

ABSTRACT

My thesis proposes to portray the type of politician characteristic of the age of Dualism, that of the scientist-politician. This type of personality is not unknown in Europe of 19th century, indeed a considerable number of prominent French and English politicians of the time fall into the category.

In Hungary it is with the national awakening in the 1820s and '30s, at the summit of the social pyramid that the emergence, separation and recruitment of this politician type begin. From within the first generation of reformists the transition from the arena of establishment politics towards a system of popular representation was greatly assisted by the political circle, which *Gusztáv Beksics* in his work *Hungarian Doctrinaires* calls the '*doctrinaire phalanx*'. In the ranks of this cluster hallmarked by names such as László Szalay, József Eötvös, Ágoston Trefort, Antal Csengery, Zsigmond Kemény, around whom the centralists soon organise themselves and later in those of the Deák-party we will find notable statesmen, who gain equal recognition from their contemporaries for their eminence in the fields of science.

One of the most vital events in the world of 19th century scientific establishment is the birth of the Scientists' Society, and eventually of the Hungarian Academy of Science (HAS). This will become the institution, which – by the intentions of its founder – sets itself on one hand a purely scientific and on the other a clearly political objective. The former aims at the institutional pursuit of science, the latter proposes to serve the interests of the Hungarian language. Its membership too builds up along the lines of this two-fold objective and – especially up to the end of the 1880-s – it brings together the scientist-politicians of the first reformist generation. Nevertheless, with the emergence of the 1900's generation this intertwining of the fields of science and politics in leading political personalities of the establishment does not cease. It is a characteristic of the entire period of Dualism that members of HAS, especially its senior functionaries, were active players in the political arena, members of parliament, ministers and prime ministers.

It is with the inception of Dualism that the figure of the scientist-politician reveals itself in the specific career path exemplified by politician-presidents and president-politicians of HAS. These were the politicians who at once held the recognition, the titles, the status of membership and the positions of power of institutions of science and of politics, that had set out on a path of increasing professional differentiation and specialisation.

In the first chapter of my thesis – in view of exploring the contributing factors for the appearance of this type of politician – I deal with features of the dualist state and political arena, mindful of the fact that a politician and his times are inseparable. In this chapter I will review institutions of constitutional law in the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy, the restructuring of the political scene, as reflected in the evolving fabric of public society. I will examine the social make-up that Ferenc Erdei calls the *dual social structure*, which determines the emergence of the politician as a distinct profession, the way this is perceived and its concepts. In the mirror of these facts, I will sketch the typifying possibilities specific to the politician of the age Dualism, dwelling in more detail on the criteria defining the figure of the scientist-politician. With regard to the compound personality and character traits of this politician type, I point out that the individual standing of the scientist-politician on the political stage is described by three factors: the politician's professional differentiation, his career path within the institutional world of politics and science and his the specific political language, either as determined by vocabulary or - occasionally by individual manner of phrasing.

After introducing the dualist political arena and the emergence of the politician, the second chapter presents the progress of HAS presidents – József Eötvös, Menyhért Lónyay, Ágoston Trefort, Lóránd Eötvös, Albert Berzeviczy – who appear as a kind of model of the scientist-politician – and sets out to demonstrate that the role of the scientist politician assumes a specific career path different from that of all other politicians and during the Dualist regime this organically fused academic work with the management of certain ministerial portfolios.

It was not my intention to present with biographical accuracy the career of HAS presidents. Instead, I focussed on their careers linked to and interlaced within the world of the scientific and political establishment, which offered the possibility of a novel approach to the treatment of the subject. In all this I used such historical references – mainly letters and documents kept in the Manuscript Archive of HAS – which may serve as further resources in the understanding of former presidents in their identity as scientist-politicians.

The third and final chapter is concerned with particular language and vocabulary of scientist-politicians examined in the light of 19th century manners of speech. I researched the scientist-politician vocabulary and language primarily in those more than fifty presidential speeches which were given by politician-presidents and president-politicians at Annual General Meetings of HAS, while also observing their parliamentary speeches during my investigations.

The comprehensive exploration of the AGM speeches has hitherto never been the subject of any independent scientific work – even though these speeches are reasonably well known from the biographies of relevant HAS presidents.

The particular atmosphere of celebrative debate within the scientist-politician community, the politicizing character of the speeches, as well as the frequent references by presidents to their own earlier discourses or those of their predecessors with the intended or unwitting cohesion-generating effect, all seem to support the hypothesis that the presidential speeches of HAS AGMs merit their treatment as the subject of independent and comprehensive investigation. At the same time it offers the possibility to reveal in these texts the specific scientist-politician vocabulary and language which may lead us to the discovery of the foundations of particular manner of speech.

At the end of my thesis I make an attempt at exploring this departure from the vernacular. I examine the formal, ceremonial speeches of politician-presidents from a number of important points of view, which may provide some new ideas in the interpretation of the work of the Eötvös, Menyhért Lónyay, Ágoston Treffort and Albert Berzeviczy. I will offer an overview of the system of values and arguments present in their orations, of the concept of 'nation building' apparent in the speeches. These are finally complemented with a set of references, to which the scientist-politicians constantly turn in their speeches.

At the end of the closing chapter we look at the identity of scientist politician and at patriotism as a characteristic thereof. I will reveal all those elements of the presidential speeches which demonstrate that the identity components that formed the virtual community of the *res publica litteraria* of the early 19th century developed into an identity of a new *communitas* by the time of the Dualism, defined by actual membership, titles, ranks and positions. The members of this community, the scientist-politicians distinguish themselves from the rest of the players on the dualist political arena by their belonging and affiliation to *res publica scientifica*.