

# **THE JUSTICE OF RUMANIA'S CAUSE**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649252077

The Justice of Rumania's Cause by A. W. A. Leeper

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.  
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

[www.triestepublishing.com](http://www.triestepublishing.com)

**A. W. A. LEEPER**

**THE JUSTICE OF  
RUMANIA'S CAUSE**



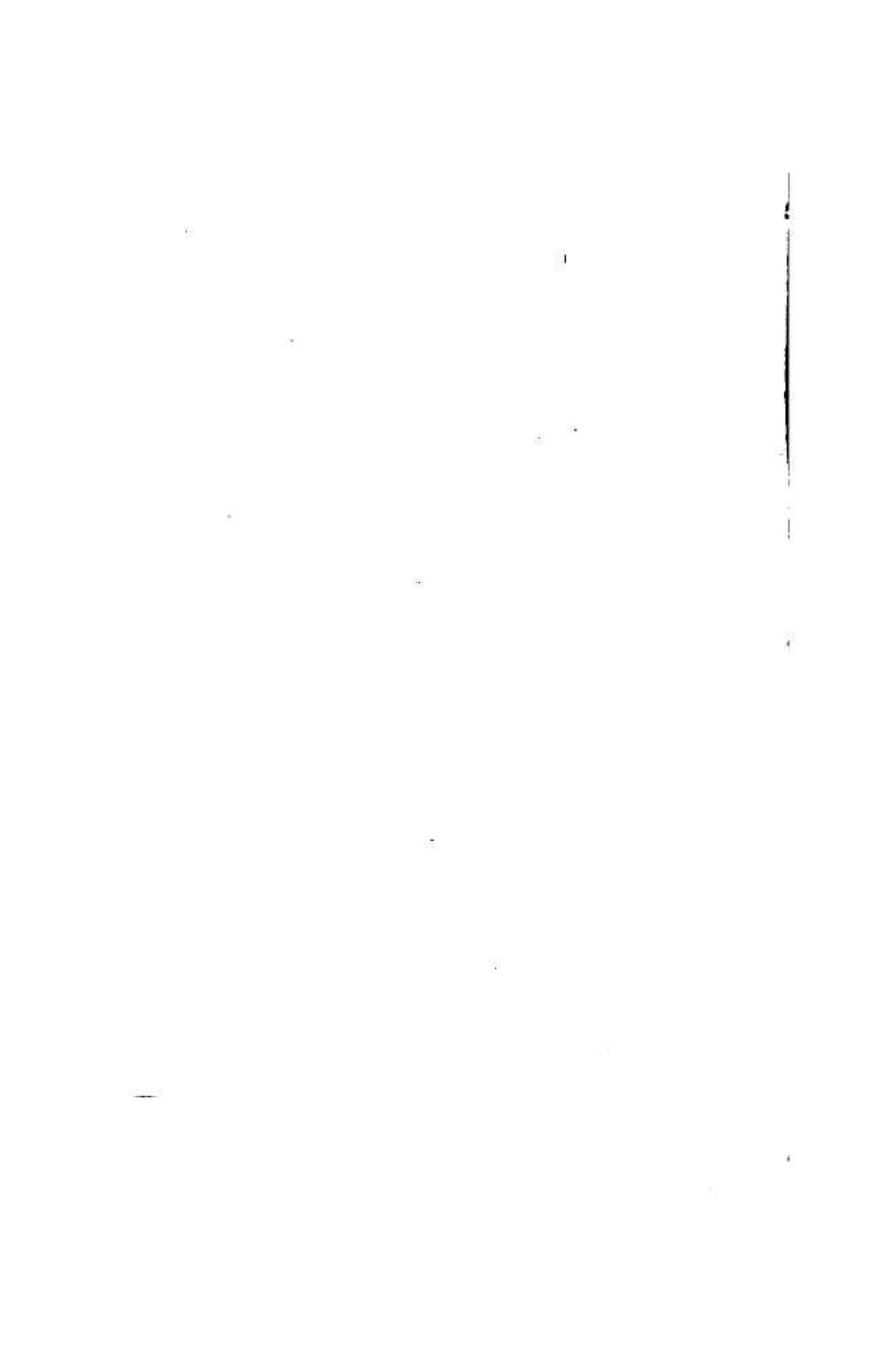
x THE JUSTICE OF RUMANIA'S CAUSE c<sup>o</sup>

BY  
A. W. A. LEEPER

NEW YORK  
GEORGE H. DORAN COMPANY  
PUBLISHERS IN AMERICA FOR HODDER & STOUGHTON  
MCMXVII

## CONTENTS

	PAGE
THE HISTORICAL RIGHTS AND WRONGS OF THE RUMANIAN RACE . . . . .	3
RUMANIA AND THE CAUSE OF DEMOCRACY AND FREEDOM . . . . .	15
RUMANIA'S INTERNATIONAL POSITION . . . .	23



## THE JUSTICE OF RUMANIA'S CAUSE

**T**HE moral significance of Rumania's intervention in the great war has probably been understood less fully than any other important event which has taken place since August 1914. Even among Rumania's allies, welcome as Rumania's help was to them, and well disposed as they were to give her their help in return, there was lacking adequate knowledge of the vital issues for democracy and freedom at stake in Rumanian lands. Among countries then neutral there was probably even less understanding of the questions at issue. For instance, in one of the foremost papers of the Anglo-Saxon world we find the following passage:—

“In at least two minor respects they [the terms enunciated in the Allies' Note to President Wilson] are wholly immoral, in that they contemplate the seizure of territory that never belonged to Italy or Roumania in order to pay the bribes that these two eminently sordid



## 2 The Justice of Rumania's Cause

Governments exacted as their price for entering the war."

*(New York World, Jan. 12.)*

"Wholly immoral"; "never belonged to Rumania"; "these eminently sordid Governments"; "their price for entering the war"—let us analyse shortly the justice of these remarks in the light of the history of the Rumanian race, of Rumania's position to-day and of her future prospects.

## THE HISTORICAL RIGHTS AND WRONGS OF THE RUMANIAN RACE.

"What is "Rumania"? Who are the "Rumanians"? So many false and misleading statements have been made by partisan writers about the origins and constitution of the Rumanian race, so often a purely arbitrary and restricted meaning is given to the term "Rumania," that it is worth while to point out clearly the full and proper signification of the two names. Modern "Rumania" is a term of barely 70 years' usage. Formed by the union of the two principalities of Wallachia and Moldavia, in 1859, the kingdom of Rumania includes only a part of the Rumanian race. Over a million Rumans live in the old Moldavian, since 1812 Russian, province of Bessarabia. A quarter of a million inhabit Bukovina, which the Habsburg Empress seized in 1775. Small fragments of the race are to be found in N.E. Serbia, in S.W. Macedonia, and Thessaly. But by far the greater part of "unredeemed" Rumania is still governed by the Hungarian Crown. Hungarian official statistics (1910) give the number of Rumans in Hungary as 2,949,032. This is a minimum esti-

#### 4 The Justice of Rumania's Cause

mate. Hungarian census estimates are notoriously "touched up." Rumanian writers show good grounds for the belief that there are at least 3,935,120 Rumans in Hungary, and probably considerably more than 4,000,000. Moreover, these Rumans mostly live in a compact mass in contact with the Rumanian kingdom. According to the Hungarian census of 1910 more than five-sixths of the Rumanian population of Hungary lived either in Transilvania—of the 15 Transilvanian counties, eight had a Rumanian majority of 64 to 89 per cent., four a substantial minority of from 35 to 48 per cent., while three (Udvarhely, Csík and Háromszék) were purely Szekler (Magyar)—or in the four adjoining counties of Krassó-Szörény (72·1 per cent.), Szilágy (59·1 per cent.), Arad (57·81 per cent.), and Temes (34 per cent.). Rumania "beyond the Carpathians" is, therefore, a compact country, geographically united with the kingdom.

Unable to deny, while they seek to minimise, the Rumanian majority in Transilvania and the adjoining counties, Hungarian and other anti-Rumanian controversial writers fall back on two main lines of argument:—(1) That the Rumans are intruders of much later date than the Magyars. (2) That there is no "irredentist" problem, and that the non-Magyar nationalities have no reason or wish to be separated from Hungary.