

exception. The story takes a satiric view of careerism under socialism. The protagonist has two ambitions in life: to be promoted and to get married. He is concerned that promotion should take precedence over marriage as the girl in question is the manager's daughter and "under socialism things like this are tricky." The story takes a tragic turn: discussing his promotion with his boss while swimming long distance in Lake Balaton, the hero suffers heart failure and drowns.

In conclusion it might be said that from a strictly literary point of view a few of the stories are no better than mediocre without a real story base. Several others repeat problems stated in other stories, while the other half are distinguished works. From another point of view, the anthology provides a useful service as a source of information, as an encyclopedia of Hungarian life. When considering the amount of work and care that went into its production and the consistently high quality of its translation, the *44 Hungarian Short Stories* is a worthy addition to the little that had been available in the field. This reviewer cannot help feeling though that more discrimination and a slightly less conservative approach might have produced a smaller but a higher quality volume.

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A Felvidék az ezeréves magyar államtestben: Magyarok Csehszlovákiában [Upper Hungary in the Thousand-Year-Old Hungarian Body Politic: Hungarians in Czechoslovakia]. By László Sirchich. Cleveland, Ohio, 1979. Published by and available from the author: 2092 West 95th Street, Cleveland, OH 44102. 48 pp. \$3.50, paper.

This booklet unites three valuable short studies. The first of these highlights little-known episodes of Hungarian resistance in 1919 to the annexation of Upper Hungary by Czechoslovakia. The episodes include the protest of the citizens of Pozsony/Pressburg (later Bratislava), and their petition for a plebiscite; the defense and eventual counteroffensive by Hungarian military units against the Czechoslovak Legion; and the June, 1920 declaration of Hungarian deputies in the Prague Parliament, branding the annexation of Hungarian-inhabited territories a violation of the principle of self-determination. A brief survey of subsequent efforts to ease the burdens and solve the problems of the Hungarian minority completes the study, bringing it up to the unrealized hopes of the Prague Spring in 1968.

The second study, entitled "From Belvedere to Kassa," traces developments in Slovak-Hungarian relations from the fall of 1938 (Vienna Award) to the reestablishment of pre-war borders in 1945, and the proclamation of the "Košícký Program," resulting in punitive measures for Hungarians. The latter — together with other nationalities — were considered to be second-class citizens subject to deportation and expulsion.

The third study deals with the cultural life of Hungarians in Czechoslovakia since 1945, and it is based extensively on Hungarian-language publications in Slovakia, reflecting a mixture of hope and despair by those who live "under the double yoke" of foreign and communist rule.

Although somewhat polemical in nature, the studies attain credibility by the simple fact that the author himself was a participant in the interwar politics of Czechoslovakia, and he is able to draw on personal experiences and observations, as well as original written sources. Currently president of the National Committee of Hungarians in Czechoslovakia (and organization founded in Hungary by the expellees, and now functioning in North America), Mr. Sirchich is considered to be one of the best informed persons concerning the situation of the Hungarian minority in Czechoslovakia.

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