

**Newspaper Report** of summer gala evening for 7th grade students of the German Staatsrealgymnasium, evidently their leavers' party. There were concert pieces, readings, a play (in which MKS performed), dancing, and a torchlight procession with a rendition of their student song. Assuming the performers were in their final year aged about 18, the year is probably 1935.

**Sommerfest.** Am Mittwoch fand im Garten des Aucafé "Kölln" ein Sommerfest statt, welches von den Schülern und Schülerinnen der 7 Klasse des deutschen Staatsrealgymnasiums, unter dem Ehrenschatze des Direktors der Schule Dr Karl Meznik, veranstaltet wurde. Da der Wettergott mit der vielen frischen Jugend, die sich da zu frühlichen Tun versammest hatte, auf bestem Fusse stand, fonnte das bunte Programm unter freiem Himmel ohne Störung seinen Verlauf nehmen. Alle Darbietungen wurden ausschliesslich von den Schülern und Schülerinnen der Anstalt bestritten und so bet sich dem zahlveichen Publikum eine abwechslungsvolle Dortragsfolge von Musik-, Tanz- und Prosastücken.

**Summer Party.** On Wednesday a summer party took place in the garden of the Aucafé "Kölln", which was organized by the students of the 7th grade of the German state secondary school under the patronage of the director of the school Dr Karl Meznik. Since the weather god was on the best of terms with the many fresh young people who had gathered there to do springtime activities, the colourful program took its course in the open air without any disturbance. All performances were performed exclusively by the students of the institution and so the numerous audience was offered a varied series of music, dance and prose pieces.

Als erste Nummer des Programmes wurde von der 7 Klasse ein flotter Einzugsmarsch gesungen, der eigens zu diesen Zweecte von dem Schüler Lukacs der 8 Klasse komponiert worden war. Es folgten die originellen Xylophonsulis, vorgeführt von Pruscha (4 Klasse), am Klavier Schönfeld (7 Klasse). Für die Kleinen wurde später ein Sacklaufen veranstaltet, das den Kindern und auch Zusehern viel Beiterfeit und Freude bereitete und in dem die Sieger mehrere hürbiche Preise daventrugen. Nachher wurde das lustige Theaterstüct, "herr Lehrer, ich muss mal raus" von Otto Spiegelberg aufgeführt, in dem die Schüler Schmidt, Hegyi, Weinzetl, Porges, **Schwitzer** und Wolff ihre Rollen mit viel Hingabe zur Unterhaltung der Gäste durchführten.

As the first number of the program, the 7th grade sang a brisk march, which had been composed especially for this purpose by the pupil Lukacs of the 8th grade. This was followed by the original Xylophonsulis, performed by Pruscha (4th grade), with Schönfeld (7th grade) on the piano. Next, a sack race was held for the little ones, which gave the children and spectators a lot of excitement and joy, and in which the winners won several great prizes. Afterwards, the humorous play, "Mr Teacher, I have to go out" by Otto Spiegelberg was performed, in which the students Schmidt, Hegyi, Weinzetl, Porges, **Schwitzer** and Wolff performed their roles with a lot of dedication to entertain the guests.

Zwischendurch wurde fleissig dem Tanze gehuldigt und nach Schlüss des Programms beim stimmungsvollen Scheine der Lampions und glitzernden Donauwellen liess es sich erst recht schön tanzen. Nach 10 Uhr abends fand noch ein Fackelzug statt, and dem di Schüler und Schülerinnen der 7 Klasse teilnahmen und das Studentenlied "Gaudeamus igitur" ans frohen Kehlen erblang. So schloss das gelungene Fest in frühlichen Beisammensein in bester

Stimmung und wird von der Jugend auch für spätere Tage als eine liebe Erinnerung an die schöne Studentzeit gereiht werden. (G.T.)

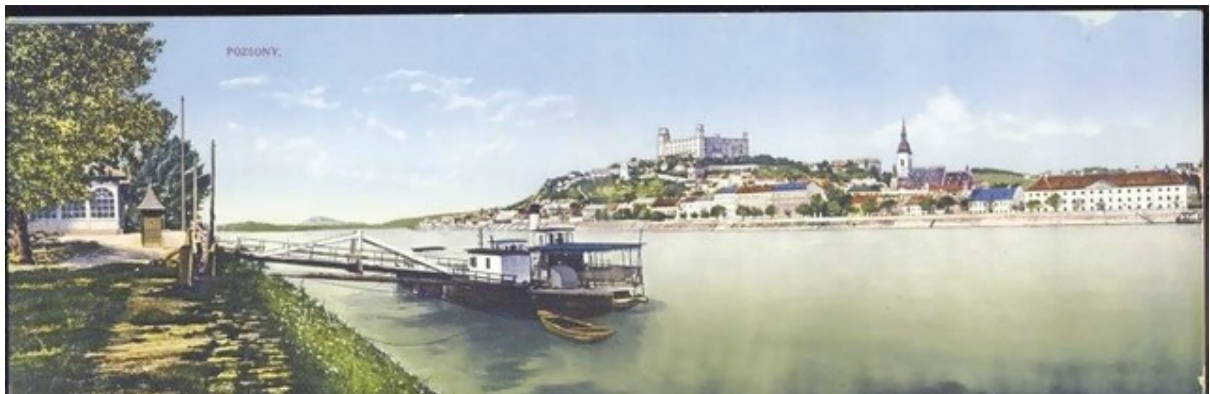
In between there was diligent homage to dancing and after the end of the program, with the atmospheric glow of the lanterns and the glittering waves of the Danube, it was even more beautiful to dance. After 10 o'clock in the evening there was still a torchlight procession, in which the pupils of the 7th grade took part and the student song "Gaudeamus igitur" burst into joy. So the successful party ended with an early get-together in the best of moods, and will be ranked in later days by the youth as a dear reminder of the beautiful student days. (G.T.)

### WPS Notes 2/3/2021

**Aucafé "Kölln"**. The Au Café was and is a café in Bratislava on the right (south) bank of the Danube, and dates from 1827. From 1919 it was owned by Otto Kölln (hence the name at that time). In the summer of 1927 the Café celebrated its centenary with spectacular celebrations; the period that followed were the "golden years" when "it was part of Sunday afternoon, people would drive or stroll from Bratislava to the other side of the Danube for dessert and good coffee at the Au Café, to dance, relax and talk to friends." The Café closed in 1966, and re-opened in 2003. Details with historical pictures (selection below) <https://www.au-cafe.sk/en/2018/10/15/history/>

The café is mentioned by MKS on MFTY page 219.





**Dr Karl Meznik.** This school headmaster is described by MKS on MFTY Chapter 13 page 102.

**Otto Spiegelberg play "Herr Lehrer, ich muss mal raus".** I find very few references to this play, so any assistance with the play or playwright would be much appreciated! It was performed on 26-7-2018 by a group from Dieterskirch in Historischer Burghof, Ehingen-Berg, near Ulm, so evidently the script still exists. The play may have been reworked by E. Köhler (which could explain why nothing can be found under Spiegelberg). I also found a cast list, which is for seven actors (3 men and 4 school students):

Der Herr Lehrer (Mr Teacher)  
Der Herr Schulrat (Mr School Councillor)  
Der Schuldiener (School Janitor)  
Fritz Kneiß (Student)  
Max Huber (Student)  
Franz Schmidt (Student)  
Moritz Meier (Student)

**Performers.** Piano player **Walter Schönfeld** is mentioned in MFTY page 172 as classmate of MKS. Fellow play performer **Hegy** is described on MFTY page 172 as ethnic hungarian who lived in Czechoslovakia after the war. Another of the players **Weinzel** was a loyal friend, described on MFTY page 176 as ethnic german, nickname **Csacsi** (hungarian: donkey), he died on the front fighting on Hitler's side; photo page 178 is of four friends including MKS and **Weinzel** taken April 1935 on their school steps. **Wolff** is probably **Peter Valko**, MKS's friend from primary & secondary school.

**Gaudeamus Igitur** ("So Let Us Rejoice") is a popular song in many European countries, often performed at university and high-school graduation ceremonies. It is a jocular composition about student life, based on a 1287 Latin manuscript. Considered a beer-drinking song in early universities, it has been the official song of many schools, colleges, and student societies, and is the current official anthem of the International University Sports Federation. Lyrics in Latin and English below. From Wikipedia  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gaudeamus\\_igitur](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gaudeamus_igitur)

Latin	English
Gaudeamus igitur Juvenes dum sumus. Post iucundam iuventutem Post molestam senectutem Nos habebit humus.	Let us rejoice, therefore, While we are young. After a pleasant youth After a troubling old age The earth will have us.
Ubi sunt qui ante nos In mundo fuere? Vadite ad superos Transite in inferos Ubi iam fuere.	Where are they who, before us, Were in the world? Go to the heavens Cross over into hell Where they went through already.
Vita nostra brevis est Brevi finietur. Venit mors velociter Rapit nos atrociter Nemini parcetur.	Our life is brief Soon it will end. Death comes quickly Snatches us cruelly To nobody shall it be spared.

Latin	English
Vivat academia! Vivant professores! Vivat membrum quodlibet; Vivant membra quaelibet; Semper sint in flore.	Long live the academy! Long live the professors! Long live each student; Long live the whole fraternity; For ever may they flourish!
Vivant omnes virgines Faciles, formosae. Vivant et mulieres Tenerae, amabiles, Bonae, laboriosae.	Long live all girls, Easy [and] beautiful! Long live [mature] women too, Tender, lovable, Good, [and] hard-working.
Vivat et res publica et qui illam regit. Vivat nostra civitas, Maecenatum caritas Quae nos hic protegit.	Long live the state as well And he who rules it! Long live our city [And] the charity of benefactors Which protects us here!
Pereat tristitia, Pereant osiores. Pereat diabolus, Quivis antiburschius Atque irrisores.	May sadness perish! May haters perish! May the devil perish! And also the opponents of the fraternities And their mockers, too!
Quis confluxus hodie Academicorum? E longinquo convenerunt, Protinusque successerunt In commune forum.	What a gathering of academics is there today? From far away they gathered, Immediately they advanced Into the public forum
Vivat nostra societas, Vivant studiosi; Crescat una veritas Floreat fraternitas Patriae prosperitas.	Long live our fellowship, Long live the students; May truth alone thrive May brotherhood flourish (and) the prosperity of the country.
Alma Mater floreat, Quae nos educavit; Caros et commilitones, Dissitas in regiones Sparsos, congregavit	May our Alma Mater flourish, Which has taught us; Dear ones and comrades, (and) the scattered into places Various, she congregated.

**Printing Notes.** The german black letter with its elaborate capitals is not the easiest to read (the font below may assist), and it doesn't help that the fine loop of lower case **k** has invariably not come out (tip: you can recognise **k** from its tell-tale ascender!). Note long **s** and ligatures for **ss** and **tz**. The newspaper was set in linotype with worn dies, creating the characteristic fine vertical lines between letters. Note inconsistent spelling of Programmes/Programms (correct German is without **e**, however the **es** might have been considered correct as a french plural).

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z &