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Titolo	The Beginnings of Anti-Jewish Legislation : The 1920 Numerus Clausus Law in Hungary
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Nota di contenuto	The genesis of the law -- The first decade of the numerus clausus and the racial clause -- The amendment of the numerus clausus law and the restoration of the explicit Jewish quota.
Sommario/riassunto	"The Nazi 1933 Civil Service Law and the 1935 Nuremberg Laws are generally considered the first anti-Jewish decrees in Europe. Maria Kovacs convincingly argues that Act XXV of 1920 concerning university enrollment in Hungary can instead be considered one of the first pieces of twentieth-century anti-Jewish legislation - if not the very first. This act, known as the "numerus clausus law," specified that members of a single "nationality" or "people's race" could not be admitted at a higher rate than their share in the total population. The law especially targeted Jews, who represented 6% of the inhabitants yet, until then, about 25%

of university students. The study presents the history of the law, including its amendment in 1928, the re-introduction of the Jewish quota in 1939, and its abolition in 1945. By describing the conditions after the disintegration of the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy and the short-lived Hungarian Soviet Republic, Kovacs shows in what ways these events, and especially how the *numerus clausus* law, affected the Jews. The law heralded a new line of political thought. According to it, the "Jewish question" could only be solved by special laws that denied their equality before the law. In this sense, the *numerus clausus* law was just as much a "Jewish law" as the four acts, explicitly labeled as such, passed by the Hungarian Parliament between May 1938 and September 1942"--
