

Losy pierwszej polskiej katedry filologii węgierskiej (lata 1952-1978)

**The history of the first Polish chair of Hungarian language
and literature (1952-1978)**

SUMMARY

Although for many centuries of Poland and Hungary had enjoyed close and friendly ties, it was not until the 19th century that Poles became aware of Hungarian literature. The first lecture on Hungarian literature was held at the Main School in Warsaw (Warsaw University) in 1866 and was delivered by the Danish scholar F.H. Lewestham. However, it was only in the period between the two world wars that more attention came to be devoted to the history of Polish-Hungarian ties, and that university courses in the Hungarian language began to offered. A special role in the field was played by Prof. Adorján Divéki and Prof. Jan Dąbrowski. The outbreak of World War Two caused many Poles to seek a safe haven in Hungary. This inevitably led them to acquaint themselves with the Hungarian culture and language. Among them was Jan Reychman, who in 1952 became head of the first Chair of Hungarian Philology in Poland (at Warsaw University). Together with István Csaplâros, Reychman was responsible for drawing up the syllabus and organizing studies in this new specialization. In spite of the problems they encountered at first, which involved organizational matters, providing adequate teaching staff and securing the necessary finances, in the years 1952-1978 the Chair educated 82 graduates with an M.A. diploma in Hungarian language and literature. This enabled a large number of translators to make Hungarian literature accessible to Poles. The Chair also created a solid academic basis for further research, and initiated many interesting scholarly events and publications.

The paper presents a detailed history of the Chair of Hungarian Philology in the years 1952-1978, and presents in some detail the work of Professors Jan Reychman and István Csaplâros.

Analecta – Studia i Materiały z Dziejów Nauki
[Analecta – Studies and Materials on the History of Science]
VIII, 1999, 1, 231-244