ETHNOGRAPHICAL MAP OF HUNGARY BASED ON THE DENSITY OF POPULATION

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1956
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The rapid growth of towns since the middle of the last century makes a reform of ethnographical maps more and more urgent. For while in less civilized countries the population is distributed more or less equally over the whole land such is not the case where towns with millions of inhabitants are situated quite close to scarcely inhabited and even barren regions. In consequence of this an ethnographical map of such regions must inevitably indicate the density of population.

The difficulties in constructing such a map are quite considerable.

Nearly all the ethnographical maps hitherto known absolutely disregard this point of view. And therefore they convey a quite a wrong impression to the general reader.

A glance at the following data can prove this statement. On the ethnographical map of Europe in Andrees Atlas if enlarged to 1:1,000,000, the 7,058,476 Wallones and Vlames of Belgium (including 365,308 others) would be represented by 46.8 square inches, whereas the 17,910,000 Poles of Russian Poland, Galicia and Prussia would attract
the attention by covering 250 square inches and 2,336,798 Norseman by covering 362.95 square inches.

In a country were the towns are inhabited by other nationalities then the surrounding country, these differences augment to the detriment of the higher civilised and leading element of the country.

Such being the case in Hungary, the drawing of its ethnographical map required a new method of construction. The problem to belt dealt with, was two i fold; one was how to distinguish the more or less or perfectly uninhabited regions, the other how to bring out properly the centers of population.

The solution of the former problem, wich is rather easy, has already more or less successfully been tackled. The maps of Langhans (Gotha) and Bátky (Budapest) can be quoted as exemples.

Considering that in Hungary scarce any settlement is to be found 2500 feet (800 meters) above the sea, Bátky covered in his map of Hungary only the regions below this line with ethnographical colours. Langhans in one of his maps of Roumanina did very much te same, however in a much more careless manner. As a forerunner of both we can perhaps also consider Prof. Cvijic's map of the Balkans, for in this one curiously enough the delta of the Danube is left uncovered by paint, while the highest peaks of the Carpathians are indicated as inhabited by Roumenians.


2 Petermanns Mitteilungen. 1915. Plate XXXV.

3 Petermanns Mitteilungen, 1913. Plate XXII.
Map A shows the population of Budapest in natural density viz. 4536 on every square kilometer. Map B shows one of the denser populated parts of SEa. Hungary, the condensation of population being driven so far as to correspond to the density of the capital itself. Map C shows the population condensed only to 100 inh. on a square kilometers on exactly the same territory. This map is an outcut of the big one.
In a second map of Roumania and especially in his map of the Baltic provinces Prof. Langhans indicates besides the majorities also the minorities of population by using masses of triangles, circles and quadrangles, his trial of accuracy however troubles but the reader.

To combine clearness and accuracy another method had to be sought for, then the method of these authors.

Considering that outside of the greater towns of Hungary the density of population is nearly nowhere greater than 100 inhabitants, on the quadratic kilometer (= 0.386 square mile), but in average 58.9, in each county district only so many square kilometers were coloured as "hundreds" of inhabitants are living in the county. This process condenses the population of a district to one hundred on every square kilometer in its densest settled zone.

It has to be emphasised that in countries were the density is greater than in Hungary another key as to be chosen for the condensation of population.

Since on a map drawn by this method even the dependence of the settlements from topography is easily detected the method must be correct. A glance on the mountainous parts of our map is apt to prove the statement.

To deal with the population of the towns in the same way as with that of the county districts was quite a plain idea, a difficulty however arises when choosing a key. The use of two keys on one map gives yet always a wrong idea and all the more if the difference between the two keys is very strongly marked. When, as in the case of Hungary Buda-
pest shows a density of 4538, inhabitants on the square kilometer this key becomes impossible for the rural districts. Figures A, B, C show what would become of the ethnographical map of a rural district if its population would be condensed to about 4000—5000 souls on the square kilometer.

This makes it impossible to use the town key for an ethnographical map of Hungary and therefore also for the towns the rural key had to be used.

This raises now the question, what has to be done with the town population. By using a key corresponding to a minor density then that actually in town, the town population spreads naturally over a space greater then the township itselfs. By spreading it covers the blank spaces brought about by the condensation of the rural population.

Of course this spreading has often to be marked somehow on the map and therefore it seems frequently convenient to mark the town-population by geometrical figures.

Similar figures have been used when separating the different nationalities inhabiting a plain.

The method used and described here may underly in future to a series of corrections in detail, but its principle is the only one wich can lead us to get a clear and juste picture of the distribution of different ethnical element of a civilised country.

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