Barna Szénássy
(1913–1995)

Barna Szénássy was born in Ungvár (now Užhorod, Ukraine) on December 11, 1913 and he died in Debrecen on November 12, 1995. He received the diploma as a teacher of mathematics and physics at the University of Debrecen in 1936, and obtained the PhD degree at the same university in 1937.

He taught mathematics and physics in several high schools of various towns in Hungary. During and after the second world war, he spent six years in military service and as a prisoner of war. Since 1951, he taught mathematics at the L. Kossuth University, Debrecen. He retired in 1977 as a full professor. In 1994, he became Professor Emeritus of the L. Kossuth University.

His scientific work was almost entirely devoted to the history of mathematics in Hungary. He wrote 11 books and published over 50 essays on

various questions of this subject. The main result of his investigations is a monograph, first published in Hungarian in 1970, and later in English (History of mathematics in Hungary until the 20th century; Akadémiai Kiadó, Budapest and Springer-Verlag, Berlin, 1992, 370 pp.). This work is of fundamental importance in studying questions concerning biography and work of mathematicians in Hungary, as well as the development of institutions connected with teaching mathematics and research in mathematical sciences in this country.

For many decades, Barna Szénássy was the most important expert in Hungary on questions about the history of mathematics in this country. Consequently, he was member (and a very active one) of all comissions in Hungary having to do with the history of science and belonging either to the Academy of Science or to the J. Bolyai Mathematical Society or other institutions. As an appreciation of his activity, a long series of different honours has been awarded to him, among others the title "Laureatus Academiae" obtained in 1994 from the Hungarian Academy of Science.

The demise of Barna Szénássy is an irreparable loss for the community of Hungarian mathematicians and of all persons interested in the history of mathematics in Hungary.

Á. Császár

List of the publications of Barna Szénássy

Books and papers are in Hungarian except those marked by *.

Books, parts of books

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[3] Gyula Kőnig (1849–1913), *Akadémiai Kiadó, Budapest*, 1965, 142 pp..

[4] A history of Hungarian mathematics, Appendix to the book: Rybnikov, History of mathematics, *Tankönyvkiadó, Budapest*, 1968, 1974, 443–470 pp.

[5] History of Mathematics in Hungary (from most ancient times until the beginning of the XXth century), *Akadémiai Kiadó, Budapest*, 1970, 1974, 381 pp.

[6] Farkas Bolyai (1775–1856), *Akadémiai Kiadó, Budapest*, 1975, 157 pp.

[7] János Bolyai, *Akadémiai Kiadó, Budapest*, 1978, 196 pp, (Hungarian scientists of the past).

[8] Gyula Kőnig, *Akadémiai Kiadó, Budapest*, 1983, 177 pp, (Hungarian scientists of the past).

[9*] Supplement, János Bolyai: Appendix, The theory of space. with introd., comments ... by Ferenc Kárteszi, *Akadémiai Kiadó – North Holland Publ. Comp., Budapest-Amsterdam*, 1987, 220–239 pp.

[10] Group of Mathematical Chairs. – In the publication History of the Faculty of Natural Sciences of the Loránd Eötvös University, 1635–1985, *ELTE, Budapest*, 1991, 161–190 pp, (In collaboration with Ákos Császár.).

[11*] History of mathematics in Hungary until the 20th century, *Akadémiai Kiadó – Springer Verlag, Budapest-Berlin*, 1992, 370 pp, (Revised and enlarged English edition of No. 5).

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[23] János Apáczai Csere, *A Matematika Tanítása* **8** (1961), 190–191.

[24] The first 75 years of our Society, *Matematikai Lapok* **17** (1966), 295–308.

[25] Jenő Hunyady, *Műszaki Nagyjaink* **3** (1967), 175–202.

[26] Gyula Kőnig, *Műszaki Nagyjaink* **3** (1967), 203–239.

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[30] János András Segner and mathematics in our country, A magyarországi tudomány- és technikatörténet, *Budapest*, 1973, 337–343 pp.

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