

BALÁZS KESZEI: PLANT GEOGRAPHY OF VAS COUNTY

Geobotany or phytogeography is the study of spatial distribution and occurrence of plant species and vegetation types. The Central European region belongs to the Holarctic Kingdom. The Pannonian province is located in the region's southeastern part, divided into five areas: Great Hungarian Plain, North Hungarian Mountains, Southern Transdanubia and Western Transdanubia.

Vas County has a diversified vegetation because of several marked phytogeographical effects: both Central European, European and Eurasian flora elements are present. The study explains with scientific thoroughness the multicolored phytogeography of our land with the help of color photographs.

MIKLÓS DURAY: LEGAL AND POLITICAL CIRCUMSTANCES OF JÁNOS ESTERHÁZY'S CONVICTION

Count János Esterházy (1901–1957) was the political leader of the Hungarians in Slovakia. His value as a person and a politician has been a topical issue for seven decades. The restoration of his honor and reputation has become an unavoidable issue. Those who deny his rehabilitation have to answer the question: why they regard him guilty, even though he was not? Should we expect a response to this question that is important from the point of view of morality and the credible assessment of the historical past? Only by admitting that the harassment and condemnation of one of the cleanest politicians of the era was a serious crime, would mean a settlement of the issue.

LÁSZLÓ FÜLÖP: GÁSPÁR AND MÁRTON PÉCSÚJFALUSI PÉCHY (Familiars to Tamás Nádasdy)

In this essay, based on extensive archive material (mainly correspondences) we can have a look at the everyday life, needs and habits of a 16th-century Hungarian aristocrat family. The letters written to Tamás Nádasdy give evidence of two talented, polyglot, educated brothers. They both were faithful, complying men. They were valuable, reliable men for their master, real familiars (a kind of voluntary feudal relationship between master and servant, typical of Hungary). They were serving the then-time number one statesman of Hungary, Tamás Nádasdy)

FERENC CSUK: LAJOS GERENDAY, PRISONER OF GULAG (Reconstruction of a tragic path of life)

Lajos Gerenday, working in the tobacco factory of Szentgotthárd during and after the World War II, is an example of how own compatriots had Hungarian citizens transported to the Gulag because of conflicts at workplace. The author of this study, cooperating with the children of the victim, has compiled the history and tribulations of this man who fought at the Don River and was imprisoned at the Gulag.

KÁLMÁN TÓTH: MEMBERS OF THE VAS COUNTY MUSEUMS' FRIENDS IN THE SERVICE OF SCIENCE AND CULTURE

The double anniversary in 2016 of the versatile scholar of Szombathely, Ágoston Pável (1886–1946) has directed the attention of the author to his debt in writing up local history: the comprehensive research and elaboration of the Association's internal life is still not finished. The Association has been publishing the *Vasi Szemle* periodical since 1933 and adding memorials to Szombathely's public places.

This present study only encompasses some details of this topic. It mainly deals with some less-known members of the Association, their role in the local cultural and scientific life.

FERENC GYURÁCZ: ÁGOSTON PÁVEL'S SCIENCE ORGANISING WORKS IN THE *VASI SZEMLE*

Ágoston Pável (1886–1946) has created an enduring legacy in several fields. Those who knew him agree, tacitly or overtly, that his main work – beside organizing the Library of Szombathely – was the establishment of the *Vasi Szemle* periodical. He was the periodical's editor-in-chief and his expert and diligent work resulted in a prestigious scientific forum, the editorial work of which still endeavors to follow the Pavelian principles. The author of this study is doing the *Vasi Szemle*'s editorial work since 1994 and in this essay he summarizes the science organizing work of his great predecessor.

ZOLTÁN CSISZÁR: FROM PAPUCH TO PÁPOC (The name history of an Árpád-era Vas County settlement)

Pápop is a settlement in Vas County, on the northwestern edge of Kemeneshát, considered the continuation of Vasi Hegyhát mountain range, on the right shore of Rába River. First it appeared as Papuch, in the datation of a charter from 1234, made out on the estate of Demeter Csák, a royal comes. During the eight centuries passed since then, the settlement has lost the meaning of its name, however unambiguous it must have once been. Could the origin, meaning, contemporary pronunciation be determined? Could we find the grammar rules in the chronology of this settlement's name that led to this present-day name form? This present study is a product of an exciting culture history research.

JÓZSEF TÓTH: SZELESTE AND THE HISTORY OF ITS ARBORETUM

The author, a horticultural engineer, summarizes the roughly 150-year history of the mansion's park. The summary is then followed by a detailed chapter. The park had its golden age between the two wars (owing to the care it received from Mihály Bach, the landowner), and its post-1945 fate exemplifies well the tribulations of castle gardens in general. However, this park has been much more fortunate than its peers: apart from the castle burn-down, the park itself suffered no damage and by now the botanical garden has been restored and a new herb garden has been established at the spot of the former nursery-garden.

CONTENT

THE THOUGHTS OF ISTVÁN RUMI RAJKI ON SCULPTURE

(Published by: **Péter Balogh**)

The main venue of Szombathely's vibrant cultural life between the two world wars was the Palace of Culture (today the Savaria Museum). The fine arts department of Cultural Association of Vas County also held its lectures here for the general public. Among these, we can find the lecture on sculptural art delivered by the prominent sculptor, István Rumi Rajki (1881–1941) on March 27, 1932. The lecture's text, shedding light on the sculptor's aesthetic views, is found in the bequest of his relative, Gyula Rajki.

CSABA TÓTH: VARIATIONS ON A THEME – VAS COUNTY ARTISTS' SELF-PORTRAITS

(Part 1)

The thought of a permanent Vas County Arts Collection has been around for more than a century. The old intent was realized in 2011 when the Vas County Arts Collection was opened in Vasvár's "Békeház". The study, analyzing the artists' portraits, was written mainly to justify this thought, still questioned by some.

In this large format work the author encompasses a whole century. In this first part, he deals with drawn self-portraits, one by one. Later, paintings, sculptures, reliefs and collages will follow.