounded so much like our absent David! As the days passed, and Miklos laughed more and more, we could almost believe our son was at home again. And, though he could not talk, he and our two daughters had as much fun together as if he really were their big brother.

Though Miklos was twenty-eight, he was a boy at heart. Now that his nerves had relaxed so that he could sleep more soundly at night, he seemed to grow younger by the day. He teased Carol about her boy friend at school. He pestered the cats, and lay on the floor at full length (six feet, three inches) to watch TV. Stephen, watching from his favorite study corner, leafed through his dictionary, and then asked, with perfect gravity, "Which is correct, of a pairson: on-ripe, or im-ma-ture?"

Our family, of course, learned to say "Boldog Karacsony," or "Merry Christmas." And it was becoming a merry one indeed, with undertones of a deep and abiding happiness.

On Sunday afternoon, the twenty-third, we all went to the candlelight service at church. From there, our daughters went with the young people, caroling. Wilson and I, after supper at home, took the Hungarians to the manse. At nine o'clock, the young-adult group made this the last stop on their own caroling tour, and came in for coffee, doughnuts, and more singing. It was good to see how easily the newcomers fitted in with the crowd, poised and friendly.

Monday saw the tree trimmed. That night, all seven of us sallied forth again, to the eleven-o'clock Christmas Eve service, largely scripture reading and carols. Every year, it is the same. At 11:58, the last note is sung, and silence descends; the people sit with bowed heads, scarcely breathing as the seconds tick away—one hundred and twenty of them. Then, at midnight, the organ chimes twelve, and the congregation springs up to sing, "Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow." It is always a moving experience. This time, for me, it was too big. I wept.

On the day after Christmas we had a visit from a young Hungarian woman who had phoned after seeing a story about our guests in our suburban newspaper. She and her mother had been in America for seven years and they were eager to help the newcomers to learn English. Although the lessons usually turned into lively talkfests in Hungarian, I was glad to know that here was a young woman, the mother of a young child, who could talk woman-talk with Maria.

It was these new friends who invited our trio to a New Year's Eve party. This precipitated a flurry of shopping, for all needed dressy (Continued on Page 71)

(Continued from Page 69) shoes for the occasion. Maria was not hard to fit, but the men were a problem. In the end, however, I was glad that we exhausted New Rochelle's stores and took a second day to go to the Cross County Shopping Center. For this trip led to one of the priceless moments of the story. That day I took Maria to the dentist, while Judy shopped with, and talked for, Miklos. Maria and I returned first to the car and, in spite of our limited vocabulary, fell to talking.

"What time will you go out tonight?" I asked. Maria held up nine fingers, and replied, "Nine hours."

"That's right," I replied. "It is New Year's Eve; so you go out late, and come back late."

"Late?" asked Maria.

"Yes. After midnight."

At this, Maria grew silent, thinking. Then she said, "In America, fray."

I raised an inquiring eyebrow; and she made vicious little handcuffs of her own fingers around her wrists, and explained, "In Hungary, not fray." Then, flinging her hands apart, she repeated, "In America, fray."

"Yes," I replied, "that is why you came: to be free."

With a flutter of fingers toward her unborn child, she said, with a glowing smile, "Baby, American. Baby born fray!"

When they came downstairs at 8:45 that evening for the first social engagement that involved no one in our family or in the church, Wilson handed a key to Stephen, saying, "We'll probably go to bed before you come home. You should have a key to the house." After a pause, Stephen returned a simple, dignified, "Thank you very much." In that moment, before our very eyes, something happened. All three faces brightened; the men seemed to expand, squaring their shoulders and holding their heads higher. So small a thing to mean so much! But is it a small thing to be trusted by your fellow man, or to go and come as you please?

After the holidays, the church busied itself in the Hungarians' behalf. Voluntary gifts provided them with money for necessities. People phoned in offers of clothing, which we brought home for fitting. Two doctors gave physical check-ups; a dentist and an obstetrician promised their services free of charge. The church took care of everything except the doubled grocery bills.

Night classes in English for foreign-born adults having opened at the high school on January ninth, I felt less alone in my struggle. Stephen was already reading our papers, and all three understood a fair amount of television. So the days passed quickly.

True, Miklos and Stephen were impatient to be working; and they might have had simple manual jobs, early in January. But as they were trained to work with their minds rather than with their hands, we urged them to concentrate on English first.

Early in February, through a friend at church, Miklos was employed as a draftsman by an engineering firm. The work was too easy for a graduate engineer, and the pay was small. But it was a step in the right direction. About two weeks later, we stumbled upon a place for Stephen, a job where he could use his knowledge of fuel-injection systems, as an engineering aide.

With Maria, I was never the strict teacher that I was with the two men. We were two women, sharing the work of a household—and the important thing was to understand each other.

We now began preparing in earnest for the baby who was to come—shopping

and sewing, and rejoicing over every new little package that came to the house.

One day as we sat together by the big dining-room window, Maria lengthening some trousers for Miklos and I making a wee pink kimono, I said quite casually, "This is for my first grandchild." I was totally unprepared for the effect of my lightly spoken words. Maria looked at me with misty eyes for a long moment before she said softly, "You are very good." In that long look, when we seemed to see straight into each other's hearts, without any further words or ceremony, we knew ourselves to be "adopted" as mother and daughter, in love, if not in law or in fact.

The time now came for Stephen to "graduate." He had work which he liked, and which promised advancement. He had his driver's license, and enough money saved to be planning to buy a car. He had found a comfortably furnished room. He was soon to join an American organization, the local church. His whole attitude had changed from one of cautious restraint to one of crisp confidence.

On March fourteenth, while he and I were assembling suitcases and boxes to be packed for his departure, he paused to say, in typically conservative fashion, "I have mixed feelings today." How well I knew what he meant! We had been working for three months toward the day when he could "go it alone" in his adopted country. But now that the time had come, I knew we would miss him sorely.

"Oh, yes!" he said, when the car was loaded and ready to go. "One more thing I must not forget." And off upstairs he went. When he came back, without a word he laid in my hand the house key he had been carrying since New Year's Eve. I took it from him, but a lump came in my throat, and I slapped the key down, hard, on the hall table, exclaiming, "I don't like it, Stephen! I don't want you to go!"

But, of course, he went—and that was as it should be. He continued to drop in every day or two for mail and for a little visit—not exactly our brother—closer than a friend—fitting into no known category, because the past three months had created unique human relationships.

After Stephen left, Miklos and Maria stayed on, even though Miklos had his job. He had spoken of finding an apartment when he had had three pay checks safely in the bank. But as his income was then very small and rent in New Rochelle is high, I could imagine all too clearly the dingy, top-floor flat he would have to take. I thought of Maria in such a place: Alone all day; unable to talk except to us, who helped her over every sentence; not knowing what to expect as the time for the baby's birth drew near. I went no further; this was enough. I knew it must not be.

The baby, a fine boy, arrived on April twelfth. Miklos, whose boss had sent him home for the day, sat addressing the cards he had bought, while we waited for news from the hospital. When I saw the face of the cards, I fled hastily to the kitchen, for this was a joyful day and he must not see me in tears. It seemed a long time since Maria had said, "Baby, American! Baby born free!" But now I remembered, for Miklos' birth-announcement cards were color photographs of the Statue of Liberty.

We brought them home on April seventeenth and installed them in the room with Judy. Judy, who plans to be a nurse, was delighted to have two patients, one of whom was her godson, no less! I suddenly realized how much the winter's experience had matured our youngest, and thanked God for yet another unexpected return upon our original investment.

The telephone started ringing again when word went around at church that the little family would be moving into an apartment on May fourth. One person had surplus twin beds in the attic; an-

other had a love seat; a third, an odd dresser; another, twin mattresses. On moving day, the borrowed station wagon picked up every major item necessary for simple housekeeping. The circles of the Women's Society sent dishes, cooking utensils and linens, so that the precious savings account was not badly depleted after all. How very easy it was to do when many warm-hearted people each did just a little!

Our "project," I suppose, was ended that fourth day of May. Christmas and May have passed again since then; and another Christmas is upon us. Looking back, I know that the end was really a beginning. Today, all three of the erstwhile strangers have become a natural part of the American scene, going their several ways.

Before the baby was born, Miklos was promoted to his beloved engineering. He continued with the same firm until the summer of 1958, when he made a change for the better. He is now in charge of production for the Disogrin Industries, in Mount Vernon, N.Y. Stephen, a teacher rather than an engineer, had to wait longer for recognition; but he, too, is now doing engineering work, for his first employer. He has moved into an attractive two-room apartment which he says is "very good for this stage of my life."

Stephen, definitely needing a car for commuting purposes, had it financed at the bank. But Miklos waited until he could pay cash for his. Miklos' first purchase "on time" was a television set—as company for Maria, and also for continuing contact with the English language.

Maria, of course, is busy with her little home and her baby. But she has time for friends and church. She likes to read, and historical novels are her favorites.

All three have joined the North Avenue Church, and all are active in its work. Stephen belongs to the Men's Service Organization. Miklos and Maria are in the Couples' Club. Nicky was baptized when he was six weeks old, and is regularly in the nursery while his parents are in church. The church itself, I feel sure, will always be stronger for having taken such prompt action in the name of Christ.

Our country, too, has profited. Here are three college-bred people, with fine minds and high standards of Christian conduct, eagerly awaiting the time when they may become citizens. Recently Miklos told me that, while they were still at Camp Kilmer, they had declined to go home with the Protestant minister of a Hungarian church in New Jersey. The reason? "We knew," he said, "that if we went with him, we would be Hungarians, living in America. We wanted to be Americans."

Lest this first-person account leave the impression that I, or my family, take credit for the happy outcome, let me say, emphatically, that any credit goes to a higher wisdom than ours. It is no pious platitude, but the simple truth, that we asked God to use us. As the story unfolded, we were frequently filled with wonder and gratitude, but never with complacency.

For surely, we have gained the most of all! Stephen is our good friend, growing deeper into our hearts with every passing month. In Maria and Miklos, we have two dear children who grew up and came to us, instead of growing up and going away, as the custom is. And Nicky, who at nineteen months is talking enchanting, bilingual baby talk, is as lovable a grandchild as anyone could want. I am sure that anyone who has ever seen love shining in a baby's eyes can understand why, for us, the wonderful adventure has only begun.

THE END



THE SATURDAY EVENING POST