

NEWS FROM THE UNITED STATES

THE JOURNAL OF CENTRAL EUROPEAN AFFAIRS

Students of Austrian history in both Europe and America regret very much the suspension of the publication of the *Journal of Central European Affairs* in January, 1964. The *Journal* was founded for the express purpose of filling in the gap resulting from the suspension of the publication of the *Revue des Études Slaves* and other European journals in 1940. The first issue appeared in April, 1941. Originally there were only 104 subscribers. Within the span of a few years, however, the periodical developed into the leading outlet for serious studies in the field for American historians and social scientists and for the many Central European scholars uprooted by the war and by the subsequent political developments in the area.

During the twenty-three years of its existence substantially more than a hundred scholarly articles dealing with various aspects of the history of the Habsburg monarchy and of postwar Austria and Hungary, in fact, close to half the total number of articles in the periodical, were published in the *Journal*. Although the medieval and early modern periods were not entirely neglected, the majority of essays were concerned with developments in Austria during the past century. Dealing with the political, diplomatic, nationality, sociological, economic, and ideological problems of the area, they cover a wide range of interests and points of view. In addition, the news items and documents in various numbers and the lists of periodical literature and reviews of numerous books in the field in each issue have been an important aid to students in keeping track of the constantly increasing publications in Austrian history.

During the early years of its existence the *Journal of Central European Affairs* was strictly a "shoestring" financial venture. On numerous occasions there was a serious question whether enough funds could be procured to cover the cost of printing the next issue. Even later, when the University of Colorado, the Ford Foundation, and other institutions gave funds which eased the financial burdens of the *Journal*, the editor, with a minimum of editorial assistance, still had to perform the time-consuming

and painstaking labor of editing manuscripts, reading proof, and writing numerous shorter sections. He performed these tasks in addition to his regular teaching duties and his editing of two annual publications in the medieval and renaissance fields.

All these arduous efforts of the editor have paid incalculable dividends in enriching Central European studies in general and those in Austrian history in particular. Through the *Journal of Central European Affairs*, the founder and editor, S. Harrison Thomson, probably more than any other person, first made European and other scholars aware of the large amount of serious research in the field in the United States. Also, through his journal he aided materially in inspiring the rapid expansion of serious studies in Central European, East-Central European, and Balkan history which has taken place in the United States during the past quarter of a century.

R. J. R.

THE AUSTRIAN INSTITUTE

Various lectures of interest to students of Austrian history have been given at the Austrian Institute, 11 East 52nd Street, New York City, since its formal opening early in 1963. On June 28, 1963, Friedrich Engel-Janosi, of the University of Vienna, talked on "Nationalism and the Church in the Habsburg Monarchy, 1848 to 1918." On October 17, 1963, Robert A. Kann, of Rutgers University, delivered a lecture on "The Multinational State in Historical Perspective." Two weeks later, on November 1, Paul W. Schroeder, of the University of Illinois, spoke on "The Diplomacy of Metternich, a Revisionist View." The following lectures were given in 1964: "Karl Lueger's World and Work," by Kurt von Schuschnigg, of St. Louis University, on February 27; "Austria and Europe," by Hans Kohn, presently visiting professor at the University of Pennsylvania, on March 12; and "National Party Ideologies during Austria's Constitutional Period," by William A. Jenks, of Washington and Lee University, on April 10.