HANDBOOKS PREPARED UNDER THE DIRECTION OF THE HISTORICAL SECTION OF THE FOREIGN OFFICE.—No. 7

HUNGARIAN RUTHENIA

LONDON:
PUBLISHED BY H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE.

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Editorial Note.

In the spring of 1917 the Foreign Office, in connection with the preparation which they were making for the work of the Peace Conference, established a special section whose duty it should be to provide the British Delegates to the Peace Conference with information in the most convenient form—geographical, economic, historical, social, religious and political—respecting the different countries, districts, islands, &c., with which they might have to deal. In addition, volumes were prepared on certain general subjects, mostly of an historical nature, concerning which it appeared that a special study would be useful.

The historical information was compiled by trained writers on historical subjects, who (in most cases) gave their services without any remuneration. For the geographical sections valuable assistance was given by the Intelligence Division (Naval Staff) of the Admiralty; and for the economic sections, by the War Trade Intelligence Department, which had been established by the Foreign Office. Of the maps accompanying the series, some were prepared by the above-mentioned department of the Admiralty, but the bulk of them were the work of the Geographical Section of the General Staff (Military Intelligence Division) of the War Office.

Now that the Conference has nearly completed its task, the Foreign Office, in response to numerous enquiries and requests, has decided to issue the books for public use, believing that they will be useful to students of history, politics, economics and foreign affairs, to publicists generally and to business men and travellers. It is hardly necessary to say that some of the subjects dealt with in the series have not in fact come under discussion at the Peace Conference; but, as the books treating of them contain valuable information, it has been thought advisable to include them.

It must be understood that, although the series of volumes was prepared under the authority, and is now issued with the sanction, of the Foreign Office, that Office is not to be regarded as guaranteeing the accuracy of every statement which they contain or as identifying itself with all the opinions expressed in the several volumes; the books were not prepared in the Foreign Office itself, but are in the nature of information provided for the Foreign Office and the British Delegation.

The books are now published, with a few exceptions, substantially as they were issued for the use of the Delegates. No attempt has been made to bring them up to date, for, in the first place, such a process would have entailed a great loss of time and a prohibitive expense; and, in the second, the political and other conditions of a great part of Europe and of the Nearer and Middle East are still unsettled and in such a state of flux that any attempt to describe them would have been incorrect or misleading. The books are therefore to be taken as describing, in general, *ante-bellum* conditions, though in a few cases, where it seemed specially desirable, the account has been brought down to a later date.

G. W. PROTHERO,
General Editor and formerly
Director of the Historical Section.

January 1920.

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I. GEOGRAPHY PHYSICAL AND POLITICAL

(1) Position and Frontiers

Hungarian Ruthenia is that portion of north-eastern Hungary which is mainly inhabited by the Ruthenes or Little Russians, who also people eastern Galicia, the adjacent district across the Carpathians, and form a considerable element in the population of the Bukovina. Its limit on the north-east is the Carpathian boundary of Hungary from 47° 35′ to 48° 55′ north latitude. The internal boundary is indeterminate; but, for convenience, Ruthenia is here taken to consist of the three Hungarian counties, Máramaros, Bereg, and Ugocsa, with an area just under 6,000 square miles, i. e. just less than the area of the county of Yorkshire. It borders in the north-east on Galicia and the Bukovina, in the south on Transylvania, in the south-west on Magyaria, and in the west on Slovakia.

(2) Surface and River System

North-eastern Bereg and Máramaros are mountainous areas, lying south-west of the Carpathian water-parting. The peaks increase in height from north-west to south-east, and the rivers flow in general to the south-west until they reach the Tisza (Theiss) or its tributary the Vissó, which themselves flow in a westerly or north-westerly direction. In Bereg, where the Tisza forms the boundary, the Latorcza is the main tributary. The surfaces of hills and valley bottoms tend to be almost horizontal plains divided by steep slopes leading from lower to higher levels.

Ugocsa and south-western Bereg have the typical alluvial and *loess* soils of the Alföld, or central Hungarian plain, and the mountain areas of Máramaros

and Bereg give rise to thin soils producing Alpine pasture on the level uplands and forests on the slopes.

(3) Climate

In Ruthenia, due allowance being made for the elevation of the Carpathians, the climate is similar to that of Hungary in general. The actual mean annual temperature is about 47° F. (8° C.) on the lower levels and 42° F. (5½° C.) in the highest parts. In January on the lowlands there are on the average 5° F. (3° C.) of frost, and in July the average temperature reaches 67° F. (19° C.). The mean annual range of temperature is thus about 40° F. (22° C.). On the lowlands the frost period lasts for four months. The Tisza at Máramaros-Sziget is usually frozen from December to the end of February, and may be frozen for a day or two in November. Snowfalls occur from October to April.

The total annual precipitation on the lowlands on the extreme west is between 24 and 28 inches (600 and 700 mm.), and the amount increases steadily with the elevation of the land to a maximum among the Carpathian crests of about 60 in. (1,500 mm.). The driest month is January on the heights and February in the valleys; the wettest month, on the average, is June, and (as in the Alföld) there is a second rainfall maximum in October.

(4) Sanitary Conditions

Throughout Hungary the medical service, which is largely in the hands of the State or local authorities, is extremely inadequate, and in no part more so than in Ruthenia, which is far less favoured in this respect than Magyaria. Only 10 per cent. of deaths are of persons under treatment, and only 15 per cent. are certified by a doctor.

It may be taken that the Ruthenes are a hardy race, for, in spite of these conditions, their death-rate is little higher than that of the Magyars. The infantile mortality rate among them is considerably lower than among the Magyars of Ruthenia, being only 19 per

thousand living births, although it is associated with one of the highest birth-rates in Hungary (46 per thousand).

(5) Race and Language

Racially, Ruthenia is by no means a unit, for of the two-thirds of a million inhabitants, less than a half are Ruthenes, nearly a third are Magyars, and about a sixth are Jews (a relatively high proportion).

The language statistics, according to the census of 1910, are as follows:

	Ruthenes.	*Magyars.*	*Rumanians.*	*Germans.*
Máramaros .	159,489	52,964	84,510	59,552
	44·6%	14·8%	23·6%	16·7%
Ugocsa . .	34,415	42,677	9,750	4,632
	37·5%	46·5%	10·6%	5·1%
Bereg . .	100,918	113,090	215	20,722
	42·6%	47·8%	0·1%	8·8%
Ruthenia . .	294,822	208,731	94,475	84,906
	43%	30·5%	13·8%	12·2%

The balance of 5,137 persons (or some 0·5 per cent.) is made up of a few Slovaks, Croats, Serbs, and others. The figure of Magyar-speakers is swollen by the large number of town-dwelling Jews, who are usually entered as speaking the language locally dominant.

The Magyars proper are an outlying portion of the solid Magyar population of the Alföld, while the Ruthenes stand in a similar relation to the Ruthene population of Galicia and the Bukovina.

With the exception of two islands of German Jews, the Ruthenians occupy the whole of the land from the Hungarian boundary to a line which runs north-west and south-east just north of Munkács and Máramaros-Sziget. To the south-west of this line lies an area of Magyar population near Munkács, and there is a Rumanian district near Máramaros-Sziget.

It must be remembered that the Ruthenes included in the three counties under consideration comprise only about two-thirds of the total Ruthene population

of Hungary. The remaining third occupies the Carpathian country to the north-west. Consequently the Ruthenian linguistic boundary extends north-westwards from near Munkács to Bártfa, and then runs roughly parallel to the Galician frontier, terminating north of Leibicz; and the Ruthenian area extends along the Carpathians in a strip about 40 miles wide from 20° 30′ to 24° 30′ east longitude.

(6) Population

Distribution

The total population of Hungarian Ruthenia amounted in 1910 to 686,071; and of this number over 90 per cent. dwell in the country districts. The distribution of the people is governed by the elevation of the country. The population is thickest in the valleys and lowlands, but there are many mountain villages, and outlying homesteads occur up to a height of 3,300 ft. (1,000 metres).

The most thickly populated county is Ugocsa (196·5 persons per square mile), then follow Bereg (162·5) and Máramaros (95·5). The sparsely populated districts are Ruthenian, and the more densely populated Magyar or Jewish.

Towns

The three most important towns are Máramaros-Sziget (pop. 21,370), Munkács (pop. 17,275), and Beregszász (pop. 12,933), all of which are situated in fertile river valleys. There seems nowadays to be a tendency for the people to move into the urban districts, all the above-mentioned towns having considerably increased their populations in recent years.

Movement

In the Magyar urban localities the birth-rate is high, 38 per thousand, but lower than in the Magyar country districts, where the rate is 42 per thousand. The rate is higher still (46 per thousand) among the Ruthenes. The latter rate is equalled in Hungary

only by the birth-rate of the Serbs in Croatia-Slavonia.

In all the foregoing three cases the death-rate was 27 per thousand, which is moderately high. Consequently, the Ruthenes are shown to be the most prolific race in Hungary; and, further, as the rate of infantile mortality is low, their natural increase (19 per thousand) is the highest in Hungary. The nearest approach to this high rate is the 15 per thousand of the Magyars in rural Ruthenia and of the Magyars in Magyaria and the Banat.

Emigration.—The total number of emigrants from Ruthenia during the decade 1901–10 was 29,000, who were distributed as follows:

EMIGRANTS (PER CENT., OMITTING DECIMALS) 1901–10

Nationalities	*Ruthenes.*	*Magyars.*	*Germans.*[1]	*Rumanians.*
	49	39	9	2
Destinations	*Rumania.*	*America.*		
	4	95		

The emigration of the Ruthenes and Magyars in comparison with their relative proportions of the population is excessive, and especially so among the Magyars. The emigration is almost entirely to America, as in the neighbouring districts of Magyaria and Slovakia.

Internal Migration.—As in Croatia-Slavonia, the balance between migration inwards and outwards from and to other parts of Hungary indicates a slight excess of inward migration. These migrants are probably Magyars; and their numbers partly account for the more rapid increase of the Magyar population in comparison with the Ruthenian population, despite a lower rate of natural increase and a higher rate of emigration.

During the decade 1901–10 the net result amounted to an increase of the population of 13 per cent.; the natural increase (excess of births over deaths) was 16·6 per cent.; there was an estimated net emigration of 4·5 per cent. and a net gain by migration inwards from other parts of Hungary of 0·9 per cent.

[1] Mainly German Jews.

II. POLITICAL HISTORY

Chronological Summary

1370. Louis the Great of Hungary becomes King of Poland, Galicia, and Lodomeria.
1382. Marriage of Louis's daughter with Ladislas II of Poland. Halicz transferred from Hungary to Poland.
1569. Union of Lublin : Poland and Lithuania joined.
1596. Synod of Brest Litovsk : Union of Churches.
1772. First Partition of Poland : Halicz and Lodomeria go to Austria.
1776. The Bukovina ceded to Austria by Turkey.
1786. Part of the Bukovina assigned to Galicia.
1796. Third Partition of Poland.
1810. East Galicia, including Tarnopol, ceded to Russia.
1815. Treaty of Vienna : East Galicia (and Tarnopol) recovered by Austria.
1846. Polish Rising in Galicia : Ruthenian peasants help Austria. Decree abolishing most of remaining feudal dues.
1848. Revolutions in Austria.
1849. The Bukovina made a separate Crown land.
1854. Further land reforms in Galicia.
1861. Province of Galicia granted greater autonomy than any other part of Austria.
1862. Decree requiring West Galician officials to know Ruthenian language.
1867. Ruthenian agrarian risings against Polish landlords.

(1) Origins

The Ruthenes are a people who are to be found in the eastern part of Austrian Poland (which constitutes the administrative province of Galicia), in the Bukovina, and in the northern part of the kingdom of Hungary. They form part of that branch of the Russian people which is sometimes called the Little

Russian, and sometimes, especially recently, the Ukrainian people.[1] Indeed, the name Ruthenes is often used to describe all the Little Russians, whether settled in Russia, Hungary, the Bukovina, or Austrian Poland. The term Ruthenes will, however, in these pages be used in the narrower sense of Little Russians who are citizens of the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy.[2] The bulk of the Galician Ruthenes extend eastward from the San river until they join their Little Russian brethren at the Russian border. In that area they form the majority of the population, but there are considerable Polish minorities in certain districts, and the city of Lemberg constitutes a Polish island in an otherwise Ruthenian district. In the Bukovina the Ruthenian districts are interwoven to a great extent with those inhabited by Vlachs (Rumanians). Czernowitz, their capital, has a large German element.

The Hungarian Ruthenes are settled on the southern slopes of the Carpathians in the counties of Sáros, Zemplén, Ung, Bereg, Ugocsa, and Máramaros; and in their westerly settlements they adjoin the Slovaks, by whom they have been partly absorbed. The Ruthenes have never at any time been united under a single government, either of a foreign or a native Power.

The Ruthenes are essentially a Russian people, and speak a language which does not differ greatly from the various dialects spoken by the other Little Russians, numbering some thirty millions, who constitute the bulk of the population of southern Russia.

Their origin is, like that of most of the Slav races, somewhat obscure; but by the tenth century the Ruthenian tribes are found both north and south of the Carpathian Range, in a country which came to be known as Red Russia, where they were ruled by a number of independent princes. The most important

[1] The application of the word Ukrainian to the whole Little Russian people is quite modern. The word 'Ukraina' means a border district; thus there were several Ukraines, e. g. Vitebsk, White Russia, Smolensk, &c.

[2] The Ruthenes are sometimes called Russniaks.

of these States were the kingdoms of Halicz and of Lodomeria or Vladimir.

These principalities soon became a battle-ground between the Hungarians and the Poles. In the eleventh century Bela of Hungary, who had taken possession of the kingdom of Halicz, was expelled by the Ruthenes with the help of the Poles; and Halicz and Lodomeria were united under a native prince, Roman, until his death in 1205. His son Daniel succeeded to Lodomeria, but Halicz was seized by Koloman of Hungary, who was later recognized as overlord by Daniel. To this period also belongs the beginning of the long struggle between the Eastern and Western Churches for the Ruthenian people, which continues to the present time.

(2) The Rival Churches

When the Ruthenian tribes were originally converted to Christianity they became adherents of the Orthodox Church, but when, about 1240, the Mongol invasion was threatening to overwhelm the Ruthenian principalities, King Daniel appealed to Pope Innocent IV for help. This was promised in return for submission to the Papacy, and Daniel accordingly accepted the crown of Halicz at the hands of the Papal Legate; but, finding that his interests were not assisted by papal influence to the extent which he had expected, he subsequently reverted to the Orthodox Church, of which his people had remained adherents.

In 1340 the line of native princes died out, and Casimir III, King of Poland, incorporated Halicz and Lemberg (Lwov) in his dominions. In 1370 these passed to Louis the Great of Hungary, who became King of Poland in accordance with treaties previously made. In 1382 Halicz, which had been treated as definitely belonging to the crown of Hungary, was, on the marriage of the daughter of Louis the Great to Ladislas II of Poland, assigned once more to that State. Henceforward only those Ruthenes who lived on the

south-western side of the Carpathian range remained under the Hungarian crown.

The Poles had always been adherents of the Western Church; and great efforts were made to promote a union between the Greek and Roman Churches in the Polish dominions. This union was at length brought about by the Synod of Brest-Litovsk in 1596; and a Ruthenian Uniat Church was created, though the union was not quite complete till the dioceses of Lemberg and Lutzk, after a long and bitter struggle, submitted in 1700 and 1702. The union was largely the work of the Jesuit Order, and was especially due to Skarza, one of its most able members. The Uniat Church thus created recognizes the papal supremacy, though the Greek rite is retained, Old Slavonic remains the liturgical language, and the secular clergy are required to marry. This union affected the Ruthenes and the Little Russians under the Polish crown; and accordingly its influence extended for a time into the Grand Duchy of Lithuania, which by the Union of Lublin (1569) had been joined to Poland, but which subsequently became part of the Russian Empire. At the present day, however, this Uniat Church only survives among the Ruthenes of Austria-Hungary; in Russia it suffered severe persecution, especially under Catherine II and Nicholas I, and finally, in 1875, the Polish diocese of Choĭm (Chełm), the last stronghold of the Uniats, was incorporated in the Russian Orthodox Church.

The compromise which created the Uniat Church has always been disapproved by many Roman Catholics. Constant efforts have been made to whittle down at any rate the outward differences between the Greek and the Latin rituals. The Orthodox Church, on the other hand, never ceased to oppose the union; and one of the first acts of the victorious Russians during their temporary occupation of Galicia in the war, was the establishment there of Orthodox Churches wherever possible.[1]

[1] See the interesting judgement of Lord Macnaghten in the case of Zacklynski *v.* Polustrie. Law Reports, 1908: Appeal Cases, p. 65.

(3) Austrian Rule

By the First Partition of Poland (1772) the ancient kingdoms of Halicz and Lodomeria fell to the share of Austria; and in 1776 the Bukovina, which adjoins Halicz, was ceded to Austria by Turkey, and with it a large population of Ruthenes, who inhabited one corner of that province, and were adherents of the Orthodox Church. Thus, by 1776, all the Ruthenes of Halicz, Lodomeria, the Bukovina, and northern Hungary were under the Habsburg rule.

For the Ruthenes the change of rulers was a great gain. Joseph II showed no hostility to them; on the contrary, he encouraged their language. A Ruthenian Institute was created by him at Lemberg in 1787 for training the Ruthenian Uniat clergy, and continued to exist till 1804. The transfer from Poland to Austria not only saved the Ruthenian Uniat Church from extinction, but enabled the people to develop its national consciousness under very favourable conditions. It became the settled policy of Austrian statesmen to encourage the Ruthenian movement, partly as a means of checking the Galician Poles, and later with the further object of creating a national nucleus to which they hoped in time to attract the Little Russian subjects of the Russian Empire.

The history of the Ruthenes of the Bukovina and Galicia in the nineteenth century will be found in the Handbooks (Nos. 5 and 53 of this series) which deal with those regions. The Hungarian Ruthenes can hardly be said in this period to have had a history.

III. SOCIAL AND POLITICAL CONDITIONS

(1) Religious

Practically all the Ruthenes of Hungary belong to the Uniat Church. National feeling, however, is possibly stronger than sectarian ; an instance is quoted in which a secession to the Orthodox Church was brought about by the Magyarizing tendencies of a Uniat parish priest.[1]

(2) Political

The Ruthenes did not form a separate element in the Hungarian State. The eight counties which they inhabit were assigned to two of the seven administrative areas into which Hungary, including Transylvania, was divided. Owing to the restricted franchise, they were, in common with the rest of the Hungarian proletariate, excluded from representation in the Hungarian Parliament and in local government.

(3) Educational

The Ruthenes are backward educationally, and the percentage of illiteracy is high.

According to the statistics of the year 1911–12, there were in all 61,742 Ruthene children receiving elementary instruction—45,189 in the ordinary day-schools, and 16,553 in continuation and 'wirtschaftlich' schools. Of this total 4,133 attended schools (61 in number) in which Ruthenian was the language of instruction. Of these schools 57 had only one teacher. There were no secondary schools in which Ruthenian was the language of instruction.

[1] R. W. Seton-Watson, *Racial Problems in Hungary*, p. 322.

The number of Ruthene pupils in the higher elementary schools was only 96, and in the commercial and technical schools there were none.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS

Popular Opinion and National Sentiment

As regards the Ruthenes of Galicia, it has been noted in dealing with their political history that the interaction of racial and religious influences, the development of the Ukraine movement, and the encouragement given to that movement by both Austria and Russia from different motives, have all had their effect in shaping Ruthenian national sentiment.

The position of the Ruthenes in the Bukovina has been treated elsewhere (Handbook, No. 5). The Hungarian Ruthenes are perhaps the most backward ; they are for the most part very poor, living in log cabins without chimneys, and are inclined, it is said, to drink to excess. Changes of land tenure introduced on the liberation of the serfs in 1848, by which cash payment was substituted for payment in kind, and common pastures and forest lands became the private property of the landlords, partly account for their impoverishment. Their geographical position makes it difficult to suggest any way in which they could be politically united with the Ruthenes of Galicia, since the Carpathians form a very serious natural obstacle to such a combination.

IV. ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

(A) MEANS OF COMMUNICATION

(a) *Roads*

As 90 per cent. of the population of Ruthenia depends on agriculture for a livelihood, and other industries are accordingly little developed, the demands on road and rail transport are not great. The main road system is simple, being constituted by the highway from Kassa (Kaschau), in the county of Abauj-Torna, to Máramaros-Sziget, the chief town in Ruthenia, with its branches east and west. This road, which is scheduled as first-class, passes through Ungvár in the county of Ung to Munkács in the Ruthenian county of Bereg, where it turns south to Beregszász and follows the valley of the Tisza through Nagy-Szöllös, the chief place in Ugocsa, and Huszt in Máramaros, to Máramaros-Sziget. From Munkács a road leads north-eastwards by the valley of the Latorcza and the Vereczke Pass into Galicia, while a second-class road goes westwards through Csap. From Huszt a second-class road follows the valley of the Nagy-Ag through Okörmezö and crosses into Galicia. There is a more direct route from Munkács to Máramaros-Sziget, which crosses the higher land on the eastern fringe of the Ugocsa plain and joins the main road above Huszt. About half-way there is a connexion with Beregszász, which continues westwards from that town to the bank of the Tisza. From Máramaros-Sziget a good road, continuing the highway from Kassa, runs by the Tisza, through Nagy-Bocskó and Körösmezö, to enter Galicia through the Delatyn or Jablonica Pass. The total length of this State road, from Kassa to Jablonica in Galicia, is 373·90 km., of which there are in Bereg 62·72 km., in Ugocsa 35·07 km., and in Mára-

maros 151·83 km. The Bukovina is reached by the road from Máramaros-Sziget to Kirlibaba, 107·70 km. long, which passes through Felsö-Visó and Borsa. Another road, 62 km. in length, goes south-west from Máramaros-Sziget to Nagy-Bánya.

There are in all 4,714 km. of roads ; of these 640 km. are State roads, 875 km. municipal, 997 km. communal, and 14 km. in connection with railways. The remaining 2,188 km. are simply the ordinary communal paths and tracks. There are, on an average, 17 km. of road (State, municipal, or communal) to 100 sq. km., and 36·6 km. to 10,000 inhabitants. The corresponding figures for Hungary as a whole are 29·4 km. and 45 km., and for Transylvania 24·1 km. and 50·9 km.

(*b*) *Rivers*

The Tisza flows through or skirts Ruthenian territory for 253 km. (about 150 miles) and is navigable by barges and rafts for 193 km., by river steamers for 70 km. It becomes navigable for barges and rafts at Nagy-Bocskó, about 20 miles west of the Galician frontier, and for river steamers at Tisza-Ujlak, remaining navigable for the heavier craft until it joins the Danube. The distance to the Danube from Nagy-Bocskó is officially returned as 884 km., and from Tisza-Ujlak as 760·9 km. There are various small tributaries of no particular value as waterways.

(*c*) *Railways*

In 1913 the total length of the railways in Ruthenia was 588·8 km., an average of 4 km. of line to 100 sq. km. and 8·6 km. to 10,000 inhabitants. The proportions for Hungary as a whole were 6·6 km. and 10·1 km. respectively. In 1912, when the railways in Ruthenia totalled 529 km., the State owned 355·2 km., and worked 24·4 km., part of the Máramaros-Sziget lines to salt-works, on behalf of private companies ; the remainder, including the narrow-gauge salt-works lines, were owned and operated by private companies. The lines are all normally of single track.

Two railway lines enter Ruthenia from the west, joining at Királyháza, and two cross the Carpathians from Ruthenia into Galicia, ascending respectively the valleys of the Latorcza and the Tisza.

The northern line from the west leaves the Budapest–Lemberg railway at Sátoralja-Ujhely and enters Ruthenia about 10 km. east of the junction at Csap. At Bátyú it divides. One branch goes to Munkács (26 km.), thereafter continuing, by the Latorcza valley, through Szolyva and Volócz, and across the Carpathians to Lawoczne and Stryj in Galicia. The other branch from Bátyú crosses the marshy levels of the river Szernye, a tributary of the Latorcza, to Beregszász and to Tisza-Ujlak on the Tisza, whence it runs through Nagy-Szöllös to Királyháza, to join the other line from the west. At Beregszász a narrow-gauge line goes by the River Borsava to Dolha and Kovácsrét, having a branch from Komlóskiterö to Nagy-Szöllös.

The second line from the west affords communication between Budapest and Ruthenia via Szolnok and Debreczen. After the junction at Királyháza, the main line runs near the Tisza, through Huszt and Taraczköz, to Máramaros-Sziget. From Taraczköz a narrow-gauge line goes to Kobilaerdö. From Máramaros-Sziget a short branch runs northward to Aknaszlatina (7 km.), and narrow-gauge lines go southward to the salt districts at Aknasugatag (23 km.) and Rónaszék (22 km.). The main line continues from Máramaros-Sziget up the valley of the Tisza to Visóvölgy and Körösmezö, where it meets a Galician line. From Nagy-Bocskó a branch runs to Kis-Bocskó and the chalybeate baths of Kabolapolyana; and at Visóvölgy there is a branch southwards to Borsa, which is on the high road to Kirlibaba in the Bukovina.

(*d*) *Posts, Telegraphs, and Telephones*

There were in 1912, 108 post-offices, 85 telegraph offices, and 672 telephone stations. These figures represent about 17 post-offices, 14 telegraph offices, and

100 telephone stations to 100,000 inhabitants, as compared with 21, 23, and 356 respectively for Hungary as a whole. As the population of Ruthenia is almost wholly agricultural, its needs are probably well served.

(B) INDUSTRY

(1) Labour: Emigration and Immigration

Economically the Ruthene is hampered by generations of want and illiteracy. He is conservative in his customs and poverty-stricken, while three persons out of four above the age of six are illiterate. Nevertheless, when removed to such a country as Canada, the Ruthene becomes a successful farmer. Males and females are almost equal in number in the Ruthenian rural communities; and there is a high proportion, namely 53 per cent., of adults of the working ages between 15 and 60. The Germans in the country, as in other parts of Hungary, are characterized by careful husbandry and great economic capacity.

The rate of emigration is high, as it generally is in the eastern districts of Hungary. In the decade before the war it averaged 3,000 a year; in 1913 the number of emigrants was 4,295, almost equally divided between men and women, and equivalent to more than 6 per 1,000 of the whole population. This rate, however, was greatly exceeded in the county of Ugocsa, which contributed 1,527 emigrants, or 16·1 per thousand of its inhabitants. Bereg, a larger county, supplied 1,847, but this figure represented only 7·6 per thousand of its population. The emigrants from Máramaros, the largest and most prosperous county, numbered only 921, or 2·5 per thousand. Of the races represented among the emigrants, the Magyars, of whom there were 2,231, were the most numerous, while the Ruthenes came next with 1,364. There were 391 Germans, 286 Rumanians, and a few of other stocks. About 96 per cent. of the emigrants went to America. The returning emigrants in the same year

numbered only 449, 185 going to Bereg, 170 to Máramaros, and 94 to Ugocsa; all came from America. Of immigrants proper there were 101, almost entirely from Austrian territories and including 52 Poles.

(2) Agriculture

(a) *Products of Commercial Value*

Eastern Ruthenia rises to the Carpathians, where, in narrow valleys with torrential streams and steep heavily-wooded sides, the native wrings a scanty subsistence from tiny patches of ground. On the level uplands are Alpine meadows with a scanty soil. Western Bereg and Ugocsa fringe the Alföld, whose typical *loess* and alluvial soil characterize these districts. On the whole, the productiveness of Ruthenian land is poor, the average yield of cereals per hectare being only from one-half to two-thirds of the corresponding average for Hungary as a whole. Of the three Ruthenian counties, Máramaros has the largest production of cereals per hectare, a distinction partly due to the fact that it has shown the most favour to modern appliances and methods of cultivation, the Ruthenian peasant being in general very conservative in his methods of agriculture.

In Ruthenia, as usually in Hungary, particularly in the eastern portion, *maize* is the leading crop. Ugocsa, however, produces a slight excess of both *wheat* and *oats*, the yield of that small county in 1913 being 53,057 quintals of maize to 55,088 of wheat and 53,681 of oats. Máramaros in the same year raised 242,056 quintals of maize, only 14,133 of wheat, and 180,046 of oats, little more than 5 per cent. of the cultivated surface of that county being under wheat, as compared with 45 per cent. under maize. Bereg produced 124,328 quintals of maize, 104,513 of wheat, and 123,780 of oats. These are the chief cereal crops, *rye* and *barley* coming next in order; the Hungarian peasant generally has no affection for rye, and the

relative production of Ruthenia is less than that of the neighbouring district of Transylvania. The figures of 1913 for all these crops in the three counties, with the production per hectare, and similar details for Hungary as a whole, are given in the following tables :

TABLE I.—PRODUCTION OF CEREALS (IN QUINTALS)

County.	*Maize.*	*Wheat.*	*Oats.*	*Rye.*	*Barley.*
Bereg . . .	124,328	104,513	123,780	50,444	20,851
Máramaros . .	242,056	14,133	180,046	18,140	14,289
Ugocsa . . .	53,057	55,088	53,681	23,292	4,937
Total for Ruthenia	419,441	173,734	357,507	91,876	40,077
Total for Hungary .	53,603,084	45,545,384	15,440,041	14,222,487	18,059,678

TABLE II.—PRODUCTION IN QUINTALS PER HECTARE

County.	*Maize.*	*Wheat.*	*Oats.*	*Rye.*	*Barley.*
Bereg	7·5	8·1	7·4	8·4	8·8
Máramaros . . .	9·1	8·4	9·5	10·0	9·6
Ugocsa . . .	5·0	7·1	7·8	8·1	8·4
Average for Ruthenia .	7·2	7·8	8·2	8·8	8·9
Average for Hungary .	18·4	13·2	12·1	12·2	14·7

Of *potatoes* and *beetroot* the production is in no way remarkable. Máramaros, indeed, grows no beetroot, and Ugocsa but little. The 1913 figures are as follows :

TABLE III

	Total production in quintals.		*Production in quintals per hectare.*	
County.	*Potatoes.*	*Beetroot.*	*Potatoes.*	*Beetroot.*
Bereg . . .	546,505	13,250	50·0	125·1
Máramaros . .	566,640	—	36·7	—
Ugocsa . . .	49,760	1,260	31·3	121·6
Total and average for Ruthenia .	1,162,905	14,510	39·3	123·3
Total and average for Hungary .	54,506,086	48,650,428	78·9	267·2

There is a small production of *wine*, of which the quality is exceptionally high. The Ruthenian vineyards cover 3,217 hectares, and in 1913 yielded 26,428 hectolitres of wine, valued at 9,445,000 kr. This represented 0·59 per cent. of the total production of Hungary, and 6·1 per cent. of its total value.

As in other parts of Hungary, the production of *tobacco* has declined. While the number of cultivators, 107, remained the same in 1913 as in 1909, and the area planted increased from 1,375 hectares to 1,412, the quantity produced fell from 15,473 quintals to 5,728 quintals, and its value from 642,150 kr. to 267,044 kr. In 1909 the Ruthenian crop represented 2·4 per cent. of the quantity of the Hungarian crop and 2·3 per cent. of the value. The percentages for 1913 were respectively 2·4 and 1·3 per cent. There is a tobacco factory at Munkács, which in 1912 employed 837 workers, 722 of whom were women.

The *honey* produced in 1912 amounted to 1,249 quintals, and the *wax* to 142 quintals, the value of these products being 153,300 kr.

According to the last census, the following *animals* belonged to Ruthenia in 1911:

Horned cattle	256,044	Sheep	241,169
Horses	42,793	Goats	26,621
Donkeys	150	Pigs	88,706
Mules	14		

These figures show little variation from those given in the previous return (1895).

(*b*) *Forestry*

As Ruthenia contains part of the Carpathians, there is a fair amount of land under forest, viz. 698,740 hectares, or 7·6 per cent. of the forest land of all Hungary. Of this, 520,123 hectares are under scientific State control. Oaks cover 65,039 hectares and resinous trees 219,078 hectares, other trees being all grouped under the head of 'beech' in the official statistics. The contributions of Ruthenia to the total Hungarian production of oak and resinous timber are respectively 2·8 per cent. and 11·2 per cent. Máramaros, as might be expected from its position on the slopes of the Carpathians, is the most heavily-wooded county, 54 per cent. of its surface being under forest, while it

comes second among the counties of Hungary in respect of the area under resinous trees. In Bereg the forests consist mostly of oak and 'beech'.

(3) Minerals

The mineral output of Ruthenia is not great, and comes mainly from Máramaros. There are gold and silver mines of minor importance in that county at Budfalu, Tótos-Zseramp, and Borsbánya, and with the gold and silver are associated ores of copper, lead, antimony, and zinc. The Máramaros Metal-Mining Co. (*Máramarosi Fémbányatársulat*) in Tótosbánya had in 1913 the following output from their workings at Budfalu:

	Ore in quintals.	*Value in kronen.*
Lead . . .	195·20	2972·16
Zinc . . .	468·78	2133·22
Copper . .	130·50	723·36
	Grammes.	
Silver . . .	4255·00	404·23
Gold . . .	48·00	157·48

Iron ore occurs in the western part of Ruthenia in adjoining portions of the three counties. At Bilke and Szajkófatu in Bereg, and at Kisrakócz in Ugocsa, are the mines of the Dolha-Rókamezö Co., which has iron-works at Dolha, and a forge at Rókamezö, where it treats 25,000 quintals of iron ore yearly. The same company leases the iron mines at Tökés, Iloncza, Nagyábránka, and Szalkófalva, and has iron-works at Hátmeg. The furnace at Hátmeg, with charcoal fuel, used to provide 8,000 quintals of pig-iron yearly. There is an iron and manganese mine at Felsö-Visó in Máramaros, with an annual production of 210 quintals of manganese and iron ore. Aluminium is worked at Beregszász. Pit-coal of excellent quality occurs at many places in Máramaros, but nowhere, apparently, in seams thick enough to repay working. Lignite is mined on a small scale at Iloncza in Bereg. Good lignite is also found in the hilly part of Ugocsa.

There is a trivial output of petroleum at Körösmezö, in Máramaros. Oil and bitumen deposits also occur in the same county at Izaszacsal, Szelistye, and Dragomérfalva, and are worked by the Magyar Kárpáti Petroleum Joint-Stock Co. At many places in the hill district of Ugocsa china-clay is found, as well as grey and red clay excellently suited for earthenware.

By far the most important mineral of Ruthenia is salt. The beds form part of the enormous deposits that stretch from Transylvania into Galicia. Almost all the salt produced in Hungary comes from either Transylvania or Ruthenia. In 1912, for example, the output of Transylvania was 1,599,176 quintals, valued at 17,696,000 kr., that of Ruthenia 1,050,716 quintals, valued at 19,121,000 kr., and that of the rest of Hungary only 59,402 quintals, valued at 1,180,000 kr. In proportion to its size, Ruthenia is thus the greatest salt-producing district in Hungary, supplying nearly 39 per cent. of the total output and more than half its value. The salt-mines are all in the neighbourhood of Máramaros-Sziget, with which they are connected by rail (see p. 14). Aknaszlatina is the official head-quarters of the industry. The number of persons employed at the salt-works in 1912 was 1,261, of whom 966 were men and 295 boys. The salt-workers in Hungary, as a whole, numbered 2,850. The output of the different Ruthenian centres in 1912, with the value, is shown in the following table:

	Output in quintals.			*Value in kronen.*
	Rock-salt.	*Industrial Salt.*	*Total.*	
Aknaszlatina . .	385,067	155,744	540,811	10,427,000
Aknasugatag . .	215,152	42,138	257,290	4,246,000
Rónaszék . .	218,816	33,799	252,615	4,448,000
Totals . . .	819,035	231,681	1,050,716	19,121,000

In Hungary, salt-mining is exclusively conducted by the State, and the sale of salt is a State monopoly. The richness of the deposits is enormous, and for many years there has been a steady increase in output.

(4) Manufacture

As a manufacturing district, Ruthenia is of no particular importance.

Dolha is the seat of the management of the Dolha-Rókamezö Ironworks and Spade and Hoe Joint-Stock Co., which employs 236 workmen. There are some works which manufacture pottery and glass in the towns of Máramaros-Sziget, Beregszász, and Munkács.

(C) COMMERCE

Towns

The principal towns are Máramaros-Sziget (population, 21,370) and Munkács (population, 17,275), the latter being in the county of Bereg. Máramaros-Sziget among its industries possesses two big saw-mills, a factory for bent wood, and a straw-hat factory. The chief articles of trade are salt, wood, and leather, while the trade in cattle is considerable.

(D) FINANCE

Banking

In the three counties there are altogether 231 banks and credit institutions of various kinds, 79 being banks proper, savings-banks, and land banks, while 152 are mutual credit associations. The Austro-Hungarian Bank has branches at Munkács and Máramaros-Sziget, with one sub-office to each.

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MAPS

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