The Racial Conflict in Transylvania

By

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A Discussion of the Conflicting Claims of Rumania and Hungary to Transylvania, the Banat, and the Eastern Section of the Hungarian Plain

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THIS BOOK IS AFFECTIONATELY
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FRANCIS J. MOORS
PREFACE

THIS essay was originally written as a thesis for a degree with distinction at Harvard, and won the Philip Washburn Prize, 1923. Entirely revised, rewritten, and improved with material gathered in Rumania, it was used at Oxford as the thesis required for the degree of Bachelor of Literature. Slightly revised again and brought up to date, it is now published.

The material used in this dissertation comes from many sources. A great deal comes from the Bodleian Library, and from the libraries at Harvard, Boston, and New York. For some exceedingly important works, however, I am indebted to Count Teleki (ex-Premier of Hungary), Count Széchenyi (Hungarian Minister to Washington), Dr. Louis C. Cornish, M. Ciotorí, (Secretary to the Rumanian Legation at London), Prince Bibesco, (Rumanian Minister to Washington) and others.

There is no lack of written material on these subjects, but unfortunately, almost all of it is untrustworthy. A great many works, chiefly propaganda pamphlets, could be discarded without a second glance. But even after a careful sifting of evidence, the author felt uncertain upon a great many points, and there-
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fore, he went to Rumania to find out, if he could, exactly what the facts were in cases about which he was uncertain. During the trip he tried to hear all parties. He talked with rabid Rumanians and fanatical Hungarians, not to mention two Saxon leaders. He met all classes from the Queen of Rumania to the humble door-keeper of a Bucharest Legation. Chapter V, and parts of other chapters, have been written largely from the information obtained during this trip. No one is more conscious than the writer that this work must contain a great many errors. When three quarters of the material on this subject is written with intent to deceive, when nine-tenths of the people who know the facts are willing to tell but one part of the story, and when even the most fair-minded writers are often misled by unscrupulous partisans, it is not surprising that a student of this question faces great difficulties in getting at the truth. The writer hopes, however, that by a careful sifting of the evidence, and by asking each side their explanation of almost every important point, he has reached an approximation of the truth.

The material used naturally varies a great deal in reliability. Some works are by authors of unimpeachable honesty, yet even here errors creep in; in this category belong the works edited by Prothero and
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Temperley, Dr. Cornish's and Dr. Seton-Watson's books. Several others even though they tell but one side of the story, are nevertheless very valuable; in this class belongs "The Hungarian Peace Negotiations." Finally come the propaganda writers, and the creatures of foreign governments. The statements in their works have been very greatly discounted.

The author would be ungrateful if he did not express his thanks to Dr. Blake of Harvard and to Professor Dawkins of Exeter College, Oxford, his supervisors; to Dr. Seton-Watson, Dr. Cornish, and Count Teleki, to some others whose names, at their own request, must not be mentioned; and to all those who have assisted him in preparing this dissertation.

Unfortunately, much information thus acquired was given on condition that its source be kept strictly secret. If therefore many points which would seem to demand an authority are not footnoted, it is generally because of this. The writer has also deleted from this book all footnotes giving sources only for unimportant or uncontroversial facts. For the abbreviations in the footnotes, reference should be made to the bibliography at the end.

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Good propaganda, with much detail.


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A good daily newspaper.

An absurdly pro-Rumanian post-war account of Rumania.

CONTEMPORARY REVIEW, February, 1922. Dr. Seton-Watson:
"Hungary under Admiral Horthy".
Of interest and value, but rather bitter.

An interesting account of the activities of the Unitarian Mission to Transylvania in 1922. Very valuable.

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CVIJIC, JOVAN, AND OTHERS, Paris, 1919. "La Question du Banat".
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"Rumania"
"Transylvania"
And several other excellent articles in the eleventh and twelfth editions.

The articles in the eleventh edition are the best, because those in the twelfth are written by national historians, and therefore tend to be strongly partisan.

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A Periodical: Clever but unscrupulous propaganda.

By far the most valuable authority used in the preparation of this dissertation. Although naturally partizan, it is a perfect mine of information.

A mass of exceedingly valuable but ill-arranged material. By far the best work so far on the Peace Conference.


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Bitterly anti-Rumanian, and rather sketchy; but none the less decidedly interesting and important.

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A map with statistics for Transylvania, apparently from Rumanian sources.

MEMOIRE PRÉSENTÉ PAR LE COMITÉ DES HONGROIS PROSCRITS DE TRANSYLVANIA A L’UNION INTERNATIONALE DES ASSOCIA-TIONS POUR LA SOCIÉTÉ DES NATIONS. Budapest, 1922.
A clever and important piece of Hungarian propaganda.

MEMORANDUM FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF ROUMANIA TO THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS, dated November 9th, 1921: “Hungarian Minorities in Transylvania”. Lausanne, 1921.
An effective reply by the Rumanian government to certain charges, chiefly in regard to the agrarian reform, made by the government of Hungary.

A memorandum in which the Rumanian treatment of the minority churches and schools is defended. Very interesting and well-written if decidedly deceitful. This memorandum was reprinted from the report sent by the Rumanian government to the League of Nations.

**Miller, Story of the Balkans.**
Short histories of Rumania, Serbia, etc.

**New Europe Magazine. London, 1916-1920.**
Contains a great many interesting articles on Eastern European questions almost all of which, however, are marred by their bias and sketchiness.

Fanatically pro-Hungarian.

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One of a series of pamphlets issued by the Historical Section of the Foreign Office. They all contain excellent detailed descriptions, from almost every point of view, of the regions about which they are written. This one in particular is a very important authority.

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The famous “Réplique”, which caused so much trouble. Until Dr. Seton-Watson's works were published, this was much the best statement of the case of the Transylvanian Rumanians. It is interesting to compare it with the “Memoirs . . . des Hongrois Proscrits” (see above).


An excellent series of detailed and well-executed maps, showing graphically a great many points about the economics of Old Hungary.

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"Le Territoire Revendiqué par les Roumains au Nord. Quest de la Transylvania."

"Memory Presented to the Peace Conference."

"Territorial Claims."

"The Banat of Temeshvar."

The official Rumanian communications to the Peace Conference, and interesting for that reason, but unfortunately they are, for the most part, misleading and sketchy.
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