

July 7, 1953

Hon. Frances P. Bolton
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mrs. Bolton:

May I express my deeply felt and sincere gratitude to you for the historic role you were kind enough to play in safeguarding the unity of the Hungarian Reference Library, now partly in custody in the Library of Congress. As you know, this collection is unique in the whole world. It is much more than a mere conglomeration of books. It is the ONLY collection in the world of books relating to Hungary, written in the English language. No similar library exists anywhere, not excepted even Hungary. It is the only window of that nation toward the English speaking world, the mightiest and most valuable link of that small nation with an isolated language toward the immense field of Anglo-Saxon culture. To keep intact the unity of this collection means that researchers find everything there, within reach, without the cumbersome proceedings of finding and securing one or more books from an immense library. Frequent users of libraries like myself, know what the difference means in time and intellectual satisfaction. This collection is the pride and glory of every Hungarian intellectual and if it will be able to serve the friends of Hungarian culture in the future as one compact and intact library, you have served a real cultural cause nobly.

Brig. Gen. Harry H. Bandholtz saved the National Museum of Hungary from being pillaged by Roumanian soldiers. The grateful nation erected a statue in his memory. The least you deserve for your noble role is the everlasting gratitude of American-Hungarians.

Sincerely yours

Rev. Edmund Vasvary

