

### III. THE SCHOOL SITUATION

What can you tell me about your school in Hungary?  
What subjects did you have?

"First of all we drew a great deal. Then we learned how to write and how to read. Also how to count. I know how to count to seven quite well. Then sometimes we also sang and we also had gymnastics."

"What did you draw at school?"

"Oh we used to draw little houses, little animals and such like things."

And what did you learn to write?

"I learned to write letters, But I don't know, I really don't remember which ones. I think it was A&B I don't know whether it was C&D also, I really can't tell."

What about arithmetic?

"I told you already, I can count to seven."

What did you sing?

"We sang the usual songs. I really don't know and can't remember."

Tell me something, which was your favorite subject?

"I liked to draw and to write most."

Now why did you like that?

"Just because."

Can you tell me something about your teachers? How many teachers did you have?

"We had one teacher. She was a lady teacher and very nice."

Did you like her and why?

"Yes we liked her very much because she could write so beautifully and whenever we wrote nicely we always got some candy and sweets from her. We liked her very much."

And did they treat all children equally?

"What do you mean equally?"

I don't know what this means."

Well, I mean if you were naughty and the other boy was naughty, you got the same punishment, or whether you got the same praise when you were good.

"Oh she was very strict with the bad boys."

Do you know whether you had any communist teacher at school?

"I really don't know."

Tell me one thing. Do you know who is a communist?

"The little boy thought hard for a while and then he said: "Well, a Communist can be a man and it can also be a women. apparently he had no notion of what a communist is really, so I left it at that."

Tell me something about your classmates. Who were your best friends?

"Oh there was Pityu. His father worked in a factory and then there was another one, He was called Majas. His father was always fishing on the lake. Why were these boys your friends? "O H JUST BECAUSE we were always playing together and that is it."

Was there anybody you did not like at school and why?

"Yes there was one child whom I didn't like because she was always fighting and then there was a little girl who was so silly and she never knew how to read and write and she was always sitting in the last bench. She was punished and she had to sit there."

Did you have any religious instruction at school?

"Not at school, but after school we went to the prelate in the village for special religious lessons after school."

(I asked the little boy how many children were in one class, and how many of them went to religious instruction, and as far as he could remember, he said there were ten in the class and four of them went for religious instruction.

B. Did you always tell your parents what happened in school?

"I think so yes. Why not?"

C. Did you ever talk at school about what happened at home?

"I don't know."

D. What did you do after school hours?

"First of all I went home. Then I wrote my lessons, and after that I went up to play."

What did you play usually?

"Well my friend and I sat on a piece of board and played ship. We were rowing with another stick, and you know the young Hajas, once he fell into the water from the pier. It was so funny."

Did you ever go to the movies?

"Oh that was such fun. Once we saw cowboys. That was great fun, and we saw policemen."

Have you been a member of the Pioneer movement?

"No, but there were many in the class who were. They had to wear red ties, you know."

Why didn't you belong to the Pioneer movement?

"My mother wouldn't let me and that was it."

IV. TELL ME SOMETHING ABOUT YOUR FAMILY. WHAT DID YOUR FATHER DO?

"Daddy worked in the ship yard. He was making the pretty boats. There were big cranes around the whole place."

Did your mether work?

"Oh yes of course, mother worked a great deal. She cooked for us. She washed all our linen, swept the apartment."

Tell me something about your ~~family~~ apartment. What sort of a house was it?

"Oh it was a very nice apartment. It was near the Lake, quite near to the shipbuilding yard, We had two big rooms and a kitchen."

Who did the housework?

"It was usually mother who did the housework, but I helped her. I used to do the bed."

Who looked after you when you were at home after school?

"It was mommy or daddy who looked after us."



V. REWARDS AND PUNISHMENTS

Have you been rewarded at school? For good work?

"Yes, we got some candies or sweets and also once we were taken to the movies the whole class, by the teacher.

B. Were you ever punished at school?

I remember I was punished once because I couldn't draw one letter."

What was the punishment?

"I had to stand in the corner. How did the teacher punish the children if they were naughty or didn't learn.

"Well she put us in the corner, then she rapped our knuckles. I really don't remember anything else."

C. Were you ever punished by your parents?

"And how. "

Well, tell me. For what were you punished and how?

Once my mother made me kneel on corn because I lost my money which was in my pocket. And then sometimes she beat me up. You know it was so funny. Once she beat me so hard that the wooden spoon, you know the cooking spoon broke on my back.

Who does punish you usually, mother or father?

"You know daddy is much stricter with us. If once ~~is~~ he can get hold of me my back and bottom would be quite red. I can tell you that."

## VI.

A. Can you tell me why the Hungarians started the revolution?

The child was unable to give any information on this. His only impressions were that one night they had to get up and flee to the neighboring house taking their sider downs and warm covers with them and they heard the firing of the cannons. That was all he could remember regarding the revolution.

VII. Tell me what you would like to be when you grow up?

(the answer of the child reflects the influence of television on young children.)

"The most I would like to become a cowboy, because I like shooting around, and also I would like to do some target shooting when I am big. I would shoot under my arms turning around, just like all the cowboys do. Then you could put glasses in a row. I would shoot them all, one after another, bang, bang, bang."

What are the three worst things a child can do? Do you have any idea?

"Yes one is if you beat up the other kids. Then I think if one child steals something from the other child, and third if you throw a ~~peck~~ stone at the head of another kid. You know in Hungary one child threw a great big stone a my head. This is awful."

What are the three most important things a kid should be taught? Do you have an idea?

"First of all a child must be good. Then it must be obedient, and then a child must always be good to his mother. This is already three, ~~do~~ do I have to say anything else?"

## VIII. SPECIAL SECTION

I was unsuccessful I probed the child for the three greatest people in the world, the threee greatest living people or who is the greatest living Hungarian. Also he was unable to give anything about the list of famous Hungarians.

IX. Can you tell me what strikes you as being completely different in the United States ~~far~~ from Hungary?

"I don't know."

What are the things you like best here in the US?

"Oh yes, I like to ride in a car, I like to sail, oh and you know I love those jet planes and the helicopters."

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What are the things you don't like in the US?

"When the car comes and I am scared that it will hit me and knock me down and I will become as flat as a pancake. I don't like the idea at all."