

Below: Iron work in Hungarian Garden.

Right: One World Day group.

Far right: entrance to Hungarian Garden.

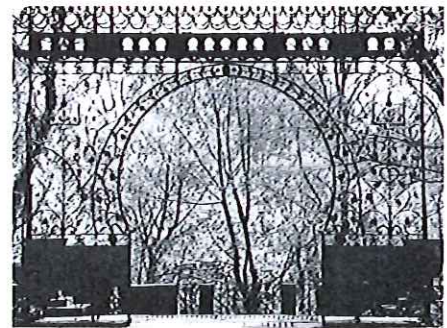
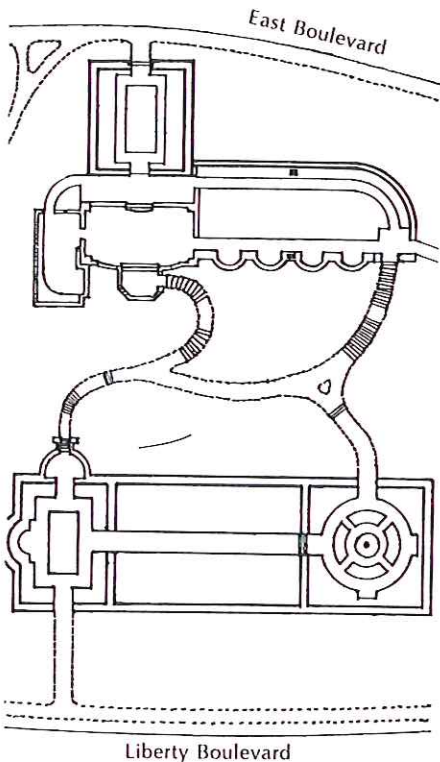


**HUNGARIAN** Constructed on two levels the Hungarian Garden extends from East Boulevard and overlooks Liberty Boulevard. The entrance is through a delicately patterned wrought-iron gateway, decorated with two small peasant figures in bronze, the traditional type archway leading to country estates in Hungary.

On the upper level a rectangular reflecting pool and fountain are set in a pattern of low walls and geometric walks of brick, stone, and marble and rich plantings of the growths best known in Hungary — hawthorn, yew, cotoneaster, and azaleas. Two linden trees, formal flower beds, and brick, stone and marble walls and walks are features of the lower garden.

The site of the Hungarian Garden was dedicated October 21, 1934, the 123rd anniversary of the birth of Franz Liszt, with the unveiling of the bas-relief of the Hungarian composer. The Liszt plaque is the work of John Tenkacs, Cleveland sculptor. Designed by a well known architect of Budapest, Hungary, the garden was officially and formally dedicated July 10, 1938. On September 7, 1941 a 40-foot steel flagpole and an American flag were dedicated in an impressive ceremony in the Garden.

On July 23, 1950, at the conclusion of the annual One World Day celebration, marking the 25th anniversary of the founding of the Gardens, a bronze statue of Imre Madach, philosophical dramatist and author, was dedicated. The bust is the work of Sculptor Alexander Finta, and the dedication was jointly sponsored by the Hungarian Cultural Garden Association and the United Hungarian Societies of Cleveland.



A bust of poet Endre Ady (1887-1919) was dedicated May 23, 1954, and a bust of Bela Bartok was dedicated in 1975.

The early officers of the Hungarian Cultural Garden were Judge Julius M. Kovachy, president; Mrs. Margaret Szabo and Miss Lili Volosin, vice presidents; Stephen Gobozy, secretary; and Joseph Szalay, treasurer. Miss Volosin has also been an active member of the Federation for many years, as was Judge Louis Petrash.

# Cultural Garden celebrates 75th anniversary

by Richard E. Sarosi

CLEVELAND -- About 400 members of the Hungarian community from Greater Cleveland and Northeastern Ohio gathered July 20 to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the Hungarian Cultural Garden of Cleveland.

On this historic occasion--held after nearly three generations have passed since the founding of the Cultural Garden in July 1938--the current generation of American Magyars dedicated the new "Legacy Wall" in the lower garden. According to its inscription, the Legacy Wall is dedicated "in gratitude to Hungarians who have enriched our lives through music, art, science, mathematics, and technology."

The celebration began with the presentation of the U.S. and Hungarian flags by members of the Cleveland Hungarian Scouts Ensemble. Carolyn Balogh, president of the Hungarian Cultural Garden, then read a proclamation from Cleveland Mayor Frank G. Jackson, and Sheila Crawford, president of the Cleveland Cultural Garden Federation, presented information about the Cultural Garden.

Joining Ms. Balogh in a ribbon cutting ceremony marking the dedication of the Legacy Wall and renovation of the lower garden was Ernie Mihaly. Mr. Mihaly and his late wife Goldie (Aranka) have been generous supporters of the Hungarian Cultural Garden for more than 40 years. Through their dedication and hard labor, the garden has been weeded, painted, cleaned and maintained. In preparation for the 75th anniversary, Mr. Mihaly contributed \$65,000 for the repair of the two staircases that connect the upper and lower gardens. He also established a trust fund which will provide about \$10,000 a year for maintenance of the garden.

The program included a recitation of the history of the Cultural Garden, the playing of Hungarian folk songs by instructors from the Aurora School of Music, a performance by the Kis Magyar Korus of the Westside Hungarian Lutheran Church, and dancing by the St. Elizabeth Dancers and the Hungarian Scout Folk Ensemble.

Among the names on the Legacy Wall is that of our own William Penn Association. This continues our Association's longtime support of the Cultural Garden.

WPA's forefathers of the former Verhovay Aid Association donated the garden's decorative Kapu gate, which has welcomed visitors since 1938.

A donor reception ended the day on a high note. Lake Erie served as a beautiful backdrop for an outdoor dinner served at the home of Richard Fleischman and Helen Moss. The Gatsby-style home was the perfect setting to

recall the events of the day and to relax while listening to the music of Harmonia.

Many individuals on the 75th Anniversary Committee worked hard to make this event a success. The Radick Landscaping Company was a huge help in making sure that the garden looked its best. Help was also received from local high school students and other volunteers.

As preparations for the 75th anniversary were underway, Hurricane Sandy paid a visit to northern Ohio. The garden suffered about \$12,000 in damages when a tree fell on the Kapu gate and fountain and knocked an urn off its pedestal. The Hungarian community generously responded to an emergency call for funds to repair the damage.

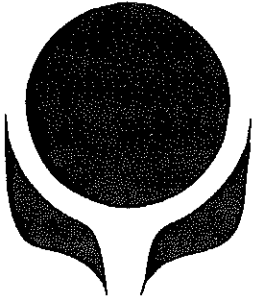
The Hungarian Cultural Garden relies on the generosity of its members and donors for its maintenance of the realization of future plans. The committee would like to complete two additional sections of the Legacy Wall, refurbish walkways, add busts to empty pedestals, and install

additional benches, sculptures, lighting, flowers, bushes, plants, trees and a new water feature.

You can help maintain and improve the Hungarian Cultural Garden for future generations to enjoy by visiting the garden and participating in its fundraisers, including the April wine tasting, the June Father's Day Gulyás Cook-off and the August golf outing. For more information, visit the Hungarian Cultural Garden web site at [www.hungarianculturalgarden.org](http://www.hungarianculturalgarden.org). □



**PHOTOS** TOP: Sheila Crawford, president of the Cleveland Cultural Garden Federation, stands in front of the new Legacy Wall. (Photo courtesy of ClevelandPeople.com) MIDDLE: Ernie Mihaly and Carolyn Balogh, president of the Hungarian Cultural Garden, cut the ribbon officially dedicating the Legacy Wall. (Photo by Richard E. Sarosi) BOTTOM: members of the Cleveland Hungarian Scouts Folk Ensemble perform Hungarian folk songs. (Photo by Richard E. Sarosi)



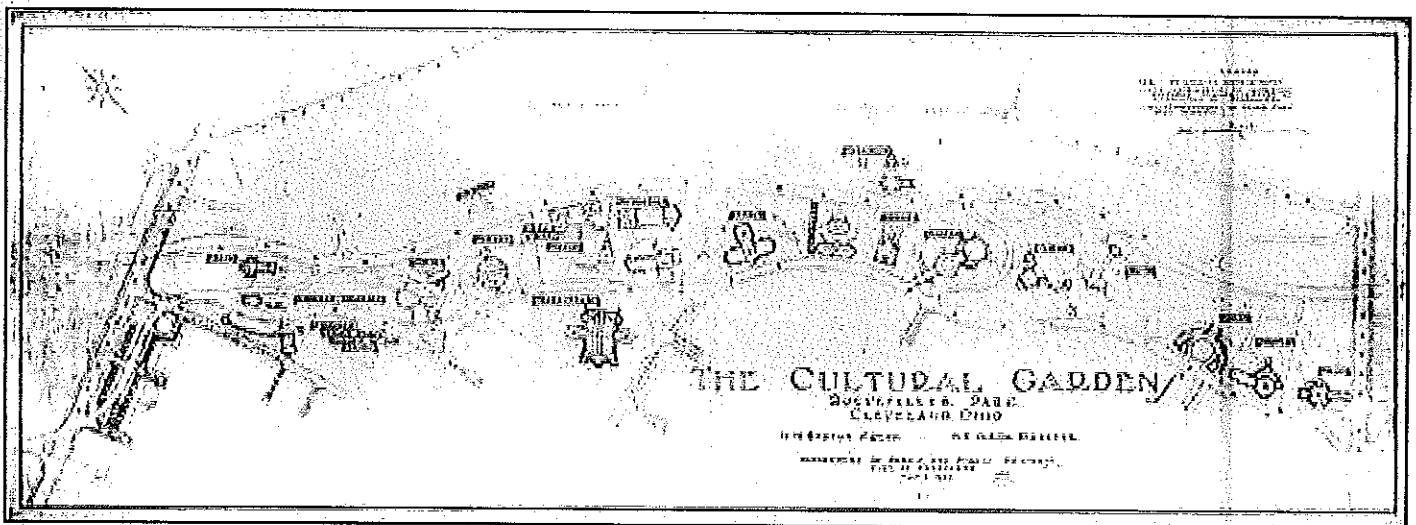
## History

The Cleveland Cultural Gardens is one of the City of Cleveland's many parks. This two hundred fifty-four acre ravine-like setting was donated to the City of Cleveland by John D. Rockefeller in 1896. This entire area from University Circle to Lake Erie is known as Rockefeller Park. The Park was designed by prominent landscape architect Ernest W. Bowditch who utilized this breath taking terrain to develop these unique gardens.

The Shakespeare Garden was the first to be built in 1916. Ten years later, Leo Weidenthal, editor and publisher of the Jewish Independent, conceived the idea of a garden chain that would represent the many cultures of the world. Under his leadership the Cleveland Cultural Gardens Federation was formed and the Gardens entered a long period of growth.

The Shakespeare Garden became the British Garden, the Hebrew Garden was developed next and many more followed. The Gardens were developed as a joint effort of Cleveland's ethnic communities, the City of Cleveland and the Federal Government. The Federal Government – namely the Work Progress Administration, can be credited for making the significant contribution of the massive stone structures. The bridges, curving staircases, walkways, supporting walls, columns, and fountains still remain impressive to those who venture into the Gardens. The involvement of the WPA is one of the aspects that sets this park aside as a historically significant place. The WPA's craftsmanship is beautiful, functional and as aesthetically impressive today as it was seventy years ago.

The whole Cultural Garden chain is a manifestation of the cooperation amongst the diverse ethnic communities of Cleveland. Therein lies the significance of the theme of the Gardens "Peace through mutual understanding" as stated by Clara Lederer in her book about the Gardens "Their Paths are Peace", published in 1954.



1939 Cultural Gardens Map

THEIR  
PATHS  
ARE  
PEACE

*By* CLARA LEDERER



THE STORY  
OF THE  
CLEVELAND  
CULTURAL  
GARDENS

# Their Paths Are Peace

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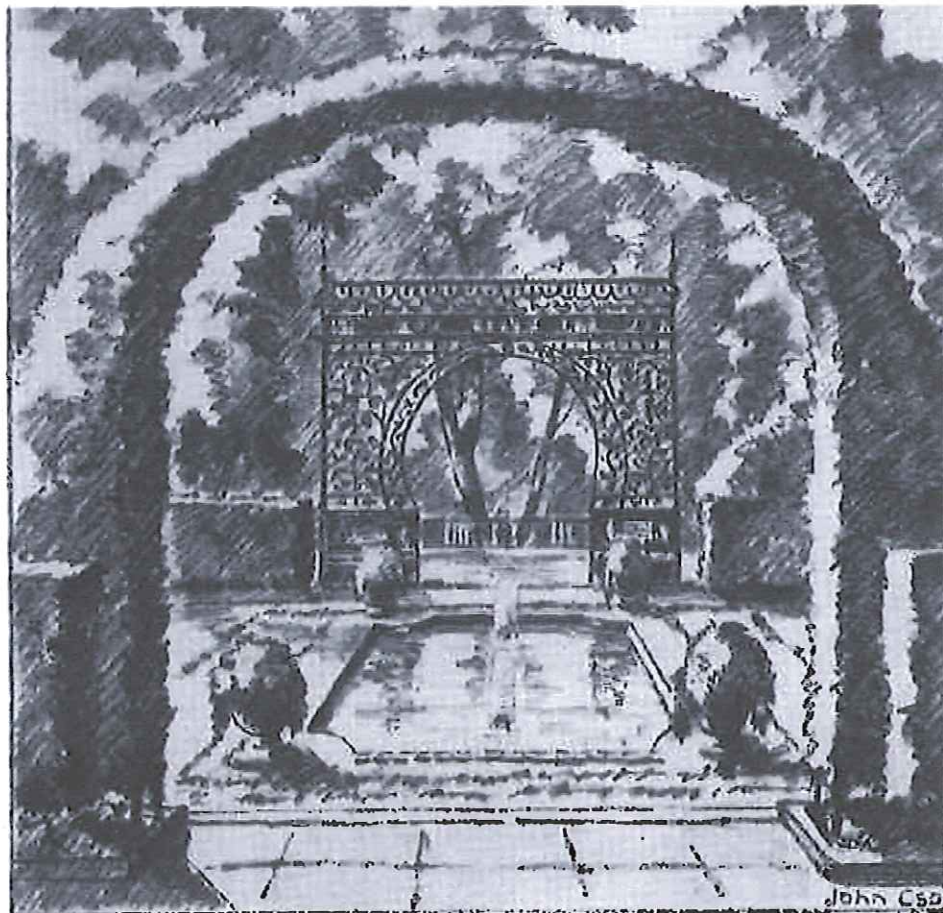
*The Story of Cleveland's Cultural Gardens*

■ by Clara Lederer



PUBLISHED BY THE CLEVELAND CULTURAL GARDEN FEDERATION, 1954

## Hungarian Cultural Garden



The Hungarian Cultural Garden is constructed on two levels along the upper boulevard, and overlooks lower East Boulevard. Designed by a well-known architect of Budapest, Hungary, it is a distinguished garden from the standpoint of compact, opulent, and formal landscape style. The entrance is through a delicately patterned wrought-iron gateway, the gift of the Verhovay Insurance Association. It is like the traditional type of archway leading to country estates in Hungary and is decorated with two small delightful peasant figures in bronze. In the principal plot on the upper level, a rectangular reflecting pool and fountain are set in a pattern of low walls and geometric walks of brick, stone, and marble, and rich plantings of the growths best known in Hungary—hawthorn, yew, cotoneasters, and azaleas. Two linden trees, formal flower beds, and brick, stone, and marble walls and walks are the features of the lower garden. Two wing sections, formal arrangements of lawn, brick paths, and sculptured stone benches, adjoin the larger upper garden. In the section to the left of the entrance is a bas-relief of Franz Liszt.

For the promotion of the Hungarian Cultural Garden project, a Cultural Garden Committee of the United Hungarian Societies of Cleveland had been formed with Louis Petrash as president and

Nicholas F. Molnar as secretary. On September 24, 1934, the commission gave public notice of its initial venture in a statement opening as follows:

"The establishment of the Hungarian Cultural Garden is actively under way. A meeting will be held, Thursday evening, Oct. 4, 1934, at 8 o'clock at the Hollenden Hotel Lounge, for the purpose of completing and enlarging the sponsor committee, together with making proper arrangements for the celebration of Liszt Week, commencing October 15, 1934, with the dedication exercises to be held, Sunday, October 21, 1934."

The United Societies then named a permanent commission consisting of Municipal Judge Louis Petrash, chairman; Nicholas F. Molnar, secretary; Attorney Stephen Kormendy, treasurer; Stephen Gobozy, George M. Kovachy, Albert Tudja and Emery Hoffer.

The site of the Hungarian Garden was dedicated on October 21, 1934, upon the occasion of the 123rd anniversary of the birth of Franz Liszt, with the unveiling of the bas-relief of the Hungarian composer.

In honoring Liszt, the Hungarian Cultural Garden leaders chose, at the outset, an Hungarian, whose name was destined to tower high in the history of music, as composer and as pianist. Son of



*Madach*

Adam Liszt, the boy Liszt appeared in public at the age of nine with great success. His first appearance in concert in Vienna, was on December 1, 1822. Liszt appeared in London in his early youth and later became an outstanding figure in the great art and cultural center of Weimar. In 1859, he transferred his center of activity to Rome. His last appearance upon a concert platform was on July 19, 1886, at a concert of the Musical Society of Luxembourg. His death occurred on July 31 of that year.

The Liszt plaque in the Hungarian Cultural Garden is the work of John Tenkacs, Cleveland sculptor. Speakers at the dedication included: Dr. Louis Alexy, Hungarian Consul; Joseph Remenyi, Mayor Harry L. Davis; former City Manager William R. Hopkins and Charles J. Wolfram, president of the Cultural Garden League.

The program was opened by Louis Petrash, chair-

man of the Cultural Garden Committee. Nicholas F. Molnar, secretary of the committee and secretary of the City Plan Commission of Cleveland, was master of ceremonies. Assistant Police Prosecutor Stephen Gobozy, president of the United Hungarian Societies delivered the welcoming address.

An ode to Liszt by Dr. Ladislaus Polya was recited by the author and a Liszt Rhapsody was played by the string ensemble of the Liszt Conservatory of Music.

The United Hungarian Societies in 1936 launched a campaign to raise funds for the Hungarian Cultural Garden.

The finance committee, headed by Municipal Judge Julius M. Kovachy, included Parks Director Hugo E. Varga, Dr. William Riegelhaupt, John Schreier, Dr. Stephen Ciprus, John Jakab, Peter Gerzsenyi, the Rev. Emery Tanos, the Rev. Stephen Porantunzsky, Mrs. John Volosin, Mrs. Albert Kiraly, Louis Toth, Mrs. Amelia Doby, John B. Toth, Frank B. Boldizsar, Mrs. Esther Kay, Ignatz Fanchaly, Dr. John Kovacs, Stephen Kovacs, Dr. Nicholas Steiner, Erno Fedak, Emery Olexo, Elmer Kallay, Mrs. Carl Herczeg.

In 1937 an aggressive campaign was launched among Cleveland Hungarians for the raising of the \$4,000 requisite for the completion of their garden. This was accomplished by church appeals, personal contributions, and benefit concerts of high artistic quality. The Hungarian Cultural Garden Association at that time was made up of Municipal Judge Julius Kovachy, president; Dr. Stephen Ciprus, vice president; Dr. John Majoros, secretary; and John Kish, treasurer. Members of the executive committee were Judge Louis Petrash, Louis Toth, John Jakab, Ignatz Fanchaly, Paul Nagy, Stephen Gobozy, and Stephen Kormendy.

The Hungarian Garden was officially and formally dedicated on July 10, 1938. A colorful parade of some 5,000 members of Hungarian organizations, many of them in native costumes, marched along lower East Boulevard to the speakers' stand at the lower end of the Hungarian Garden, where a crowd of 20,000 persons awaited them. The combined Hungarian Singing Societies, a chorus of 300 mixed voices, directed by Carl Tomasi, sang several selections from their position on a tree-shrouded hillside overlooking the garden. Nicholas Roosevelt, former minister to Hungary, was the principal speaker. He appealed to Americans to preserve the intellectual and spiritual freedom which is assured by democratic and parliamentary government. Councilman Stephen Gobozy, president of the United Hungarian Societies, introduced the speakers. Municipal Judge Julius M. Kovachy, president of the Hungarian Cultural Garden-Association, officially presented the garden to the city. Mayor Harold H. Burton, in accepting the gift, expressed the thanks of the peo-

ple of the city, and praised the vital cultural interests of Cleveland Hungarians. United States Senator Robert J. Bulkley cited the role of the Works Progress Administration in Cultural Gardens history as one which could not be measured in merely monetary terms. Dr. Louis Alexy, Hungarian Consul General for the middle west, conveyed the thanks of the Hungarian government to the federal, state, and municipal agencies which aided in the construction of the garden. Other speakers included Joseph Fodor, prominent in Cleveland Hungarian affairs; Joseph Darago, Pittsburgh supreme president of the Verhovay Aid Society; William B. Pecsok, spokesman for Governor Martin L. Davey; Hugo B. Varga, city park director; Congressman Robert Crosser; Emery Kiraly, supreme treasurer of the Reform Federation of America; Municipal Judge Louis Petrash, first president of the Hungarian Garden; Charles J. Wolfram, then president of the Cultural Garden League; and Stephen Ciprus, vice-president of the Hungarian Cultural Garden Association.

On September 7, 1941, a 40-foot steel flagpole and an American flag were dedicated in an impressive ceremony in the Hungarian Garden. The pole and its ornate base were the gift of the Magyar Club of Cleveland. The program opened with selections by the Buckeye Road Hungarian Baptist Church Band. Judge Julius M. Kovachy, president of the Hungarian Cultural Garden Association, presided.

On July 23, 1950, at the conclusion of the annual One World Day celebration, marking the 25th anniversary of the founding of the Cultural Gardens, a bronze statue of Imre Madach, philosophical dramatist and author of "The Tragedy of Man" was dedicated in the Hungarian Garden. Dr. Joseph Remenyi delivered the principal address on the works of Madach. The bust was the work of Sculptor Alexander Finta, and the dedication was jointly sponsored by the Hungarian Cultural Garden Association and the United Hungarian Societies of Cleveland.

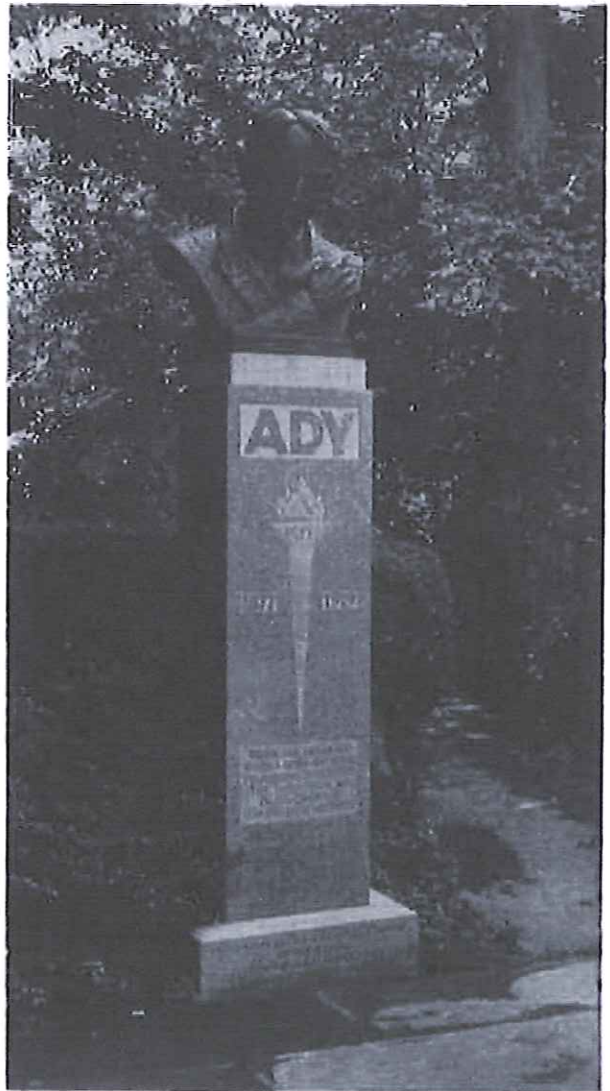
Dedication of a memorial to another outstanding figure in world culture and in Hungary's great literary history took place on May 23, 1954, with the presentation to the Hungarian Cultural Garden, of a bronze bust of the poet, Endre Ady (1877-1919). Ady, who has been referred to as a 20th century counterpart of Petofi was extolled by speakers at a program in the section of the Hungarian Garden designed for busts of noted writers and other leaders in Hungary's cultural life.

Master of ceremonies at the unveiling program was Judge Julius M. Kovachy. The National Anthem was sung by Mrs. Louis Bodnar. Rev. Gabor Brachna delivered the invocation. The dedication address was delivered by Dr. Frank Ujlaki and the unveiling address by Judge Kovachy, president of the Hungarian Cultural Garden Association. A greeting by Mayor Anthony J. Celebrezze followed

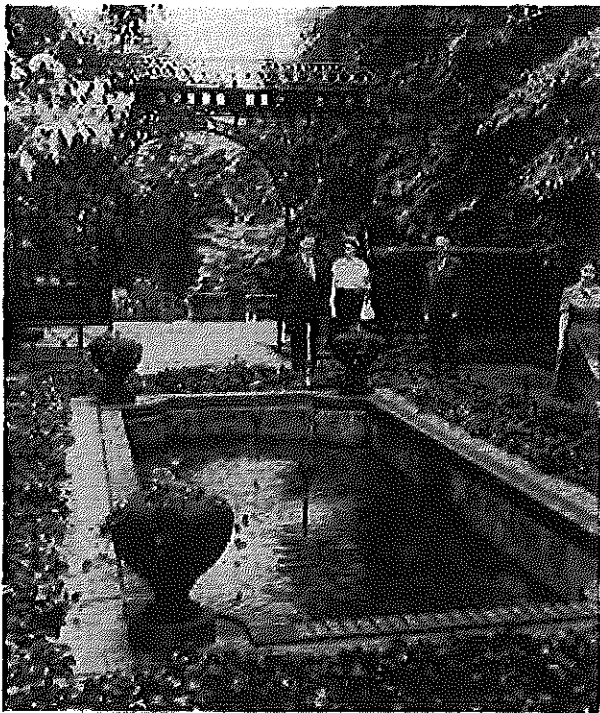
and there were songs by St. Stephen's Choir. The program also included songs by the Reformed Church Choir. Greetings from the United Hungarian Societies were extended by Andrew Dono. Leo Weidenthal, president of the Cultural Garden Federation also addressed the gathering and Judge Louis Petrash, vice president of the Federation extended the community's greetings. A wreath was placed on the memorial by Frank Magyary in the name of the Rakoczi Society. Kalman Revesz, secretary of Verhovay also placed a wreath on the bust.

At the present writing, Appellate Judge Julius M. Kovachy is president of the Hungarian Cultural Garden Association, Mrs. Margaret Szabo and Miss Lily Volosin are vice-presidents, Stephen Gobozy is secretary, Joseph Szalay, is treasurer, and Municipal Judge Louis Petrash, Mr. and Mrs. Kalman Kolzvary, Carl Helwig, Andrew Dono, Mrs. Joseph

### Ady







*Judge Louis Petrash, Miss Lily Volosin, Judge Julius Kovachy, Miss Clara Lederer*

Dunasky, Mathias Gallo, Mrs. Andrew Balazik, Steven Kovach, Charles Kautzky, John Marton, and Ferenz Simon, are directors. Executive officers and delegates to the Cultural Garden Federation are Judges Louis Petrash and Julius M. Kovachy, Miss Lily Volosin, and Stephen Gobozy.

Officers of former years have included, in addition to Judge Kovachy as president, Dr. Stephen Ciprus, vice-president, Dr. John Majoros, secretary, and John Kish, treasurer. Former directors have been, in addition to Judge Kovachy, Dr. Stephen Ciprus, John J. Kish, Judge Louis Petrash, Dr. John Majoros, Joseph Fodor, Stephen Gobozy, Louis Toth, John Jakab, Paul Nagy, Stephen Kormendy, and Ignatz Fanchaly.

A charming feature of Hungarian Garden history has been its annual Visitation Day celebration, marked by gypsy music, flag raising ceremonies, speeches by prominent Cleveland Hungarians, and the serving of Hungarian pastries and coffee with whipped cream to guests by members of Hungarian women's organizations in native costume.

Dr. Joseph Remenyi, professor of Comparative Literature at Western Reserve University, distinguished both as critic of international reputation and creative writer in his native Hungary, and for many years a dynamic cultural asset on the Cleveland scene, sums up for us the implied ethnic and individual significance of the Hungarian Cultural Garden. He points out that the Hungarians, a Finno-Ugric people

with a thousand year old history on the European continent, speak a language which tends to isolate them from a complete understanding of their position in the progress of European civilization. "Hungary, for centuries the defender of Christendom against Ottoman invaders," Dr. Remenyi says, "was also the defender of her culture which developed parallel with that of the West. Scholasticism, the Renaissance, the Reformation, and Counter-Reformation, the Age of Enlightenment, have their corresponding periods in Hungarian history. Throughout the centuries political, cultural and religious leaders endeavored to co-ordinate western orientation with national loyalties." Dr. Remenyi cites the music of Bela Bartok, modern Hungarian composer, as a vital symbol of the Hungarian cultural spirit, insofar as it portrays "an interplay between the emotional and ethical forces of national traditions and those of individualism, as understood in Western Europe." Dr. Remenyi comments on the design of the Hungarian Cultural Garden by stating that it is in accordance with traditional aesthetic expressions, and that Cleveland Hungarians have not lost sight of their rural or artisan past. "The garden also displays the personal qualities of Hungarian culture," Dr. Remenyi says, "reflected in the tangible symbols of the plaque of Franz Liszt, whose compositions were influenced by folk tunes, and the bust of Imre Madach, the philosophical dramatist."

Future plans for the adornment of the Hungarian Garden with busts honoring famous Hungarians who have contributed to both national Hungarian and to universal culture, include the commemoration of Sandor Petofi, greatest Hungarian lyricist, epic

#### *Liszt Plaque—Day of Dedication*



genius, and master of the Hungarian language; Janos Arany, and memorials in honor of Mor Jokai, popular, romantic novelist; Farkas Bolyai, mathematician; Ignac Semmelweis, medical genius; Mihaly Munkacsy, world-renowned landscape and portrait artist, painter of historical subjects, including the famous "Milton Dictating Paradise Lost to his Daughters;" and Bela Bartok, composer of operatic, choral, symphonic, vocal, violin and piano works, in whose last string quartets there has been discovered a close spiritual kinship with those of Beethoven.

No more fitting conclusion than these remarks of

Dr. Remenyi could be chosen for this chapter on the Hungarian Garden. "The Hungarian Garden design should not be viewed as a superimposed ornamental improvement of the past, but a logical and harmonious expression of a nation's collective and individual spirit, side by side with similar expression of other nations. Here is an example of how true values are preserved in an American city. It proves that America does not consider the divergent cultural horizons of other nations incompatible with the basic ideology of democracy; on the contrary, their values are recognized in accordance with the Jeffersonian view of man's place and dignity in our society."

*Mid Portion of the Hungarian Cultural Garden*





HUNGARIAN  
GARDEN