'PRO CULTURA HUNGARICA'

International History Didactics Society Colleagues Honoured

Our colleagues, Walter Fürnrohr and Karl Pellens, have been presented with a Certificate of Merit and beautiful medals by the Republic of Hungary. In the commendation, it was emphasised how much work Professors Fürnrohr and Pellens have undertaken in fostering cooperation in history teaching between the two countries and in arranging invitations to joint conferences and lectures.

The two Professors gladly accepted this honour on behalf of all participating colleagues, mainly and for all others: Professor Dr. Hans-Joachim von der Ohe, Flensburg, the pathfinder of hungarian-german cooperation in History Didactics.

On 6 April 1993 at Debrecen, our Hungarian colleagues, in particular Professor Dr. Szabolcs Otto and Dr. Porcsalmy Janos, during the course of a conference for history teachers, organised a reception of the President of the district of Hajdu-Bihar, Dr. Szekeres Antal, himself a history teacher. Press and radio showed a great interest in this event, in particular about the ways and means in which cooperation in the publication of books and materials for furthering the teaching of history could be pursued.

The Prizewinners used the opportunity to request support for the comming Hungarian World Fair in 1996 which, with the cooperation of the Hungarian Historians Society and our Society, is intending to focus on the ways in which history and the methods of history teaching can be made more accessible through educational technology such as video, to history teachers of all nations (more information on p. 149 of this number). Dr. Szekeres welcomed further advice and help from his administration on this issue.

In the consulates of Stuttgart and Munich, after the handing-over of the Certificates and the Medals, Walter Fürnrohr and Karl Pellens asked that the Hungarian Diplomatic Service should untertake to reimburse the costs of longer planned visits by Hungarian history teachers in german schools and universities; accommodation, tuition and catering would be arranged privately.

In Hajduszoboszlo, during the course of an intensive in-service-conference for history teachers at which the Prizewinners lectured in the afternoon, Professor Szabolcs opened proceedings with a large reception. The information that he gave about the award met with much spontaneous approval of the present colleagues and teachers. Nearly all the conference participants were interested that the edition of essays on teaching of history in Germany, now translated into Hungarian, should be available for most of the history teachers in Hungary. Our colleagues Fürnrohr and Pellens have been authors and consultors of this edition.

Professor Szabolcs then handed over to both Prizewinners and to a Hungarian textbook author from the Ukraine, the Thaly Kalman medal of 1906, with the thanks and recognition of the Hungarian Historians Society.

It is finally worth emphasising that the Hungarian Republic is the first nation to have honoured such specialist work in our Society in this way. This points to future possibilities and the way ahead for further international exchange and understanding in our discipline and through our Society.

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Am 21. November 1993 feiert Kollege Adam Suchoński von der Pädagogischen Hochschule Opole (Oppeln) in Polen seinen 60. Geburtstag! Seit 1987 (!) gehört er zu den regelmäßigen Autoren unserer "Mitteilungen" und ebenso zu den regelmäßigen Teilnehmern unserer Tagungen. Durch sachgerechte Information und Forschung arbeitet er an den wichtigen Aufgaben einer polnisch-deutschen Annäherung. Herzliche Wünsche zu diesem Fest und vor allem auch für die weitere, gemeinsame Arbeit!