

Subject left Hungary with mother on October 31, 1956. Father left Hungary only on November 9, 1956 and joined his family 3 weeks later in Vienna, (thanks to RFE, who helped them to find each-other, said the mother.)

Subject arrived ⁱⁿ the US with both parents and sister on December 19, 1956.

Present situation in US%

Subject lives in Garfield, N.J. with parents, attends the Holy Name parochial school there. First he started in the first grade but he is already admitted into the second grade because of his advanced knowledge of arithmetics.

III.

A. Can you tell me something about your school in Hungary?

1. What subjects did you have?

"Arithmetics, reading, writing. It was very easy. I learned everything very easely. I could read fluently in Hungarian before I left Hungary."

How well could you count?

"I could count till hundred."

What did you read at school?

"I don't know. We read whatever was there. Mostly fairy-tales."

What kind of tales?

"One was about a duck and a man, and the duck always took it out of the man. An other story was about the fox and the small roly-poly."

Did you learn Russian?

"No, because they were always bad."

Who was bad? And who told you that?

"All the children said that the Russians were bad and therefore we didn't learn about them."*

* in middle of next page

b. Which subject did you like most?

"Reading.

Why?

"Because it was easy."

Which subject did you like least?

"Arithmetics, but our teacher wanted us to learn it very much and finally everybody could do it."

Did you have any other subject not mentioned above?

"Yes we had gymnastics."

2.

a. Was your teacher a man or a woman?

* (This answer sounded rather unreliable.) (Interv.)

"She was a woman-teacher, and she taught us all the subjects.

b. Did you like your teacher?

"I liked the teacher, because she was good. And we had such good games. There were also such games, when she gave us work. I made once a ball out of plastic, and also a funny man who showed his face when the ball hit him."

c. Did the teacher treat all the children equally?

"There was one child who had to stay every day a half hour longer in the class-room, because he did always something wrong. He was disliked by the teacher."

d. Were the teachers communists?

"They were not."

Do you know who is a communist?

"Who always tells the Russians what to do. Those are always bad."

3.

3.

a. Were there any Communists among your class mates?

"No",

b. Did you have religious instruction at school?

"Yes, It was taught by a priest in the church. It was just across the school on the other side of the courtyard."

Who did go to the religious class?

"Those who were told by their mummy."

Were there any children, who didn't attend the religious class?

"We had 61 children in our class and 51 of them did go to the religion class." (The numbers seem exaggerated says mother)

B . Did you tell your parents what happened at school?

"That was always written in my report-card, but I also told them about it."

C. Did you ever talked about what happened at home when you were at school?

"Well, I talked about it, but only to a few."

Why?

"Because the rest wasn't interested in it. Neither I in theirs." (affairs)

D. What did you do after school?

"I did my homework and then I went to play with Erzsok (sister) and my friends."

Who were your friends?

"There was a bad boy among them, but he was chased away by the others,"

What did their fathers do?

"One worked with cows, horses and asses. I don't know about the others."

What did you play with other children?
"Horsy-horsy."

Have you been a "Pioneer"?

"No I didn't like it. My mother didn't like it either."

How many of your class-mates took part in the movement?

"There were about seven, but they didn't like it either."

Did you read books?

"I haven't gotten many books. I had one with three short stories. One about the doll and the frog, an other about the rabbit and the mother. The third one I have never "seen".

IV. What was your father's occupation?

"He was an engineer. First he was an officer and then an engineer. A chief-engineer in the ship-building yard, Ganz. That was its name."

Did your mother work?

(He goes to his mother to ask) "Yes, in a textile factory, in the laboratory."

Who took care of you after school?

"An 'aunty'. She was old.

Who did the housework?

"She did, but not everything. Mummy didn't let her, because it cost a lot of money."

Didn't you help?

"Of course, I did. I washed the dishes and cleaned the house. But the cleaning didn't go to well. I always threw the dirt on the floor and swept it into holes and corners."

Have you been rewarded at school for good work?

"Yes. With many good things. I was once given a beautiful car." (He shows how big it was and gives exact description) (According mother that happened here in the US, however the

boy insists on his statement.)

What marks did you get at school?

"Once a boy got a ^{one} 1. That was a shame. I got once a 3, the rest were 4-s and 5-s. The school was easy."

Were you ever punished at school?

"Yes. We had to stand in the class-room corner if we misbehaved and couldn't leave school at the end of the day. If we were even worse, we had to kneel on corn-seeds. We also got something a rap on the knuckles with a big ruler or a big slap on our face."

Did you ever get one?

"Yes, I got once a quite big one, because they said that I prompted, but it was an other boy. I prompted only a very little."

Were you ever punished by your parents?

"Yes, I had to kneel, but not on corn-seeds."

Whatfor were you punished?

"I chased the chickens around and wanted to catch them, and I threw a stone on my sister. Then my father beat me up."

VI. Can you tell us why the Hungarians started the revolution?

"Because the Russians are very bad."

Who told you that?

"Nobody. I knew that. I learned about it because they were very often against the Hungarians."

What impressed you most during the revolution?

"When the canons came. The Hungarians tanks; and people threw their hats up and on the tanks."

Where were you when the revolution started?

"I was outdoors. We couldn't go in the house because the house

could have been shot by the Russians. In the basement there were too many people. This is how I saw the tanks. We remained on the streets and had to lay on our stomach a few times. Erzsok had a very pretty dress on and mother didn't let her lay in the dirt. She had to hide behind a barricade.

Did you go to school during the revolution?

"Yes, but one day the teacher read something from a large paper and gave it to Mom, and then she didn't take me to school."

VII. What would you like to be when you grow up?

At first I will be a soldier, an English officer (he meant American. Interv.note) and then an engineer, because I would like very much to become one, and daddy told me too, that I should be an engineer."

VIII. What are the three worst things a child can do?

"If a child takes it out of another child and this child gets into great trouble. - If a child asks the other to go and play with him and he has a very bad brother who let the dog loose and the dog bites the child who came to play with him. - Once the children asked me to come and jump into a ditch and I didn't know that the ditch was to fall in,"

What are the three most important things a child should be taught?

"That he shouldn't be late in school. He shouldn't sleep at school." (Here he started a long mixed up story about his old and new impressions. Int.note)

IX. Who do you think are the three greatest people in the world?

"The American Embassy." That king in America, I don't know his name, and that very strong man who died. He was besieged so that the whole world turned against him. He was very strong (We couldn't make head and tail of these answers. Int. note)

Who do you think is the greatest living Hungarian?

"I don't know."

Now, tell me, do you know who was St. Stephen?

"I know who he was. Our priest talked about him and we made drawings of him."

And who was King Mathias?

"King Mathias was a Hungarian soldier. If the people were thirsty, he hit the rocks very strong so that water sprang out of it." (He mixes here up the different personalities. The story with the rock is an old Hungarian legend about one of the kings, Saint Ladislav. Subject must have heard all these stories during the religion class.)

X. What strikes you as being completely different in USA from Hungary?

"The speech is completely different."

What are those things you like most about USA?

"To fly. I have already flown a lot. I flew across the Ocean with a German airplane. We got into a hydroplane once for three dollars with Erzsok and we saw the Amusement Park from it."

What are the things you disapprove of in USA?

"The bus and the car, because those shake me. Erzsok is also always very sick on the bus."

THE END