

THE RE-LAUNCH OF *KERESZTÉNY MAGVETŐ* (THE CHRISTIAN SOWER) IN 1971*

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ABSTRACT:

VERY LITTLE RESEARCH HAS BEEN CONDUCTED IN THE FIELD OF ECCLESIASTIC PRESS HISTORY UP UNTIL NOW. AFTER THE NATIONALISATION IN 1948, ALL TRANSYLVANIAN PERIODICALS OF HUNGARIAN HISTORICAL CHURCHES WERE BANNED. MY STUDY PRESENTS THE RE-LAUNCH PROCESS OF *KERESZTÉNY MAGVETŐ* IN THE YEARS OF CEAUȘESCU'S ERA. THE PERIODICAL WAS ESTABLISHED IN 1861 IN KOLOZSVÁR (CLUJ-NAPOCA) AND IN THE PRESENT IT IS CONSIDERED THE OLDEST ECCLESIASTIC PERIODICAL.

MY RESOURCES IN THIS RESEARCH WERE THE ECCLESIASTIC WRITINGS AND CORRESPONDENCE OF THE ARCHIVES OF HUNGARIAN UNITARIAN CHURCH FROM KOLOZSVÁR (CLUJ-NAPOCA). IN 1968 AN APPLICATION WAS FILED FOR ITS RE-LAUNCH, BUT ONLY IN 1971 WAS IT APPROVED BY THE BUREAU OF RELIGION. THE CHURCH WAS ALREADY OPERATING AT FULL SUBORDINATION TO THE BUREAU OF THE MINISTERS OFFICE. BY APPROVING THE *KERESZTÉNY MAGVETŐ* THE STATE SECURITY FORCES HAD BETTER POSSIBILITY OF CONTROL, AND LATER THEY USED THE PERIODICAL FOR POPULARIZATION OF THE POSITIVE IMAGE OF THE COUNTRY.

KEY WORDS: PRESS HISTORY, HUNGARIAN, CHURCH, COMMUNISM, CENSORSHIP

INTRODUCTION

This paper investigates the re-launch of *Keresztény Magvető* in 1968, which in 1948 was closed by the state, and presents in details the conditions of its appearance after it received its permission to be published in 1971. Beside the above mentioned archives, I used the issues of *Keresztény Magvető* from 1971, and the press history studies on the era.

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The re-launch of *Keresztény Magvető* was completed after two years of continuous correspondence and consultancy. My hypothesis is that by approving the re-launch of the magazine the state security forces have got better possibilities for controlling it, and at the same time, they used it in the popularization of the country's image abroad. The study reflects on the subordinated role, which the churches were derogated to after the confiscation of their goods by the state.

The *Keresztény Magvető* is the periodical of the Hungarian Unitarian Church, in fact Transylvania's oldest ecclesiastic paper, which is still being published. It was founded in 1861 with the aim to serve the cultural, scientific and literary life of Transylvania. The paper was continuously published until 1918, and at the end of World War I. it was suspended for a few years. It was re-launched in 1922, and appeared until 1944. After this, as a consequence of Romanian political changes, it was banned together with other periodicals.²

RE-LAUNCH ATTEMPTS SINCE 1968

In 1968 there was a certain relief in the relation between the communist regime and the Hungarian community: a meeting between the leaders of the party and the most important Hungarian intellectuals was organized. As the consequence of organizing the territory of the country into counties, the two Hungarian majority counties were established, with new cultural institutions, the Kriterion Publishing House was founded, as well as the Hungarian and German language programme of the Romanian Television for the minorities, the *A Hét* magazine, etc.³ In this process of relief the Unitarian Church asked for re-launch of the *Keresztény Magvető* in 1968.

In the minute-book of Church's Council of Representatives⁴ held on May 9th 1968, the following is recorded: „Right reverend Bishop with a reflection to the discussion at your visit to the Bureau of Religion, when the assigned functionary commented positively

² Gaal György, *A szép, jó és igaz magvetője. Százötven év az egyház és művelődés szolgálatában.* [The sower of the beautiful, the righteous and the true. 150 years in the service of the church and of culture.] (Kolozsvár: Erdélyi Unitárius Egyház, *Keresztény Magvető* füzetek 47., 2011)

³ Denisa Bodeanu and Novák Csaba Zoltán, *Az elnémult harang. Egy megfigyelés története, Pálfi Géza élete a Securitate irataiban,* [The silent bell. The history of an observation, the life of Géza Pálfi in the documents of the Secret Police] (Csíkszereda: Pro-Print Könyvkiadó, 2011). 18–19.

⁴ The Church's Council of Representatives is held quarterly (in the following CCR), it is the primal decision-making committee of the General Council and of the synod, which consists of elected and ex officio members and of ecclesiastic presidency (whose members are: the bishop, the chief clerk, and the two curator generals).

regarding the possibility of an ecclesiastic periodical suggests to take immediate measures in the interest of a magazine with a proper content. Curator general advocated the proposal, so he urged to launch the first issue by the synod from 17-18th August. After a detailed discussion the participants accepted the necessity of launching the magazine, Dr. János Erdő and Ferenc Sebe with the lead of Dr. Lajos Kovács curator were asked to make a proposal for the edition and content of the paper.”⁵

At September 11th 1968, at a board meeting Imre Mikó curator general proposed „taking concrete measures in the favour of publishing the *Unitárius Közlöny*. The first issue should be created as soon as possible and it should contain the report about the synod.”⁶ The Unitarian Church held its anniversary synod in 1968, as it was the 400th anniversary of the existence of the Church and the Church officials wished to create a worthy record of this historical landmark in the columns of a re-launched ecclesiastic magazine. Although the sources suggest that in 1968 it was not obvious which magazine they planned to revive: the church magazine with the name *Unitárius Közlöny* [Unitarian Journal] or the *Keresztény Magvető*, the periodical with a scientific value. This is indicated by the fact that on September 24, 1968 Chief Clerk Lajos Kovács and Ferenc Sebe referent called upon the presidency, Imre Mikó chief curator, Lajos Kovács chief clerk, Árpád Szabó professor of theology and János Erdő „to create the draft of a quarterly Unitarian magazine (*Unitárius Közlöny*). On day 11th of the above mentioned current month a chair meeting was held regarding the contents of the journal: the first issue should include the materials of the synod council meeting held for the 400th anniversary of the founding of our Church, as well as the reports issued on this occasion. It would be highly appreciated that this number is created first and foremost, which would also include the formal and content aspects of the publishing of the journal.”⁷

In his letter written on October 12 János Erdő issued the plans for the journal to the Council. „I had prepared the plans for the quarterly journal to be launched before receiving the appeal. In creating these plans I took into consideration the informative discussions held with the Dean and Minister. In creating the plans for the journal I also took into consideration of the theoretical and practical aspects of pastoral training. The field included in the plans is only the revival and completion of the original goals of the *Keresztény*

⁵ The Kolozsvár (Cluj-Napoca) Archives of the Hungarian Unitarian Church (in the following MUEKGyLt) KM II-A. 41/4. 1. 1.

⁶ MUEKGyLt KM II-A. 41/4. 2. 8.

⁷ MUEKGyLt KM II-A. 41/4. 2. 11.

Magvető.⁸ János Erdő, professor of theology⁹ had a prominent role in the re-launch of the *Keresztény Magvető*, as well as in the redaction of the journal.¹⁰

During the chair meeting of October 15, 1968 Dr. János Erdő submitted his plans for the journal, which „would represent the joint continuation of the *Keresztény Magvető* and the *Unitárius Közlöny*. If possible, the title should be *Keresztény Magvető*.” The project precisely defined and specified the domains and fields of study of the journal, which include the following: A. Unitarian theology, B. Pulpit and communion table, C. Church life, D. Reviews. The journal would be published in 500 copies, the yearly subscription would be 60 lei. It would be published quarterly with 64 pages.¹¹

On October 21, 1968 they issued a request to the representative of the Council on Religious Affairs¹² to authorize the publication of the journal from 1969 with the title *Keresztény Magvető*. A preliminary authorisation was also requested in order to prepare the materials of the first issue.¹³ The report compiled the following day, on October 22, by Ferenc Sebe „regarding the discussions carried out in the Council of Religious Affairs” includes the following: „We filed our request regarding the re-launch of the *Keresztény Magvető* journal to the state secretary. (...) The state secretary, upon receiving our request, promised to consult it and arrange for it, if possible.”¹⁴

In the following I give a detailed presentation of the journal project as it is where the aims of the newly re-launched journal were formulated. The short description of the four columns according to topic and aim:

„A. Unitarian theology. Topics: studies, smaller papers on the general history religions as well as on the comparative study of religions, on Biblical theology, history of the church, systematic and practical theology. Aims: the theoretical and practical training of the ministers, as well as the cultivation of Unitarian theological scholarly literature.

B. Pulpit and communion table. Topics: ecclesiastic and liturgical speeches,

⁸ MUEKGyLt KM 41/4. II-A. 2. 9.

⁹ The later Bishop of the Unitarian Church of Transylvania, between 1994 and 1996.

¹⁰ His role in the assurance of the subsistence and continuous publication of the journal was a significant part of his ecclesiastic work. The journal became an important constituent of his activity, as he edited it with consistency in the following decades.

¹¹ MUEKGyLt KM 41/4. II-A. 2. 12.

¹² The Council of Religious Affairs (in Romanian: Departament al Cultelor de pe Lîngă Consiliul de Miniştri) appears in the ecclesiastic documents with the Hungarian name of *Vallásügyi Hivatal*, but the name *Egyházügyi Hivatal* [Council of Church Affairs] is also used. The Council of Religious Affairs was a central body functioning under the Office of the Prime Minister, and its role was the supervision of the churches.

¹³ Word-for-word translation. MUEKGyLt KM 41/4. II-A. 3. 14.

¹⁴ MUEKGyLt KM 41/4. II-A. 3. 25.

sketches, Bible studies, prayers, devotional materials for family and diseased visitations, as well as practical guides for the practice of ministry (clerical care, catechization, diaspora care, public activity, culture of religious music in the churches). Aims: practical help for the ministers in performing their duties.

C. Church life. Topics: most important official circular letters, reports and accounts regarding the work of the church, the different parishes, church anniversaries (such as the 400th anniversary of the founding of the church), local and international church news, the peace services of the church, changes in the inner circles, obituaries. Aims: informing the sequelae and inner circles of the most important events of church life, and as such a tighter inclusion in the church blood-flow.

D. Review. Topics: the review and presentation of local and international ecclesiastic journals, of new theological books, as well as important literary and artworks. Aims: informing the sequelae and inner circles regarding the newest religious, clerical and theological issues, and raising awareness regarding literary and art creations on religious life.”¹⁵ It is important to notice the expression of *inner circles* which implies that a certain inner church publicity was aimed at, ministers and church members, as well as members of the congregation. The project also included two title plans as well, which included the two different names, *Keresztény Magvető* and *Unitárius Közlöny* as well.

On November 16, 1968 the church headquarters received a call from the Council of Religious Affairs, in which they requested further information on „formatul - dimensiunile - cine conduce.”¹⁶ The data requested was decided upon on November 19 on the church chair meeting, the dimensions of the journal (24x17) were set, while regarding the leadership „a unanimous agreement was made, after a thorough discussion of the topic, stating that the publishing of the journal would be led by the Editorial Board.” This Board includes the following: Dr. Elek Kiss, bishop, the chair of the board, Dr. Lajos Kovács, Dr. János Szathmáry, Dr. János Erdő, Árpád Szabó and Ferenc Sebe, members. The editing of the journal will be performed by the following board members: Dr. Lajos Kovács, editor in chief, Dr. János Erdő, deputy editor, Árpád Szabó, editor. The following day the response was drafted and sent to the Council of Religious Affairs.¹⁷

One and a half months later, on January 7, 1969 Nedeianu Janeta from the Council

¹⁵MUEKGyLt KM 41/4. II-A. 3. 15–16. p.

¹⁶ Format, dimensions and who is in charge - word-for-word translation. MUEKGyLt KM 41/4. II-A. 3. 21. p.

¹⁷ MUEKGyLt KM 41/4. II-A. 3. 22–23.

of Religious Affairs made a call, „according to which the in order to publish the *Keresztény Magvető* journal the first issue must be prepared as soon as possible, as the publication has been approved.”¹⁸ As a result Elek Kiss bishop and Ferenc Sebe referent asked in the name of the Chair the Editorial Board of the *Magvető*, Dr. Lajos Kovcs chief clerk-editor to prepare the first issue as soon as possible, „which must be presented in order to be approved” in Bucharest.¹⁹ There is no correspondence for two months, during which the preparing of the *Keresztény Magvető* was most probably done.

On June 4, 1969, Lajos Kovcs chief clerk and Mr Rzmny councillor personally handed over the first two issues of the *Magvető* in order to receive the authorization for publication. The cover letter included a short description of the contents of the articles.

The editorial board partly explained why there was need for the almost 6 months since the phone request in January: „Regarding the fact that in the first issue of the journal aimed at including a detailed report on the Synodic Chair Meeting, as well as the fact, that we wished to present the most important events of church life () starting with January 1, 1968, which increased the amount of material to be published, as well as regarding the fact that the materials requested and promised for the first issue were handed over with delay, the editorial board has decided to publish the first issue of the *Keresztény Magvető* including the first two quarterly issues. We hope that the difficulties faced when preparing the first issue can be prevented, and thus the *Keresztény Magvető* would be published quarterly, in independent issues, on time.”²⁰

For three months nothing happened, as a response from Bucharest was waited for. Phone inquires were made, and on September 24 Janeta Nedeianu executive director responded that „the issuing of the authorization will not take much time, and the Council of Religious Affairs will do everything in order to get it.”²¹ On the meeting of the CCR held on October 2, 1969 a proposal was presented regarding the re-launch of the *Magvető*. Dr. Lajos Kovcs chief clerk attended a hearing with Dr. Dumitru Dogaru, the leader of the Council of Religious Affairs, where the state secretary informed him that the authorization „was about to be issued”.²²

The 6 months following the presentation of the first two issues was in fact and

¹⁸MUEKGyLt KM 41/4. II-A. 4. 27.

¹⁹ MUEKGyLt KM 41/4. II-A. 4. 27.

²⁰ MUEKGyLt KM 41/4. II-A. 7. 36.

²¹ MUEKGyLt KM 41/4. II-A. 7. 41.

²² MUEKGyLt KM 41/4. II-A. 7. 43.

administrative waste of time. Ferenc Sebe referent went to Bucharest at the beginning of December, and his report includes the following: „I rushed the authorization of the publication of the *Keresztény Magvető*. In connection with this the executive director responded that the state secretary mediated in this respect and they keep urging the issue, but the reply of the authorities is that they have to wait a little bit longer for the authorization of publishing.”²³ This period was almost a year long, and in 1970 virtually nothing happened regarding the publishing of the *Magvető*.

On January 21, 1970 another letter of request was sent in the name of the Bishop to the Council of Religious Affairs, in which they referred to the letter of June 3, 1969, and stressed that they would be very grateful, if they could present the authorization on the Synod organized on March 1, 1970. Ferenc Sebe went to Bucharest in June 1970 requesting the authorization of the publishing of the journal. Janeta Nedeianu executive director reasserted that the state secretary promised on the hearing held on April 27 with the clerical leaders that he would mediate personally, but there is still no result, and that Council of Religious Affairs would keep doing everything in their power to move the issue forward. On November 12 Vasilescu, county secretary general and Țepes Hoinărescu inspector general participated in a discussion with the bishop, during which he asked the inspector general to help in getting the authorization to publish the journal. Țepes responded that he would contact the director of the Council of Religious Affairs. And this is how it became clear that this was the competent authority, and that they were temporizing.²⁴

1971 THE KERESZTÉNY MAGVETŐ IS PUBLISHED

On January 12, 1971 the Council of Religious Affairs issued the authorization to publish the *Magvető*, addressed to the bishop. The notification of the Directorate of Study, Research and External Relations of the Council of Religious Affairs²⁵ included the authorization regarding the publishing of the *Keresztény Magvető*, annexing a short instruction guide. In the letter it was requested to name the members of the editorial board, the name of the editor and the members of the editorial office, as well as the address of the editorial office.

On the chair meeting of January 19, 1971 Dr. Elek Kiss bishop and Dr. Lszl

²³ MUEKGyLt KM 41/4. II-A. 7. 45.

²⁴ MUEKGyLt KM 41/4. II-A. 9. 50–52.

²⁵ Word-for-word translation (“Direcțiunea de studii, documentare și relații externe”)

Barabssi curator general reported on their visit to Bucharest on January 12, and announced gladly that they received the authorization for the publishing of the *Magvető*. „The attendants also proposed further actions in order to keep in mind the Instruction guidelines of the Council of Religious Affairs²⁶ as well as the instructions and remarks included in the reports of the curator general.”²⁷ The editorial board was also requested to take the necessary measures on their meeting the following day.

The arrival of the much waited for authorization was very pleasing, and resulted in special administrative actions. Elek Kiss, bishop and Ferenc Sebe, referent ordered Erzsébet Szabó treasurer in the name of the CCR to „deposit the original copy of the authorization in the safe of the accountant office and ensure its safe preservation.”²⁸

The authorization issued on January 4, 1971 by the General Directorate of Press and Print²⁹ included the formal description of the *Magvető*: Hungarian language quarterly journal, 17x24 format, 64 inner pages, 500 copies. The *Other conditions* part included, that in the case of the copies printed for abroad „I A” type paper will be used.³⁰ In case of any deviations from the conditions included in the authorization the above mentioned Directorate will be informed. This was annexed to the letter of the Office of Religious Affairs issued on January 12. It can be noticed that not one, but more institutions dealt with the issue. The professional authority of censorship was the aforementioned Directorate. The aim of the overlaps and institutions with similar tasks was ensuring the parallel and manifold control performed by the local and central offices of censorship, the bodies of the party as well as the competent departments of the Council for Socialist Culture and Education. „Another advantage of the system from the point of view of the authorities was that the different bodies supervised each others activity, which maintained the atmosphere of permanent distrust.”³¹

In the above mentioned Informative Instructions an important trend was set for the editing process of the newly re-launched *Magvető*. As the document is of high importance, I publish the English translation of the complete text:

²⁶ Word-for-word translation (“Îndrumar orientativ”). In the ecclesiastic documents the term “*Tájékoztató-Utasítás*” [Informative Instructions] is used. This latter term is more expressive of the era in question.

²⁷ MUEKGyLt KM 41/4. II-A. 7. 46.

²⁸ MUEKGyLt KM 41/4. II-A. 10. 61.

²⁹ Word-for-word translation (“Direcția Generală a Presei și Tipăriturilor”).

³⁰ In Romanian: Exemplarele destinate străinătate apar pe hîrtie scris I A. MUEKGyLt KM 41/4. II-A. 10. 54.

³¹ Györfy Gábor: *Cenzúra és propaganda a kommunista Romániában* [Censorship and propaganda in the communist Romania], Komp-Press Kiadó, Kolozsvár, 2009. 160.

„1. Every writing that is to be included in the manuscript of the issues must be read in the editorial office, and the editor in chief requests the editorial board to discuss and accept it.

2. The manuscript of every issue must be handed in to the Directorate of Study, Research and External Relations of the Council of Religious Affairs for approval, in three typed copies, with 31 rows x 65 characters per page. Thin paper must not be used.

3. The manuscript must include a proper number of typed pages, the texts of which must fit into 64 printed pages, in 17x24 format, which has been authorized.

4. The full manuscript must be numbered using digits, from the page number of the first page and the table of contents of the journal to the last page that includes written text.

5. All three copies must be signed by the editor in chief with the following remark: kWe are familiar with the contents, we take full responsibility, recommended for printing. { taking onto consideration that the materials and the issues discussed are in compliance with the system regarding journals and printed materials in our country, regulated by law.

6. For the journal to be published in the given quarter, the manuscript needs to be handed in 3 months beforehand. For example: the manuscript for the quarter 1971/3 (July-September) must be sent by June 30, the latest.

7. At the end of every quarter year a statistical account must be made (based on the annexed instructions) regarding the publishing of the journal and the paper usage. This must be sent to the Council of Religious Affairs by 15 of every first month of every quarter year.

8. The editorial board is in a permanent relation with the Directorate of Study, Research and External Relations of the Council of Religious Affairs through the editor in chief, who presents every issue regarding the activity of the paper.”³²

During the visit to Bucharest of the bishop and the curator general on January 12, 1971 it turned out that I. Rusu director made „verbal suggestions and instructions” during the hearing: he asked for the election of the editorial office, the editorial board and an editor in chief. Regarding the contents of the journal „it should mainly discuss issues regarding our church”, „it should avoid offensive polemics regarding other denominations” and „it should deal with the freedom of conscience ensured by our country.”³³ „Regarding the material of the paper, the copies sold in the country were to be printed on lower quality

³² Translation by me. MUEKGyLt KM 41/4. II-A. 10. 55–56.

³³ MUEKGyLt KM 41/4. II-A. 10. 59.

standard paper, while the copies sent abroad on higher quality standard paper.”³⁴ As the first two issues were handed in in June 1969, the „executive director informed us that in their opinion the first issue has lost its relevance, and it cannot be considered a final issue, and requested the handing in of a revised and reshaped variant.” As a final issue the Instructions notify that: „Before sending the circulation to the press the editor must personally come to the Department with a plan regarding circulation number in order to receive the necessary instructions.”

On February 1, 1971 Țepeș Hoinărescu „regional chief inspector” requested on the phone that Ferenc Sebe should present the following morning a brief „regarding the general contents of the journal and the material of the first issue, as well as the composition of the editorial board and team, as well as the person of the editor in chief.” Besides this monitoring from Bucharest the process of publication was also controlled on the county level. „Țepeș Hoinărescu general inspector said, that he needed these information, because he was supposed to inform the competent authorities himself.” Ferenc Sebe in his phone response said, that „the editorial board has been created in 1968, its composition was transmitted to the Council of Religious Affairs. The issues regarding the publication were not petitioned via the local inspectorated, because we received the instructions from the Council of Religious Affairs to keep in touch directly with the Council of Religious affairs.”³⁵

The following day Ferenc Sebe met the inspector general, and presented a report on this meeting to the CCR. He stressed the fact that he informed the latter regarding the authorization of publishing. The inspector general asked for the records of the debates of editorial board to be translated into Romanian, and to present it to the Council of Religious Affairs for acquiescence. He asked the managing editor to present a report to the editorial board, in relation with the publication of the journal. The report should contain information about the edition rota, methodology, general planning of the journal, and about the material of the first or the first two issues. The inspector general planned the methodology journal edition step by step, which was handed over to representative of the church. The journal should contain articles related to festivities (ex. an „omagiale”, written for the 23rd of August), to peace, remembrance, to other churches' festive events (ex. the Patriarch of the

³⁴ MUEKGyLt KM 41/4. II-A. 10. 59

³⁵ MUEKGyLt KM 41/4. II-A. 11. 65.

Orthodox Church was going to be 70 years old) etc.³⁶ In the postscript of the report we find the following: „Inspector general informed that the thematic of the journal for the 1972 year should be planned until 1st of September of the running year.”³⁷ It is clear that the county representative of the Council of Religious Affairs reinforced central inspection. The launch of the journal happened under total control of state forces.

The editorial board of the *Keresztény Magvető* held its inaugural meeting in the room of the bishop, on February 15, 1971. The following were present: Țepeș Hoinărescu territorial inspector general, and the members of the editorial board assigned by the church leadership. According to the record, Dr. Elek Kiss bishop-chairman presented the aim of the journal: „The aim of the journal which has been published since 1861 with some interruptions is: 1. Theological formation of ministers and theological youth regarding scientific and practical issues; 2. Information of church leaders about our ecclesiastic life, and about the most important events of the churches in our country, in the spirit of co-operation and understanding.”³⁸ They elect the editorial team: Dr. Elek Kiss chairman; Dr. Lajos Kovács managing editor; Dr. János Erdő assistant managing editor, Árpád Szabó and Dezső Szabó editors, Ferenc Sebe and Dr. János Szatmáry. Lajos Kovács reports, that the first issue of the journal is ready, and with a few exceptions it contains the material prepared two years before, which „with few changes was approved by the Council of Religious Affairs.”³⁹

On March 6, 1971, three copies of the first issue of the *Keresztény Magvető* was sent to Bucharest. In May the manuscript of *Keresztény Magvető* 1971/1, together with the print license, was sent back from the competent department of the Council of Religious Affairs, with the signature of director Rusu Ioan. The director asked for a complimentary copy, when the journal appeared.⁴⁰

On May 11, Ferenc Sebe informed the CCR, that assigned by Dr. Lajos Kovács and Dr. János Erdő he asked the Council of Religious Affairs to approve the contraction of the material into issue 1-2./1971., because there was not enough space to publish all in the first number. On August 20, the managing editor, with the signature of Ferenc Sebe informed the press of Cluj-Napoca that the first contracted issue of *Magvető* has got the print licence, and they asked to deliver the ordered examples. On August 27, Ferenc Sebe referent and

³⁶ MUEKGyLt KM 41/4. II-A. 11. 66. p.

³⁷ MUEKGyLt KM 41/4. II-A. 11. 66. p.

³⁸ MUEKGyLt KM 41/4. II-A. 13. 70. p.

³⁹ MUEKGyLt KM 41/4. II-A. 13. 71.

⁴⁰ MUEKGyLt KM 41/4. II-A. 16. 243.

Elek Kiss bishop informed the presidency, and the editorial board, about the appearance of the first issue of the *Magvető*. On September 3, in the name of the CCR they inform the dean offices about the appearance of the *Magvető*, and they present them the proposals of the editorial board, regarding distribution. They inform that on the CCR meeting, which was going to be held on 30 September, the *Magvető* will be a separate item of discussion.

On September 30, 1971 the CCR notes with happiness and satisfaction that the *Keresztény Magvető* after a more than twenty years long break has newly appeared. The CCR considers it an „important event of the church.”⁴¹

CONCLUSION

The re-launch troubles of *Keresztény Magvető*, the long period for the issuing of authorization reflects the subordinated relation of the church to the communist state forces. With the re-launch of the *Magvető*, the church got an opportunity for spreading the scientific and theological culture among its sequelae and ministers. This meant at the same time the acceptance of censorship and a subordinated role.

⁴¹ MUEKGyLt KM 41/4. II-A. 10. 64.

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