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**THESIS ABSTRACT**

**ACADEMY OF HIGH COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL STUDIES  
CLUJ-BRAȘOV 1920-1950**

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## **KEYWORDS**

- Economic Education
- Commercial and Industrial Education
- Education Reform Commercial School
- Commercial Academy
- Model of Commercial Education
- Evolution of education
- Management structures
- Board of Directors
- General Council
- Academic Senate
- The advice section
- Jury of Honor
- Licensed
- PhD in Economics
- Scientific Research

## INTRODUCTION

The purpose of our scientific approach was the development of a monograph of the Academy of High Commercial and Industrial Studies Cluj, the first institution of higher commercial and industrial education in Transylvania.

The need for this approach was required primarily due to the limited number of scientific material showing the activity of this institution. Until our work there was only one monograph, written by a group of former students of the Academy, in 1981, almost 30 years after the abolition of the institutions of culture and economic education. On the subject were written several articles about the personality of teachers of the Academy, which played an important role in the development of the institution and economic thought of the time.

Another reason for which was imposed this research was to clarify issues related to establishment of the Academy, its functioning, the work of teachers and students, especially when refuge in Brasov, the height of its operation and then the transformation and dissolution of her subjects with an importance from the complete perspective of Romanian economic education history.

Economic education had a role in developing nations, based on the idea that a nation's strength depends on its economic development, social, cultural and scientific.

Amid new political, social, economic and administrative determined by the Greater Union in 1918, in the context of concerns about political unification, economic and administrative, had an important role in education at all levels, both the environment and the university, more especially in Transylvania, an area where, by decisions of the Governing Council, Hungarian schools were put under the authority of the Romanian state and Romanian schools converted. We refer mainly to the Hungarian University of Cluj, "Francis Joseph" transformed by Royal Decree in Romanian University of Cluj and Hungarian Commercial Academy Cluj, founded in 1901, transformed in 1920 into the Academy of High Commercial and Industrial Studies Cluj, as institute of higher education.

At that time there was a Romanian Commercial Academy in Bucharest, established in 1913, modeled of specialized academies from Western Europe. This academy will provide administrative support to young academy of Cluj in the first years of operation.

The role assigned to academies in countries where they have emerged since the nineteenth century was the economic horizon of the future expansion of trade and industry specialists. The purpose of these institutions was primarily preparation for leadership positions in economy and administration and to create a perspective for the selection of leaders. Experience has shown that the choice of management structures should not be ignored scientific training. Another reason was the tendency to raise the economic and commercial subjects at university level, realizing that the new realities, without a solid economic training, our country could not approach the economy of Western countries. Finally, their role was teacher training and business education.

Establishment of Commercial Academy in our country, presents a particularity to those of Western countries.

The establishment of these institutions, in our case, was not the result from the needs of a normal stage of evolution of the Romanian economy, this being determined by

political and social circumstances that Romania has had to date. With this feature, we believe that the role of educational institutions in our country, primarily to prepare teachers for all schools of business and professional education. However, they have emerged from the need to give prospective to Romanian traders and industrialists, possibility of blending theory with practical knowledge.

Everywhere it was found that, however necessary and good professional knowledge acquired in the past were the exclusive empirically by those who wanted to work in trade and industry were not sufficient, because the problems of the Romanian economy can be properly treated and resolved the new requirements of society.

Looking at things from the perspective of business organization and management of modern economic science, has come to believe, almost unanimously shared by the great business leaders, but also by official circles that the most effective means to prepare future professionals were organizing an economic higher education.

## **WORK SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS, CONTRIBUTIONS**

### **CHAPTER I. BEGINNINGS OF ECONOMIC EDUCATION**

The first step in the development of economic education, with a radical reform of Romanian education, belonged to Prince Alexandru Ioan Cuza, who in his election as ruler of the Principalities, say with confidence that “the state of today's Romania and its future necessarily require a faculty of agronomic, industrial and commercial science”. Prince promulgated *The Public Education Law* of instruction in 1864, which organized education at all levels. The law has made for the first time a separation of the higher and secondary education environment, business schools were founded, were organized the two existing Universities in Bucharest and Iași.

The first business schools were opened in Galați on 1864 October 26 and Bucharest on November 28, same year<sup>1</sup>, but the lack of teachers could not teach all subjects provided in the curriculum<sup>2</sup>. Later Commercial School was founded in 1874 in Ploiești and in 1878 in Craiova. In superior education, the Faculty of Law, in the two universities, teach political economy and various types of law<sup>3</sup>.

The law was an opening to a modern education system at all levels i.e. primary, secondary and higher education and commercial schools that regulated status for the organization and the country's economic development.

The next stage in the development of commercial education was in the period 1879-1893, when commercial school while studying business at four to five years, then were divided into two educational levels: schools first degree and schools second degree, the duration of studies is three years.

Laws drafted under the leadership of Spiru Haret, which reaches the Public Education and Religious Affairs Minister, *The Law on Secondary and Higher Education*

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<sup>1</sup> Ion Vorovenci, *Istoria Academiei de Înalte Studii Comerciale și Industriale (1913-1947)*, București, Editura ASE, 2010, p. 34.

<sup>2</sup> Acad.Vasile Malinschi, *Din trecutul învățământului economic*, București, Editura Academiei Republicii Socialiste România, 1978, p. 50.

<sup>3</sup> *Legea instrucțiunii* din 1864, Art. 251.

*Act of 1898 and The Law of Professional education of 31 March 1899*<sup>4</sup>, held in gymnasiums and secondary schools, for boys and secondary schools of first and second degree for girls, higher education in universities and vocational institutes attached to universities<sup>5</sup> and theoretical and practical study of agriculture, forestry, the industries and the annexes derived, the professions and trade<sup>6</sup>. Commercial education was organized under the same law, for boys in elementary schools and higher commercial classes and Sunday, evening classes, and elementary schools for girls. Duration of courses in elementary schools for boys was two years and the girls for three years<sup>7</sup> and four years in high school<sup>8</sup>, and in the evening and Sunday school for three years<sup>9</sup>.

Laws of organization of vocational trade were too elaborate, state and institutions should support this education were not prepared financially and morally for such an effort.

Laws come, in 1900, all commercial education organized on two levels: first degree schools and schools of the second degree<sup>10</sup>, that of 1901 as amended in 1903, will have the same drawbacks, very busy teaching schedule, lack of teachers, could not provide appropriate specialist in all commercial schools, teaching all subjects in the field<sup>11</sup>.

On the eve of World War I, an idea began to take shape to improve secondary education and especially organize economic higher education. In the autumn of 1913 it's establish the Academy of High Commercial and Industrial Studies in Bucharest<sup>12</sup>.

Until 1919, were founded six elementary commercials schools of boys, namely Giurgiu (1900), Bucharest (1910), Câmpulung (1911), Pitești (1906), Botoșani (1914) and Piatra Neamț (1915). Also were established evening classes stacked in Bucharest (1904), Iași (1904), Galați (1905), Turnu Severin (1906), Ploiești (1907), Craiova (1907), Giurgiu (1907), Piatra Neamț (1918) and Botoșani (1918)<sup>13</sup>.

In Bucovina, when the Greater Union, commercial education was organized only in addition to the state industrial school in Cernăuți, in which operate a "commercial school with two classes".

Basarabia, tried hard to pressure the alienation, suffered the complete Russification of schools of varying degrees. Commercial education was in two business schools, one în Chișinău and other with particular character in Cetatea Albă.

Transylvania since ancient times, have economic links with neighboring provinces. Romanians begin to develop skills of traders, it involves becoming more economic exchanges with other provinces, not only in trade but also in the church, art,

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<sup>4</sup> Sanționată prin Înalt Decret Regal nr.1345 din 27 martie 1899 și publicată în MO 287 din 31 martie 1899.

<sup>5</sup> *Legea asupra învățământului secundar și superior* din 1898, Art. 1.

<sup>6</sup> *Legea asupra învățământului profesional* din martie 1899, Art. 1.

<sup>7</sup> *Ibidem*, Art. 69.

<sup>8</sup> *Ibidem*, Art. 71.

<sup>9</sup> *Ibidem*, Art.70.

<sup>10</sup> *Legea asupra învățământului profesional* din 1900, Art. 59

<sup>11</sup> Acad.Vasile Malinschi, *Op.cit...*, p. 63

<sup>12</sup> *M.O.* no.12/13 april 1913.

<sup>13</sup> *Anuarul învățământului.comercial din România pe anul 1926-1927*, București, Tipografia Curții Regale, 1927, p. X.

literature. Romanians have learned occupations and interests worldwide that they have assimilated and then they Romanized<sup>14</sup>.

In Brasov Cetate, establishes first trade school, thanks to the fact that after the decree of Joseph II of July 4, 1781 the number of Romanian traders entering the city is becoming greater. Building the second Orthodox church in 1833, Sfânta Adormire, in 1834 under the aegis of the new church opens a national school, “for the happiness of infants and to the wealth of the nation”, with the intention to learn along side Romanian, German and Greek, “writing and counting”<sup>15</sup>. Commercial character of the school is evident because since its establishment, it is protected by city merchants.

Designed since 1844 by representatives from the two Romanian churches of the city Sfânta Adormire of Cetate and Sfântu Nicolae of Șchei, in autumn 1850 were opened „Central Romanian National Schools”, central schools, with four normal school classes for boys and three normal classes for girls and four secondary classes<sup>16</sup>.

Corporation of Romanian merchants from Brașov, required the opening in central schools, of a commercial school “where students learn beside of business studies Romanian, German and Greek languages”<sup>17</sup>. Therefore, in 1869, in Brașov, there are a real school and a trade school in the central Romanian national schools. The purpose of their establishment was that in addition to theoretical education taught at gymnasium school, to give young people training for practical life, especially for industrial and commercial career.

Commercial School in Brasov came into the category of secondary commercial schools, along with Commercial School in Cluj and Budapest.

Commercial School in Cluj was founded at the initiative of the Chamber of Commerce and the local municipality, a Hungarian language school. Hungarian Ministry of Public Instruction by the decision no. 29 180 of 10 November 1885, invested the school with the title “Commercial Academy”<sup>18</sup>, but in fact it remained still a secondary school character. In 1901, the Ministry raises Commercial Academy of Cluj, at the rank of a higher education institute with the name “Commercial Academy in Cluj”. The Academy began operation the following year with two sections: Commercial School and Academic Course<sup>19</sup>. Since then, Commercial Academy in Cluj becomes higher education institute.

Other commercial schools in Transylvania, with Hungarian language of teaching<sup>20</sup> for boys were in Satu-Mare, Oradea, Arad, Timisoara, Hațeg, Lipova, Cluj, Târgu-Mureș and Brașov, and for girls in Oradea, Arad, Cluj and Târgu-Mureș<sup>21</sup>.

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<sup>14</sup> Nicolae Iorga, *Schimbarea de direcție și caracter a comerțului românesc în secolul XIX*. Tipogr. Cultura Neamului Românesc S. A. București 1921, pag. 11-12, *apud* Ion Evian, *Academiile comerciale și rolul lor în economia românească*, Brașov în *Analele Academiei*, 1939-1940, p. 942.

<sup>15</sup> Coord. Sergiu T. Chiriacescu, *Învățământul superior brașovean 1948-1998*, Monografie, Brașov, Editura Universității Transilvania, p. 23.

<sup>16</sup> Andreiu Bârseanu, *Istoria Școlilor Centrale Române gr.or.din Brașov*, Brașov, Tipografia Ciurcu &Comp, 1902, p. 56

<sup>17</sup> Victor Jinga, *Probleme fundamentale ale Transilvaniei*, Brașov, 1995, p. 225.

<sup>18</sup> National Archives Cluj County, Fund Academy of High Commercial and Industrial Studies Cluj, *Adresă, Opinie juridică*, dos. 83, f. 31.(further ANDJC- F. AISCI)

<sup>19</sup> *Ibidem*, f. 41.

<sup>20</sup> Acad.Vasile Malinschi, *Op. Cit...*, p. 67.

<sup>21</sup> *Anuarul învățământului comercial...*, p. XIV.



All these schools have worked with Hungarian teaching since their takeover by the Romanian state.

With the end of World War I and the return of Transylvania to the motherland, were legitimately taken by the Romanian state all Hungarian institutions including educational institutions and transformed to Romanian institutions adapted to new economic social and political realities. Among institutions were taken over the Hungarian Commercial Academy and the University of Cluj.

Commercial Academy in Cluj was taken to the Ministry of Public Instruction in 1919 and opened its doors as a Romanian institution on November 14, 1920, as the Academy of High Commercial and Industrial Studies Cluj, all those two sections, Commercial School and Academic Course.

## **CHAPTER II. ACADEMY OF HIGH COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL STUDIES CLUJ**

Commercial Academy in Cluj adopted the law and regulation of the Academy of High Commercial and Industrial Studies Bucharest, because there is the only law in force at the time of take over after the Great Union.

After starting work, the first rector, Professor Aurel Ciortea began steps to putting on a legal basis for Academy operation. Following measures taken by the rector and teachers, in May 1927 is presented draft law on the organization of the Academy of Cluj, who did not find understanding in Parliament because of congestion laws that had debated in Parliament<sup>22</sup>.

In 1929 was passed its own law of organization, promulgated on December 31, 1929 by Royal Decree nr.4501<sup>23</sup>, which places the same level the two academies, Academy of Cluj with the Academy of Bucharest. As a consequence of this law, the School of Commerce has ceased to be part of the Academy, was removed from its structure, Academy and School of Commerce are two distinct institutions. However, the Academy goes to the Ministry of Industry and Trade.

During the activity, the institution is facing hardships, made known to public figures and institutions in law, by the second rector of the institution, Professor Gheorghe Moroianu.

In the autumn of 1930 Rector Gheorghe Moroianu, on behalf of teachers, the Board of Directors and students, is written a memoir to King Carol II, in which he asks him his name patronage Academy award<sup>24</sup>.

King said that statement, “with much love approve that the Academy of High Commercial and Industrial Studies, carried my name”, so from 1 January 1931, the new name became “Academy of High Commercial and Industrial Studies King Carol II of Cluj”<sup>2526</sup>.

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<sup>22</sup> Traian Dumitrescu, Valeriu Mircea, *Istoricul învățământului economic din Transilvania. Istoricul Academiei de Înalte Studii Comerciale și Industriale din Cluj. O scurtă istorie a Clujului și Biografiile profesorilor Academiei (1920-1927/1929)*, București, 1984, p. 100.

<sup>23</sup> M.O. nr. 6 din 9 ianuarie 1930, f. 207, *Legea nr. 16/1929, privind organizarea și funcționarea Academiei de Înalte Studii Comerciale și Industriale din Cluj și trecerea ei la Ministerul Industriei și Comerțului*

<sup>24</sup> ANDJC- F. AISCI, *Memoriu*, dos.10, f.119.

<sup>25</sup> Idem, *Adresa* 1153/17 decembrie 1930, dos. 83, f.115

After several years of operation, since academic year 1929-1930 it's introduce economic junior year for uniform training to all students, and allowing their mobility between the two academies. The amended regulation is published by High Royal Decree no.3224 of 17 November 1932 as *Regulation Law Academy of High Commercial and Industrial Studies of Bucharest*<sup>27</sup>, with effect from 1 January 1933 and that means that only applies to the Academy of Cluj<sup>28</sup>. It includes the structure of preparation year<sup>29</sup>.

As a result, Academy of Cluj advances a draft regulation submitted to the Ministry's own, proposed by the General Council of the Academy, taking the initiative just as Academy of Bucharest. Legislative Council of the Ministry does not approve the regulation, on the principle that two regulations can not apply the same law. This refusal, Academy rules require approval again to be implemented and proposed two solutions: to merge the two regulations by working Councils of the two Academies, or to amend the law creating the Council of Commercial Academies, Interacademic Council, for management, to coordinate the operation of the two Academies<sup>30</sup>. These aspects indicate the ambiguity of law commercial academies, which displeases her teachers in Cluj.

Lack of coordination for joint advisory academies activity was difficult communication between the two institutions and also create nuisance. It is true that in these conditions the proposal should go to one of the parties involved, but all proposals left Cluj to join these institutions, the country's only higher education in their specific trade and industry, had a favorable response, which is observed and the difficulties they encountered Academy Cluj, during its existence.

The new secondary commercial education law of 1936, *commercial unification law of secondary education*<sup>31</sup> with effect from 1 September 1936, top turns commercial schools in high school commercial, with baccalaureate examination.

This influences the activity of the Academy, because the higher commercial schools preparing future teachers of commercial education, which were Academy students who were teaching Pedagogical Seminary. Under the old law of commercial education, Pedagogical Seminary of the Academy only work for the upper course of commercial school. The new law provides that educational seminar work and the lower and upper course of secondary school.

As a result, the academic year 1937 shall enter into force the new curriculum for commercial academies, four year course structure, divided into two courses of study, general training cycle and second training cycle courses. Also, now is admitted to the Academy only baccalaureate graduates who have supported commercial or theoretical exams.

The first law of higher education, expanded at Commercial Academy<sup>32</sup>, appears in 1937 as the *Law for the completion of higher education provision in the law*<sup>33</sup>. This

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<sup>26</sup> Idem Adresa nr. 969, din 3 decembrie 1930, Aviz nr. 1153 din 17 decembrie 1930, al Rectoratului Academiei trimis Ministerului Industriei și Comerțului.

<sup>27</sup> M.O. nr. 276 din 24 noiembrie 1932.

<sup>28</sup> ANDJC- F. AISCI, *Opinie juridică*, dos. 83, f.40.

<sup>29</sup> Junior year or preparation year was introduced to equalize the knowledge level of high school graduates and those with trade baccalaureate, enrolled at the Academy. So, junior year complete economic knowledge of students to enter to university spirit of the Academy. Junior year is introduced in 1929-1930, is converted to normal year of study in 1937-1938 increasing the duration of studies 4 years

<sup>30</sup> ANDJC- F. AISCI, *Adresa* 608/25/IX/1933, dos. 58, f. 22

<sup>31</sup> M.O. 1 aprilie 1936.

finally, recognized the status of Commercial Academy as high school academic grade<sup>34</sup>, along with other institutions of higher education in our country. In order to coordinate and promote activities of the two academies, the Academy of Cluj forward in 1938, the Ministry of National Education the draft regulation for the organization of *Academic Senate*<sup>35</sup>, which is required to be constituted as legal representative of the Academy.

Ministry of National Education, invites rectorship of higher education institutions to submit proposals for abolishing, merging and creation of new departments, instead of which are useless, in January 1938<sup>36</sup>. Interuniversity Council shall be convened in October 1938, meeting attended for the first time Cluj Academy, represented by Rector Octavian Prie. Council decides streamlining departments, conferences and lecturers as a result of the new law on education<sup>37</sup>, aimed on the one hand, a better recognition of the teaching staff of universities and schools of higher education and training on the other more serious students, as a began to transform commercial Academies in Economic Academies<sup>38</sup>. Following the rationalization, Academy of the Cluj receives the same number of chairs with the Academy of Bucharest, which again shows equality between the two institutions. On November 14, 1938 meeting held in Bucharest of the representatives of the two academies to discuss the new draft law and regulation<sup>39</sup>.

Ministry of Education has proposed amending the law of higher education in 1940 but political changes have delayed this project<sup>40</sup>.

In the autumn of 1940 began the exile of Academy of Cluj, under very heavy conditions, the only Transylvanian city who could receive a higher education institution with assets, students, teachers and administrative staff of decision was Brasov.

Although the refuge was sad, the emergence Academy in economic and social life of the city had a double impact: on the one hand, the city became a center of social life, academic, cultural, and a better educated population, on the other hand future officials, leaders of commercial and industrial enterprises have been trained in this institution, the only commercial and industrial higher education in Transylvania, which continued to exist and to fulfill the role for which it was founded.

In Braşov, Academy of High Commercial and Industrial Studies “Regele Mihai I” of Cluj, located in Brasov due to earthquake in November 1940, then of the Second World War, was always on the road at the main office Commercial High School Andrei Bârseanu, then the Chamber of Commerce, Roman Catholic High School, High School Dr. I Meşotă, Astra Library, Appeal Court.

Education organization act of 1942 radically changed the economic system of higher education. Under the new law, the Academies of High Commercial and Industrial

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<sup>32</sup> ANDJC- F. AISCI, Adresă, dos. 29, f. 323. Steps in this direction have started since 1931, at the Academy Cluj, to include commercial academies within higher education, under the Ministry of Industry and Commerce, to complete the Article 1 of the draft law graduate.

<sup>33</sup> *M.O.*, partea I/69/24 martie 1937.

<sup>34</sup> *Ibidem*, Art. 30, 33.

<sup>35</sup> ANDJC- F. AISCI, Adresa 171668/1938, dos.93, f.514.

<sup>36</sup> *Idem*, Adresa 3057/13/1938, dos. 93, f.515.

<sup>37</sup> *Idem*, *Proces verbal* octombrie 1938, dos.93, f.441; *Legea pentru modificarea și completarea legilor privitoare la învățământul superior și special în vederea raționalizării.*

<sup>38</sup> *M.O.* nr.257, 4 noiembrie 1938, p.5200.

<sup>39</sup> ANDJC- F. AISCI, *Scrisoare de informare* prof. I. Evian, dos. 58, ff.45-60.

<sup>40</sup> *Idem*, Adresa nr.16168/1 februarie/1940, dos.93, f.327.

Studies aimed mainly preparation, based on scientific, economic and commercial frameworks, promoting economic and commercial trial practice. The two institutions that do this were the Academy of High Commercial and Industrial Studies in Bucharest and Academy of High Commercial and Industrial Studies in Cluj-Brasov<sup>41</sup>.

Academy Rector, Professor Victor Jinga, appointed in April 1942, after entering upon their duties received for repair, the introduction of natural gas, purchase of furniture for the Academy, workshops, dormitories and dining two loans from the Ministry<sup>42</sup>. Due to professor, this was the period of welfare of the Academy in exile.

The war affected this higher education institution. In May 1944, because of bombing, almost the entire assets of the Academy were moved to Satulung, today Săcele at the Gymnasium commercial building. How the situation was becoming more serious, the rector Jinga asked to investigate the near Apuseni Mountains, places where they could escape with the Academy as the approach of the Eastern Front<sup>43</sup>. Professor of chemistry and chemistry lab director, Sebastian Nicolau expressed firmly, the desire to move permanently Academy and all her assets in one place, the best solution in those circumstances is returning home to Cluj.

How in Brasov alarms were more frequent, administration and relationship office of the Academy work increasingly difficult, in July the same year they moved to Satulung, in Brasov has remained a permanent office only for information only.

In this situation, caused by bombs, lack of food and conditions for activity, Professor Sebastian Nicolau call into question the return to Cluj, the moving become the first moment of release of Transylvania. Thus, two ideas were shaped, remain in Brasov or a final return home.

He was appointed a committee, who went Cluj to analyze return home and assess the situation by leaving according to the possibilities found there.

Meanwhile, in Brasov, to prevent the departure, the Company traders and Romanian Chamber of Commerce gives its assurance of full support including that of finding an appropriate main office. Frontul Plugarilor, allotted to the Academy, ten hectares of arable land in Stupini and also ten hectares in Ghimbav. Chamber of Agriculture and the Legion of Gendarmes have offered support for physical and specialty farming.

Following the coup of 23 August 1944, the Soviet army occupied Romanian territories and installed in different state institutions. Under these conditions, they occupied the central building, boys dorm and student cafeteria. Rector's Nicolae Condeescu interventions followed, at the Ministry of Education, the Prime Minister, to intervene in the Central Commission for application to release space armistice, to resume work in favorable conditions to a higher education.

But with every effort made the Academy was still on the road, no spaces for their activities. As a result, the rector is moving back to Bucharest, to solve the problem space and also the return of the Academy in Cluj. Steps to persuade the authorities to reconsider the decision to stay in Brasov temporary, prepare the students too.

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<sup>41</sup> *Decret-Lege relativ la organizarea învățământului superior*, 1942, Art. 5.

<sup>42</sup> ANDJC- F. AISCI, *Consfătuiri*, 1 august 1942, dos. 93, f. 242.

<sup>43</sup> *Ibidem*

Cluj student strike in 1946, had dramatic consequences and contributed to the delay by the authorities of the outcome, the abolition of the institution, because of the first solidarity strike, the Academy students.

In 1946 they released the central local of the Academy, High Commercial School Andrei Bârseanu, girls dorm formerly occupied. Immediately after release, there have been repairs and cleaning to be put into operation for the new academic year<sup>44</sup>.

On 1 July 1946 it was announced that the rector Condeescu can get a loan of 700 million in deposits at CEC House for further construction in the central building of the academy.

Meanwhile there are a number of social actions in Brasov, which contributed to lower the prestige of the institution in the city. In city circulated a list to collect signatures in favor of remaining Academy in Brasov, this action is presented as teachers wish<sup>45</sup>. Then, in the newspaper Drumul Nou, there are a series of articles that accused the Academy leadership that deals with the smooth running of the institution, whether the students<sup>46</sup>. Council of the Academy staff, responded to these attacks through a press release sent for publication on paper and thus was forced to ask the Ministry of Education to establish the headquarters of the Academy<sup>47</sup>.

In this context appears to fix Law Academy headquarters in Brasov, in the High Commercial School Andrei Bârseanu<sup>48</sup> building trade in March 31, 1947<sup>49</sup>.

Teacher reactions were as explosive as before, but in vain. The new education law, Law Decree, abolished commercial academies and turned them into higher education institutes<sup>50</sup>. As a result, the Academy of High Commercial and Industrial Studies of Cluj, based in Braşov, ceased to exist, became Institute of Economics and Planning V.I. Lenin, with a single major national economic planning faculty

### **Institute of Economics and Planning „VI Lenin” Braşov, 1948-1950.**

The establishment of *Institute of Economics and Planning „V.I. Lenin.” - I.S.E.P.*, was one of the results of the transformations taking place in the Romanian education system, since 1948, Brasov meeting the criteria for the operation of such institutions. On the one hand, he was already a university city due to Cluj Commercial Academy operation and on the other hand he was in the process of industrialization.

The main problem was the organization of the institute providing adequate space activity, establishing forms of organization, staff structure and discipline necessary to prepare the new economists.

To introduce new structures and curricula were organized courses, seminars and conferences, at the Institute of Teacher Training Braşov, with new teachers, and Academy teachers who continue to teach at the institute.

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<sup>44</sup> ANDJC- F. AISCI, *Proces verbal 18 iunie 1946*, dos.93, f. 47.

<sup>45</sup> Idem, *Proces verbal 21 martie 1947*, dos. 93, f.13.

<sup>46</sup> Idem, *Proces verbal 3 februarie 1947*, dos 93, f. 23.

<sup>47</sup> Idem, *Proces verbal 14,15 februarie 1947*, dos 93, f.22.

<sup>48</sup> Traian Dumitrescu, Valeriu Mircea, *Istoricul Academiei de Înalte Studii Comerciale și Industriale Cluj-Braşov (1927/1929-1948) și a Institutului de Științe Economice și de planificare (1948-1950)*, ASE București, 1984., pp. 91-92. (further *Istoricul Academiei...*)

<sup>49</sup> *M.O.* nr.75 bis/ 1937.

<sup>50</sup> *Decret* nr.1383/2 august/1948, art.XVI.

To reconsider the teaching curriculum, new courses were introduced in curricula. Teaching staff was formed of teachers who still remained at the institute and have not been compressed, plus the new wave of teachers come from production and trained under the new demands of education in a few months.

During operation of the institute has been a record number of students, in 1948-1949 were enrolled 1597 students, and the following year only 948, the explanation was that the strong industrialization of the country and especially of Braşov has attracted young people in school, but the severity with which his school was selected, so that after the first year of operation of the institute, the number of students decreased by 649, ie 40%.

The first dean was Professor Augustin Tătaru, which was replaced in 1949 by attorney Ştefan Tăşiedanu.

Institute is dissolved in 1950, under the influence of political factors. The decision was taken since 1946, during students strike in Cluj and Braşov, who were a threat to the political class since.

I.S.E.P.'s moved to Iaşi, and students had two choices: go to Iaşi, or transfer to I.S.E.P. Bucureşti to continue their studies there, followed by support state exam

### **Technical and material Academy endowments**

In Cluj, the Academy has worked in the period 1920-1940, the privately owned property on the street Andrei Şaguna (current Emil Isac Str), the intersection with General Gherescu (current Constantin Daicoviciu Str.) and Paul Chinezul, closed by Nicolae Filipescu Street (current. Virgil Fulicea Str).

Attempts to build a Palace Academy, similar to the Palace of Bucharest Academy, began with the passage of the institution under the Ministry of Industry and Trade, in 1930, to the memory addressed to the City Hall, to allocate them a space, raising funds and completion architectural plans of the new palace in 1936, but the Vienna Dictate has not made this achievement possible.

In Brasov, spaces in which the Academy has worked were not personal property, they were distributed by City Hall space in this city: Local High School Central local of the Academy was the High School Commercial Andrei Bârseanu, located on Regele Ferdinand Boulevard no.2 ( Transylvania University today body N, Faculty of Mechanical) girls dorm was on Regina Maria Street no. 62, boys dorm and cafeteria, were on Lungă Street no. 5, two rooms for the Institute of Modern Languages were on No. 2 Regina Elena Avenue, and Economic and Social Research Institute and students Association Andrei Mureşanu share the same building Andrei Nicolae Iorga Street no.26.

Professors Victor Jinga and Ion Voinea, were founded in 1930 Commodity Laboratory.

Also in 1930 worked the Chemistry laboratory, led by Professor Sebastian Nicolau. In 1935, Professor Ion Voinea managed to establish the Museum of goods. Professor V.D.Athanasescu founded in 1937 Technological Industrial Laboratory. Rector Gheorghe Moroianu proposed in 1932, setting up Trade History Museum.

At Brasov was brought the Chemistry laboratory and Museum of goods, under the care of Professor Ionel Tanislau. Seminars of accounting, geography, history, business, civil right, equipped with fundamental works in this field were arranged too.

Academy had a cafeteria and a dormitory in the same building until 1931 but lack of funds abolished them. Under the guidance of Professor Victor Jinga, was established in 1933 Mercury Cooperative, to provide services of food every day for about 250 students, through a student restaurant, shaving services, hairdressing, by two hygiene salons, clothing, shoemakers, tailors, pool in exchange for low prices or easier services. Cooperative work in Brasov too, but managed to establish two salons of hairdresser and one library, business stationery, but the arrival of Soviet army interrupted these activities.

Immediately after installing in Brasov city, cafeteria operated at the prefecture and in 1941 moved to Lungă Street area at no. 5, which was also home of the students. Academy had his own library. If in 1930 the library had 2,000 volumes in 1940 reached of 7100 volumes as most books were in Romanian and also in French, German, English<sup>51</sup>. On 1 October 1942, the library had 7116 volumes. The book continued to grow so that in November 1944 the library had 13,145 volumes and in 1947 more than 17,000 volumes.

### **CHAPTER III. ORGANIZATION OF ACADEMY OF HIGH COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL STUDIES CLUJ**

Management structures were: *Board Staff*, operational management forum abolished by higher education law in 1942,

Rector, running the institution and represent the state structures and institutions that have professional relationships and collaboration with in. He is helped in matters of administration by the prorector /vice-rector.

Council staff has competences only in teaching skills.

Board of Directors staff with the Council Staff form the General Council of the Academy, which is abolished by the 1938 regulation.

Academic office, have a consultative role in the affairs of the Academy.

Deliberative and consultative bodies of the Academy are set by the higher education law in 1942, as the Council of Higher Education, for higher education system and for the Academy<sup>52</sup>: Interacademic Council, Academic Board, Academic Senate, the Consultative Commission. Specific to academies, were also Council Staff and Section Staff, worked advisory bodies.

Rectors of Academy of High Commercial and Industrial Studies were:

Aurel Ciortea 1920-1929, Gheorghe Moroianu 1929-1934, Constantin Lacea 1935-1937, Octavian Prie 1937-1938, Ion Mateiu 1938-1940, Ion Gârbacea 1940-1941, Pavel Roșca 1941-1942, Victor Jinga 1942-1944, Dragoș Gheorghe 1944-1945, Nicolae Condeescu 1945-1947, Laurean Someșan 1947-1948.

#### **Teachers Council Staff**

The first Academy teachers were employed according to the appointment of university professors, confirmed then its entry force of the law for the organization and

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<sup>51</sup> Traian Dumitrescu, Valeriu Mircea, *Istoricul Academiei...*, p. 47.

<sup>52</sup> Inter-University Council for Universities, for Polytechnic was Interpolitehnic Council and for Academy of High Commercial and Industrial Studies was interacademic Council.

functioning of the Academy of Cluj, where teachers were appointed by Royal Decree, thus confirmed in their posts.

Academy faculty staff was composed of teachers, lecturers and assistants.

The establishment of Romanian Academy, the biggest difficulty was the compounding by the rector of the teaching staff. Teachers of Hungarian Academy, refused the oath of allegiance to the Romanian state and left the institution, so that by the formation of its teaching faculty was provided by professors at the University of Dacia Superioară, the secondary school teachers and specialists economic institutions.

Over time it's formed the Academy teacher staff, and the secondary school teachers, the specialists withdrawing as the appointment of teachers in departments.

### **Specializations, form and duration of studies**

Academy began to work with 3 year courses in academic year 1920-1921. In parallel courses worked two years of the Hungarian section, until completion of studies, so that from 1 July 1922, the Hungarian section was stopped permanently. Programs have completed courses in 1923. During the academic year 1922-1923 Academy split into two sections of specialization, Section I Trade, bank, insurance specialization and Section II Industrial specialization.

In the first year, students were attending common courses, compulsory in second and third years in addition to common courses, students attending special courses, as they wanted to take diploma in Section I or Section II.

In addition to appropriate commercial courses aim of Academy, in second and third year, were taught theoretical courses aimed at students who opted for specialization of trade education teachers, in the Teaching seminar.

Academic year 1929-1930, introduced in the curriculum the Junior year to prepare future students coming from high commercial schools and high schools. Junior year had two "sections" Section I Trade, for business school graduates and Section II Theoretical, for high theoretical graduates. With the introduction of junior, courses lasts four years amounts. Junior year brought the exams admission to the Academy.

Since 1935, the Academy goes back under the authority of the Ministry of Public Instruction.

Academic year 1937-1938 brought transformation of junior year in first academic study year, because of requirements imposed by the new law of secondary commercial education. Thus, in the curriculum were introduced two educational cycles, first cycle of the general course and second cycle of specialization. Students attended general courses in first cycle I and II year of studies and specialization training courses in second cycle, III and IV years of studies.

In 1938 Academy introduced the three majors and distribution of study materials and expertise shared throughout the four years of study and two cycles. The three majors were Section I Economics, financial and social studies, Section II Public Economics and Section III, Private economics.

In Brasov were not major structural changes in the curriculum. Duration was all four years and three specialized divisions have remained the same until 1944 when Section III, was called Industry and banking.



## CHAPTER IV. STUDENTS. LICENSEES. PHD IN ECONOMICS

Academy courses are organized for bachelor and doctoral level. The Academy students were admitted only if they had the status of "regularly enrolled students"<sup>53</sup>. Frequency of courses for students was mandatory and recorded for each student in the student book. During the academic year students were required to pass written tests or seminar papers required by course professors. They could not enter the exam if they don't passed at least two thirds of these works, even if those courses were often Statutes.

Examinations took place in June, then in October and exceptionally in January, for students who not passed all exams. Students were able to choose the exam session they wanted to participate. Examinations were oral and written.

Evaluation was done by grades students 'balls'. Average exam grade was dominant. After examination of the third / fourth year and promote them, students were declared licensees of the Academy. Thus, were licensees in October, January and June. Diploma is issued on behalf of His Majesty the King, signed by the Minister and the Rector and invested with the seal of the Academy.

If over the years, the student obtained the exams  $\frac{3}{4}$ , the white ball marks, received diploma "with distinction" or "cum laude" and if the student got white balls unanimously, receiving diploma "with great distinction" or "magna cum laude"

PhD courses could join licensees of the two Academies in Cluj and Bucharest, and those who had titles equivalent to Academy license. Academy awarded the title of doctor if, after at least one year after graduation, the candidates presented and sustained original work on a topic of curriculum and promoted a thorough examination of a group of materials required by Regulation Academy and accepted by the doctoral candidate's committee.

Doctoral examination can give any time during the academic year at the request of the candidate who finished doctoral frequency, but only within one month after the submission essay paper prepared and submitted by the chairman of the committee to support the thesis.

Doctoral examination has two sections, oral and public. He is held in front of the entire jury and separately for each candidate. After examination, the jury committee deliberated. Deliberation result is recorded in the Minutes, is signed by all committee members and the President, read the public hearing and in the presence of the whole jury. The result is expressed in the words of qualification, insufficient, good and very good. Entries are granted "with praise" or "high praise", but only exceptionally, for works of great value and only if the jury was unanimous vote. Diploma is issued on behalf of His Majesty the King and signed by the Rector and the Ministry, and invested with the seal of the Academy.

Since 1939 the Academy received the right to the title of Doctor Honoris Causa, the first title being proposed by the Council Staff to be awarded at King Carol II, but historical events will postpone this action<sup>54</sup>.

Academy awarded the PhD in economics for 25 candidates. Of these, 13 doctors, 52% will be dedicated to commercial and industrial higher education which shows the prestige enjoyed by this Romanian higher educational institution of the time.

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<sup>53</sup> Regulament pentru organizarea și funcționarea AISCI, 1927, Art.36.

<sup>54</sup> ANDJC-F. AISCI, Adresă Ministerul Educației Naționale nr. 39898/ 2 martie 1939, dos. 93, f. 383.

## CHAPTER V. SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AND ACADEMIC ACTIVITY. ACADEMY PUBLICATIONS

Rich scientific research was included in the journal Social-economic Observatory, established in 1931 at the initiative of rector Gheorghe Moroianu, teachers willingness to discuss social and economic problems, not only general and doctrine but also the practical problems that it should be discussed at that time. The first series of the journal came up until 1938, in 18 volumes, 3,000 pages.

Academy Teachers Association, founded in 1934, edited their lectures extent of Academic magazine under the title "Academic Conferences Extensions"<sup>55</sup> During Cluj existence, in the Academy Hall, between 1935-1940, 68 conferences held, grouped in two sessions, first session was in January-March and the second in November-December<sup>56</sup>.

Board of Directors, took the decision in December 1940, immediately after installing the Academy in Braşov, to start publishing Annals of Academy of High Commercial and Industrial Studies "Regele Mihai I" Cluj-Braşov<sup>57</sup>, a larger work than those made before, the research results include teachers, students and staff of different institution. From Cluj were printed at Printing Land Books, sheets Annals of Academy<sup>58</sup>. Thus, the first volume of Annals Academy appeared in October 1941 by the President of Association of Teachers care, Professor Ion Mateiu. Volume I has over 1,000 pages, Part One includes the work of teachers, in part two are "Academic Conferences Extensions", Part Three contains the seminar students work under the supervision of teachers. Part Four includes reviews of economic well-known works. The volume concludes with abstracts in French and a closing word.

The second volume includes the work of teachers from the period 1941-1944. Volume is all under the supervision of Professor Ion Mateiu, who open this edition too, with a Foreword. Part I includes research and analysis of teachers. Part Two covers the period 1941-1944 of Academic Conferences Extensions held in Brasov. The third part presents summaries of major works in French for the same reason, the publication accessibility abroad.

Since 1947, Annals published under the responsibility of the Academic Office<sup>59</sup>. This one order paper for printing Volume III, the same year, but this will not appear<sup>60</sup>.

Another publication is the journal of Economic and Social Research Institute, called Communications of Economic and Social Research Institute. Appeared three volumes of Communication, Volume I, Session 1943-1944, Volume II and Volume III, 1944-1945 session and 1945-1946 session. Communications of the three volumes contain scientific topics in the fields of economics, economic history, economic enterprises, cooperatives, accounting, geography, agriculture, trade, regional economy, world economy, right. Many scientific projects studied are on the ground, groups of researchers, members of the Institute on account economic realities, social, geographical and ethnographic in Transylvania.

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55 In 1924 at University of Cluj, was founded Extensiunea Academică, as a cultural propaganda campaign through conferences and publications.

56 *Asociația profesorilor de la Academia de Înalte Studii Comerciale și Industriale Cluj-Braşov*, Tabloul conferințelor publice în anii 1935-1941, în *Analele Academiei...* pp. 855-858.

57 ANDJC- F. AISCI, *Proces verbal 11 decembrie 1940*, dos. 103, f.76.

58 *Idem*, *Proces verbal 18 decembrie 1940*, dos.103, f.59.

59 *Idem*, *Proces verbal 5 iunie 1947*, dos. 93, f.4.

60 *Idem*, *Proces verbal 3 februarie 1947*, dos. 93, f.23.

In December 1942 the leadership Institute, decided to publish the second edition of the Journal Socio-Economic Observatory.

Courses teachers

Soon after Romanization of the institution, teachers Academy to replace the lack of courses and books, have written and lithographed courses for students eager to learn.

The lack of courses and books in Brasov, rector Jinga diminished. He asked the teachers that by the end of the academic year 1943-1944 to prepare and publish courses and orientation courses in the discipline, for this purpose in 1942 he founded the Publishing Academy, which then passed under the authority of the Academic Office<sup>61</sup>.

## **Academy Institutes**

### **Economic and Social Research Institute**

Rector Victor Jinga said in an august meeting, that he had plans for several scientific institutes: Institute of Economic Research which will cover all economic seminars, Commercial Sciences Institute, Institute of Chemistry and goods study, Civil and Commercial Law Institute, Modern languages Institute.

In January 1943 foundation projects were ready to set up the Academy institutes. It founded Economic and Social Research Institute and Modern Languages Institute.

The first institute started its activity in December 9th, 1943 with a conference of the first president of the Braşov Support Court<sup>62</sup>. The Institute organized a series of economic and social field research, and scientific sessions, seminars and collaboration between disciplines.

### **Modern Languages Institute**

The statutes of Modern Languages Institute were read and approved by the Council staff in November 23, 1943 after that they were approved by the Academy Senate<sup>63</sup> and on April 6, 1944 the Ministry issued the decision establishing the Modern Languages Institute, calling Professor Stefanovici, director of new institute<sup>64</sup>.

It is printing the Magazine Institute of Modern Languages and a regular newsletter. His work was related to the debate and deepening linguistic aspects of literature and modern languages, English, French, Italian, German taught at the Academy.

### **Production Research Institute**

On November 23, 1944 is approved and operational rules of Production Research Institute, prepared by Professor Sebastian. Nicolau<sup>65</sup>.

## **Academic activity**

### **Student activities**

Student activity was taking place in classrooms and seminars, commodity laboratory, technological industrial, chemistry, Trade history museum, Academy library

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<sup>61</sup> Idem, *Proces verbal 18 iunie, 1943*, dos. 93, f.195.

<sup>62</sup> Idem, *Proces verbal 19 noiembrie 1943*, dos.93, f. 185.

<sup>63</sup> Idem, *Proces verbal 23 noiembrie 1943*, dos. 93, f.182.

<sup>64</sup> Idem, *Proces verbal 6 aprilie 1944*, dos.93, f.170.

<sup>65</sup> Idem, *Proces verbal 23 noiembrie 1944*, dos. 93, f.147.

and student associations. Student organizations began to work on their own initiative, with the approval of Teachers Staff Council and the Rector. Within organizations, they have initiated activities, parties, excursions, alone or helped by their teachers, in collaboration with other organizations and institutions. Talented students were members of arts organizations and sports enthusiasts were the football team and in Braşov, ski team. In addition, there were activities in the cultural life of the city, meeting with students at the University of Cluj and other higher education institutions, conferences and congresses, free courses of foreign languages, shorthand, sports, etc.

Students, after their specialization, did an internship in industrial and commercial enterprises, banks and state institutions, Chambers of Commerce and Industry. The practice was made after the courses, in the summer, during the specialization years.

Student organizations were:

Students Association of Academy for High Commercial and Industrial Studies Cluj- ASAISCI, where they set up a circle of literary studies, led by Professor Ioan Ol. Stefanovici<sup>66</sup>. Under the coordination of Professor Ion Gherghel, was founded “Traveler Society”, for trip and cultural propaganda, first year students the company, in order to organize activities for the acquirement of funds necessary to carry out excursions<sup>67</sup>. Thus, students in their group, performed in towns near Cluj, borrowing costumes for performances at the National Theatre of Cluj, making cultural propaganda for Romanian Theatre and Opera<sup>68</sup>.

In 1931 was founded another cultural society, “The Trip” of 3rd year students, honorary president was the young teacher Gheorghe Dragoş.

1936 year brought together all tourism companies in the Tourism Association of the Academy of Commercial Studies Cluj – ATAC<sup>69</sup>.

A few years later, in 1940, the Association becomes a member of the National Student Front -FNS<sup>70</sup>.

FNS was organized in 1939 in three sections and Advice Division and Cohorts<sup>71</sup>. Academy Division representative was Professor Semproniu Lupaş and vicerector Pavel Roşca was Cohort Commander. The three sections were: Sports Section, led by Professor Gheorghe Dragoş, Aurel Gociman helped by Augustin Tătaru, Music Department, led by Ion Gherghel attended Ioan Ol. Stefanovici, and the Science Section of Professor Ion Evian<sup>72</sup>.

Students Association of Academy for High Commercial and Industrial Studies Cluj- ASAISCI worked in Braşov. Association changed its name to Academic Society “Andrei Mureşanu”. Later, in December 1946 Academic Society “Andrei Mureşanu” was part of University Democratic Front - FDU.

Commercial and Industrial Association of Academies Licensees-ALACI, was established on September 1, 1920 at the initiative of Commercial Academy licensees in

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<sup>66</sup> Idem, *Referat*, dos.58, f.167.

<sup>67</sup> *Ibidem*.

<sup>68</sup> ANDJC- F. AISCI, *Referat* pentru costume, National Theater of Cluj for „O noapte furtunoasă” in november 1932, dosar 41, fila 148, *Aviz nr.896/19 ianuarie 1934*, dos.58, f. 158, Students had first performance on January, 24 1934, at Huedin, with „Jepe de la Munte” and then with „ Țăranu Baron”.

<sup>69</sup> Idem, *Proces verbal 13 mai 1936*, dos. 26, f.526.

<sup>70</sup> Idem, *Proces verbal 12 ianuarie 1940*, dos.93, f.331.

<sup>71</sup> Idem, *Adresa Ministerului Educaţiunii Naţionale nr. 214220/1939*, dos. 93, f.337

<sup>72</sup> Idem, *Proces verbal 24 noiembrie 1939*, dos 93, f.337

Bucharest. She was recognized as a legal entity in 1928. A subsidiary of the association and the licensees has established at the Academy of Cluj, in order to promote Romanian act directly and indirectly and Academy activities by all means.

In 1934 was founded Sports Academy Society of students.

In 1940 was established Academic Office for Academy students and licensees<sup>73</sup>.

## Teachers work

Teachers have been engaged in very intense teaching, academic, economic, social, cultural and political activities. In the Academy they were concerned about preparing students teaching courses. They were interested in publishing, to provide training aids. They also organized seminars, laboratories and even a trade history museum to complete the trade for training and academic research. They established a library, having gradually endowed with books, magazines, catalogs, brochures and specialty general. Laboratories were provided with equipment and materials necessary for scientific activities. Students were involved in cultural, literary, artistic and social activities.

They were members of the committee for organizing and ensuring the smooth conduct of the activity. In addition to work in the Academy, teachers were part of different economic and cultural associations, were members of political parties, with officials in their work have led and directed firms, institutions, and private organizations, were part of local and national governing bodies, have participated as members in various committees organized by the Ministry and other institutions, but they were researchers in their field of interest. They organized and participated in national and international conferences, congresses, symposia, economic education courses, thematic trips, training courses and other economic and social activities.

At Gheorghe Moroianu rector initiative was founded *Friends of the Academy of High Commercial and Industrial Studies Cluj*.

*Academy Teachers Association* was founded as a branch of the Teachers Federation in 1932. Academy teachers have developed an intense cultural activity by department Cultural League Cluj, in the board in 1933, is Professor Sabin Opreanu<sup>74</sup>. It was noted *Academy Choir* led by Professor Ion Gherghel<sup>75</sup>, *The music Beethoven* and *Shakespeare reading circle*, drama and poetry, created by Professor Ioan Ol. Stefanovici, for music and cultural education of students.

Famous was the opening of the academic year. Academy has been visited over time by a number of personalities of the time. Anniversaries of January 6, 24 January, 1st of December, the King Day was a great celebration for teachers, students and guests. In meetings of the Teachers Staff were always evoked great political figures of the time.

Academy of High Commercial and Industrial Studies in Cluj created with great effort prosperous conditions, which contributed to the elevation of economic life in this part of the country, helping to strengthen self-awareness building of the Romanian people and its economic and social building. Cluj institution asserted labor force, skill and enthusiasm of its leaders and teachers.

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<sup>73</sup> Idem, *Proces verbal 12 ianuarie 1940*, dos. 93, f.331.

<sup>74</sup> Idem, *Aviz*, dos. 41, f. 63.

<sup>75</sup> Idem, *Cerere*, dos. 58, f. 132

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40. Legea de organizare a învățământului comercial din 1901 cu modificările din 1903.
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42. Decret Regal 6 aprilie 1913.
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