LETTER FROM BUDAPEST* — to Barbara Busse from Maria Szentpál

Thank you very much for your letter of January 26. It was interesting to hear from your organization and CORD. Although our group in the ICKL organization is called the Research Committee, we do the research work in notation . . . I will give you the information I know about, although it surely will not cover a lot of work of other colleagues in Europe. My information will be only about research being done with notation (Labanotation, or as we call it Kinetography Laban).

I have to mention first of all my colleague György (George) Martin, who is an Ethnologist and works at the Academy of Sciences in Budapest on original Hungarian folkdance material. He had a lot published in the Annuals of the Academy, each dance done with notation in full scores. He makes also comparative studies, tries to define the style and characteristic features of smaller groups in Hungary. His address is: Martin György, Magyar Tudományos Akadémia Nepzene kutato csoport Budapest V. Roosevelt tér 9.

I know about Ivan Ivancan in Yugoslavia who works with notation and published several original folkdance materials of his country. I know that in the States in Los Angeles at the UCLA Elsie Dunin owns several of his books. ...

I am sure that there would be some of us who would like to share with CORD. Unfortunately we have no possibilities whatsoever to pay fees because of foreign currency problems. Thus we are not able to join your organization.

Sincerely yours,

(signed) Maria Szentpál

Ed. Note: These paragraphs were abstracted from a longer letter to CORD member, Barbara Busse. Maria Bakos, an Hungarian ballet and modern gymnastic teacher, has informed us that Maria Szentpál was a wonderful teacher, and that she has since died.