

scholar, many of whose works have appeared in both West and East European-language translations.

The present book covers the development of a modern and increasingly professional civil service and public administration, a process that began immediately after Hungary's liberation from Ottoman occupation at the end of the seventeenth century. Later, the ideas of Joseph von Sonnenfels influenced the shaping of theories of public administration and advanced education in the subject. This statesman and scholar, however, based himself exclusively on the Habsburg hereditary provinces and never delved into Hungary. Specifically, Hungarian theories and practices had to evolve separately, and eventually did so. They were interrelated with Hungarians' efforts to preserve the autonomous status of Hungary's government and public administration within the Habsburg Empire.

The author carefully explains constitutional law, administrative institutions, and day-to-day practice and puts them into historical perspective. Csizmadia presents his findings with historical objectivity and includes every phase of Hungarian public administration in his account. Thus he expounds on the revolutionary regime of 1848–49, the neoabsolutism of the Bach government, the administration of dualist Hungary, the Béla Kun regime, the Horthy era, and the present system.

The author has had to marshal a vast amount of material. His approach is descriptive, and he properly, if briefly, analyzes each case. Historical, political, social, and economic factors all enter into his analyses. There is no synthesis, but what valid synthesis is possible of a system that has undergone such changes? Perhaps there is one: regimes change, but since its consolidation in the nineteenth century the civil service system has endured.

The book, prepared for the professional, is so clearly and attractively written that it should prove useful and accessible equally to the layman. Csizmadia's pioneering and comprehensive study is a significant contribution to the understanding of Hungarian government and deserves to be well received.

BÉLA K. KIRÁLY

Brooklyn College and Graduate School, CUNY

ALBUM ELÉMER MÁLYUSZ. Studies presented to the International Commission for the History of Representative and Parliamentary Institutions, no. 56. Székesfehérvár-Budapest, 1972. Brussels: Les Éditions de la Librarie Encyclopédique, 1976. xxiii, 404 pp.

The International Commission for the Study of Representative and Parliamentary Institutions was established at the 1933 International Historical Congress in Warsaw, Poland. It was founded on the initiative of Professor É. Lousse of France and with the assistance of, among others, two Hungarian historians: Ferenc Eckhart, professor of constitutional and legal history at the University of Budapest, and E. Mályusz, professor of medieval Hungarian history at the same institution. Of the two Hungarian scholars, only Professor Mályusz is alive today. Thus, when contemplating the publication of the papers presented at its 1972 congress, the commission decided to dedicate the volume to its only surviving Hungarian founder. The commission's decision was both wise and warranted, for if any one of Hungary's living historians deserves this honor, it is undoubtedly Professor Mályusz.

As the founder of the so-called Hungarian ethnohistory school during the interwar period—the first significant Hungarian rival of the German-inspired and German-oriented *Geistesgeschichte* school—and as the author of numerous weighty and pioneering studies on various aspects of medieval and early modern social, cultural, and institutional history, Mályusz's contributions to Hungarian historiography are matched by very few of his predecessors and contemporaries in East Central Europe.

Had he written in one of the major languages, his name would undoubtedly be mentioned among the most important European medievalists.

The volume contains twenty-three studies in four languages (English, French, German, and Spanish) written by a wide range of respected scholars, including four scholars from France and Italy, three from the United States, two each from Hungary and Poland, and one each from Czechoslovakia, England, Germany, Holland, the Soviet Union, Spain, Sweden, and Yugoslavia. The contributors deal with aspects of medieval and early modern constitutional questions, ranging from a discussion of various charters of liberty in the High Middle Ages (by R. C. van Caenegem of Gand) to an analysis of institutions of political freedom in eighteenth- and nineteenth-century Rome (by V. Frosini of Rome). Hungarian constitutional developments—which are naturally closer to Professor Mályusz's interests—are treated by five scholars, including an American (J. K. Sweeney of Pennsylvania State University), a Slovak (J. Karpat from Bratislava), a German (H. Helbig from Berlin), and two Hungarian historians (K. Benda and J. Gerics from Budapest).

Space does not permit evaluation of any of the essays, but a careful reading will show that they all reflect a level of scholarship that is both appropriate and essential in an international publication such as this volume. The book is introduced by the primary founder of the commission, Professor Lousse. The introduction is followed by a brief biography of Mályusz, and then by an almost complete list of his publications up to 1974—including fifteen independent works (some of them multivolumed) and over one hundred sixty other writings (including some book-length studies contained in larger works). The missing publications include a few of his earlier works—left unmentioned because of political reasons—and his publications since 1974.

S. B. VARDY
Duquesne University

STUDIES ON THE HISTORY OF THE HUNGARIAN TRADE-UNION MOVEMENT. Edited by *E. Kabos* and *A. Zsilák*. Translated by *Alex Bandy*. Budapest: Akadémiai Kiadó, 1977. 308 pp. \$19.00.

This volume is a collection of articles concerning the history of the Hungarian trade union movement from the end of the nineteenth century to the present day. Two studies concentrate on the pre-1914 role played by the budding trade union movement, one deals with the role of the trade unions in the Hungarian Soviet Republic, three are focused on the interwar period, one discusses the war era, another the immediate postwar period, and the final study deals with the contemporary role of the trade unions. All but two of the authors are employed as "scientific officers"—presumably meaning researchers or senior researchers—in the Institute of Party History and the volume, therefore, as expected, emphasizes the concept of *partiinosť* at the expense of reality in most of the materials reprinted in translated form from their Hungarian original.

This is a very poor volume as far as translation, printing, writing, and binding. To say that most of the studies have a bias against the role played by Social Democrats is an overstatement. Indeed, many of them distort history to emphasize the role of the Communists, which generally was minimal compared with that played by their strong Social Democratic counterparts. To simply ignore, as Miklos Habuda's study of the immediate postwar struggle for power does, the deliberate subversion of the trade union movement by the Communists is disgraceful even for a highly respected historian. To have excluded an article or even a serious discussion of the change in the status of the trade unions from that of an interest group to that of the transmission belt under Communist leadership is "unobjective," even according to Communist values professed by the leadership of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party.