

Lancaster, Pa.

HUNGARIAN MEN IN SCHOOL HERE

Sixteen Students at Local
Institutions Stand High in
1923 Classroom Work.

Nov.

The growth from eight to sixteen in the number of Hungarian students at Franklin and Marshall College and Academy and the Reformed Theological Seminary, marks the development, begun last fall, of the three local institutions as a center for Hungarian higher learning in the United States. From the start the work of teaching and administration here has been in charge of Prof. Alexander Toth, 914 Columbia avenue, who was brought here especially for that purpose by the Board of Home Missions of the Reformed Church. Last fall Professor Toth started with eight students and practically no equipment in the way of a library or text books for his classes in Hungarian subjects. This year the number of students has been doubled, and one thousand books are expected from Hungary at the present time for both library and text purposes. There is also a possibility that several new students will be enrolled at the beginning of the second semester, if funds are available for their support.

At present one student is in the Seminary, twelve in the College, and three in the Academy. They are: (Seminary) Stephen Boszormenyi; (College) John Kovacs, William Toth, Louis Kalassay, Charles Bogar, Frank Hethy, Louis Novak, Joseph Sloboda, John Beluscsak, Nicholas Berta, Albert Hady, Anton Szabo and James Keresztesi; (Academy) Siskimund Varga, Michael Lewis and Zoltan Hanko. Seven of the men are preparing for the ministry.

Last year all the Hungarian students made good records in their general college work, and were also active in athletics and other activities. Of the four men at the Academy then, two were on the honor roll and two won medals in sports. Lewis is a member of this year's foot ball

Hungarians in...

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team at the Academy. At the college William Toth was awarded the Landis prize in History at Commencement time, and earlier in the year he won first place in the Freshman-Sophomore Oratorical contest held by one of the Literary Societies. Stephen Boszormenyi is now Junior class president at the Seminary.

The students have established as a special activity the Szechenyi Literary Society, of which all of them are members, and also the Bethlen Circle composed of those who intended to enter the ministry.

During the summer months six of the students were teachers in summer schools conducted by various Hungarian congregations throughout the eastern part of the country. One of them, Joseph Farkas, a graduate of the Academy, has remained as teacher at his school at Himelville, Kentucky, and expects to return to Franklin and Marshall College next fall.

This Christmas, the seven students in preparation for the ministry will follow the old Hungarian custom of acting as assistants to pastors, allowing the latter to devote more of their time to the special needs and duties of the season.

Plans have also been made for the public commemoration by the Szechenyi Society next spring of the centenary of three great Hungarian poets and authors, being felt throughout Hungary at the present time. Madach, one of the three to be celebrated, is the author of "The Tragedy of Man," considered one of the greatest poems of world literature. The other two are Petofi and Jokai, authors of many poems and romances now translated into English and other languages.

Here Through Self Sacrifice.

The majority of the students here are being aided to some degree financially, but the self-sacrifice undertaken by three married students and their families is noteworthy. Anton Szabo came to the attention of Professor Toth this summer in Pittsburgh while on his preaching tour. Szabo had a wife and child in Springdale, and he told Prof. Toth that the two were going to return to Hungary to his wife's home in order

to permit him to reenter school. Professor Toth wanted to meet Mrs. Szabo, and found her even more anxious than her husband to make the sacrifice. Albert Hady, after graduating from a teachers' training school in Hungary and teaching for a number of years, had such a desire to learn more—which is impossible for the poor to accomplish there at this time—that he left his young wife temporarily and came to America. The wife and child of James Keresztesi (Kress) are living at Mrs. Kress' home in Brownsville until Kress has finished school. He entered the Junior class at the college this fall, losing one semester be-

cause he made a mistake last year in choosing a school for which he did not receive credit.

Preaches to Raise Funds.

In order to arouse interest in the work being done here, Professor Toth last year and during the summer visited 38 Hungarian congregations, traveled over 5,000 miles, preached more than a hundred sermons. As a partial result of his work, \$3,500 has been subscribed to the support of students here, of which amount \$3,000 is annual. This amount includes the contributions of two large fraternal organizations, the Hungarian Reformed Federation, and the Verhovay Society, the latter being the largest Hungarian body in this country. Financial aid is also being sent by the Eastern, Potomac, and Pittsburgh Synods of the Reformed church. The administration of the Hungarian fund has been placed in the hands of a special committee, of which the officers are: President, Dr. George W. Richards; secretary, Prof. Toth, and treasurer, John Hertzler, president of the Lancaster Trust Company.



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Alexander Toth, Louis Noyak, William Toth.

Bottom row: Zoltan Hanko, Charles Bogar, Joseph Sloboda, John Beluscak, Sigismund Vargo, Albert Hady, Emerick Kress.

Top row: John Kovacs, Michael Lewis, Frank Hethy, Nicholas Berta, Louis Kalassay.

Middle row: Anton Szabo, Stephen Boszormenyi (Bessemer), Prof