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Transylvania magazine: standing order, historiographic and bibliologic content (1868-1919)

[Summary]

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SUMMARY

In the framework of the new scientific preoccupations appeared recently, the written press history grew more and more in importance. According to this current, we are trying to provide a contribution by analyzing the evolution of *Transylvania* magazine between 1868 and 1919. We are focusing on this period because it represents the first major phase of the magazine history which, in turn, divides into many parts.

The magazine of the Association, whose editing was stipulated by the statutes adopted in 1861, came to life only in 1868 after animated discussions between the leaders of the "Transylvanian Association for the Romanian literature and the Romanian people culture". George Bariţiu, who announced his resignation from the position of first secretary many times – position which had responsibilities in editing the magazine – will be in the end its first editor.

Transylvania magazine benefited from a special attention from the Romanian historians, especially from the ones who studied the "Transylvanian Association for the Romanian literature and the Romanian people culture". The magazine was the press instrument of the Association and that is why it represents an essential source for the researchers who study the history of the most long lasting cultural society of the Romanians from Transylvania, as well as for the researchers focused on the culture history.

The periodic newspaper of Astra benefited from an extended appreciation from the Romanian historiography. Some historians considered that it did not succeed to overcome the status of the official instrument of the mother society. That is why in its first number, no program article was published, as it used to. There is also the opinion that *Transylvania* was rather

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¹ Bucur Țincu, "Transylvania (1868-1900)", in Ovidiu Papadima, *Literary Romanian Magazines from the last decades of the 19th century*, București, Publishing House of the Socialist Republic Romania Academy, 1974, p. 24.

an encyclopedic academic magazine than an instrument of the written press of a cultural society.²

In the **Introduction** of the thesis I presented the manner of analysis and approach of the research as well as the most important sources I studied in achieving it (**Short historiographical analysis**).

1. Phases and moments in the evolution of Transylvania magazine (1868-1919). After a general presentation of its role in the written press of the studied period, we tried to analyze the way in which Transylvania was catalogued. It was considered an important magazine only transiently and it was rarely studied by the researchers who studied the history of the written press. That is why it is rather difficult to place it in the area of the Romanian magazines (The place of Transylvania in the Romanian written press). Then I analyzed in the Preliminaries of Transylvania magazine issue the period between 1861-1868 in which there were vivid discussions regarding the issue of the magazine and especially about the place where it should be published. In order to have fluency of the text and of the analyses submitted, I considered that the best way is to have a presentation according to editors had. In The George Baritiu phase I outlined the evolution of the magazine from the period in which it was edited in Brasov (The evolution of the magazine during Braşov period). Then it is the period when the magazine moved its headquarter to Sibiu, when at the beginning it was still run by George Baritiu (The evolution of the magazine during Sibiu period). The Ioan Popescu phase (1890-1891) captures the evolution of the magazine during the second editor from the periodic history. The transition from the founder editor to the new editor was not easy and it was one of the reasons Ioan Popescu gave up the magazine leadership. In **The Zaharia Boiu Phase** (1892-1895) I analyzed the last period in which the magazine was influenced by its first editor, who was then the president of the Association. Once Zaharia Boiu was replaced from the position of editor of Transylvania, the first and most important

² Ovidiu Papadima, "End of the century and its contradictions", in *Ibidem*, p. 10-11; Alexandru Nicolaescu, "The Editorial Specific and the place of *Transylvania* in Romanian mass media (1868-1919)", in *Studia Universitatis Cibiniensis*. *Series Historica*, volume XI, 2014, p. 89-101.

chapter in its history ended. This chapter was characterized by the influence of the one who was surnamed "the parent of the written press from Transylvania". The Corneliu Diaconovici phase (1896-1906) meant a new orientation and a new format of the Association magazine which continued with The Oct. C. Tăslăuanu phase (1907-1914) and The Andrei Bârseanu phase (1915-1919). During these analyses, I studied the way in which the magazine was issued: twice a month, monthly or once in two months; the financial hardships which made that the magazine be suspended (in 1879 and 1880); the character each editor imprinted, fact that was noticed every time the leadership was changed; the area in which it was spread; the number of sold subscriptions; the circulation of the magazine as well as the discussions regarding its reorganization. We did not eluded either the modifications appeared inside and outside of the magazine format nor its transformations from the conceptual point of view. To support the analysis of the last two problems, we also presented the discussions occurred within the Association. We did not want in this research to analyze all the articles published in the magazine because they were taken care of by researchers who analyzed Transylvania.

During the editing of Oct. C. Tăslăuanu, the magazine appeared for a short period of time as Annals (The period between 1907-1908, when the magazine was named Transylvania. The Annals of the Association for Romanian literature and the Romanian people culture). This owed to the fact that it was supported as official instrument for the peasantry of the periodic newspaper Our Country, edited by Octavian Goga. Also, in the phase mentioned before we presented Debates regarding the reissue of Transylvania, which generated vivid debates between the decision makers of the Association. Also, in the period in which it was run by Oct. C. Tăslăuanu it turned back to the format that made it famous - the format that published besides official documents of the longest cultural society of the Romanians from Transylvania studies and scientific articles (The period 1909-1914, coming back to the old way of issue). The period between 1909-1919 was one of restoring and reinventing because during all this time there were discussions regarding the way of issue and format. At the beginning it was issued once in two months and from 1914 monthly, but when the war started

this could not be materialized and continued. After 1915 it was rarely issued and in the last years of the conflict it had only an annual issue (**Discussions regarding the reorganization of the magazine**). As conclusions of this first chapter we chose to present a **Short analysis of the magazine character and its appreciations presented by historiography**, trying to conclude what was presented at the beginning of the chapter after the analysis of the magazine evolution between 1868-1919.

As we could notice, during the period 1868-1919 the magazine was run by 6 editors: George Baritiu, Ioan Popescu, Zaharia Boiu, Corneliu Diaconovici, Oct. C. Tăslăuanu and Andrei Bârseanu. George Barițiu runs the magazine during the two periods of its existence, distinct from the point of view of the places where it was issued: Brasov (1868-1878) and Sibiu (1881-1889). Ioan Popescu ran the magazine only for two years (1890-1891), but he left deep marks in its evolution because from the beginning he changed the editorial format. Zaharia Boiu was the editor of Transylvania only 4 years (1892-1895), being the adept of editorial continuity. That is why as long as he was the editor he did not modify the format and he introduced some permanent columns. Once the magazine was taken over by Corneliu Diaconovici (1896-1906), there started a new phase of its existence. The magazine changed its format as well as the manner of issue. In the second part of the year 1906, after the resignation of C. Diaconovici, it is most likely that the magazine was ran by Oct. C. Tăslăuanu although there was not identified any such decision. But the format and the content of periodic indicate this fact. As we have seen, Oct. C. Tăslăuanu (1907-1914) ran the magazine in two phases: in the period when there appeared the Association Annals (1907-1908) and when it was issued again under the format before the year 1907. Although some researchers came with the idea that O. Goga would have edited the magazine for a short period in collaboration with Oct. C. Tăslăuanu, we did not find such information. Moreover, the frontispiece of the magazine did not indicate as editor O. Goga but only Oct. C. Tăslăuanu. The information that supported the affirmation that O. Goga would have run the magazine come from the letters of O. Goga to A. Bârseanu, published in *Transylvania* in the first part of the year 1909. We believe that the first one gave some indications regarding the issue of the

magazine, although only Oct. C. Tăslăuanu was considered editor. Andrei Bârseanu (1915-1919) started to run the magazine in a pretty difficult period and he was also the president of the *Association* in the same time. As his predecessor, A. Bârseanu took over the publishing office in the middle of 1914 after the resignation of Oct. C. Tăslăuanu. It must be mentioned that besides A. Bârseanu all the editors from the period 1868-1919 also ran other newspapers before the *Transylvania* magazine and as a consequence they had some journalistic experience.

Every time the editors and the purposes of the *Association* were changed, the magazine changed its purposes, too. This proves the fact that it remained in close interdependence, first of all toward the *Association* and then toward the person who ran it.

The magazine of the *Association* has a sinuous evolution regarding the number of subscriptions. According to the editorial policy, in Braşov period there was promoted the idea of paid subscriptions which varied between 250 and 300. After moving *Transylvania* to Sibiu, The *Association* decided to send it for free to all the members who paid the taxes on a regular basis. The result of the decision was that the free subscriptions became more and more numerous due to the growth of the members' number and in 1895 the magazine was sent to the members, in more than 1000 exemplars.

In the same rhythm with the growth of the number of the subscription sent (for free or paid), the number of copies of the magazine also grew. If in Braşov period the first edition of the year was edited in 750 copies and the rest in 500 copies, in Sibiu period the number of copies grew progressively with the number of members of the *Association* so as in 1895 it reached a number of 1200 exemplars per edition. Starting with the second year, at the beginning of each edition there was presented content with all the articles from that year. The content was applied at the end of the year, when all the published exemplars were sewed. After 1900 it was not presented anymore as until then, a sort of statistic with the number of exemplars distributed, but we can remark that the way of sending the magazine to the members of the *Association* remained active and the number of exemplars distributed grew according to the number of the members. In 1919 there were 2168 exemplars which meant that

the magazine started from 500 exemplars in 1868 and reached over 2000 in 1919. Even if it circulated in a pretty small number of exemplars, its impact on public was great because it was sent to the librarians of the *Association* and thus it could be read by an important number of readers. Also, it was distributed within the illiterate schools and at different cultural and literary reunions.

The expenses for editing *Transylvania* magazine were a real problem for the *Association* in the first years (in Brasov period) because it did not have a generous budget to afford to lose important amounts of money (about 1000 fl. per year). The casualties lead to the magazine's ceasing between 1879 and 1880. In the last quarter of the 19th century and in the first half of the next century, the *Association* benefited from a much bigger budget than in the previous period and this allowed it to spend more money to edit *Transylvania*. There were sums of money much bigger than in the Braşov period.

The way in which the Association press instrument appeared must be accentuated, too. In the first month of the year 1868, the magazine appeared 3 times and in the following months only two times on 1st and 15th of each month. In the inaugural year, the magazine had 624 pages and the format was with only one column of information per page. From 1869 until 1878, with little exceptions (in 1874, in September there appeared a double number and in December only one number; in 1876 – in October appeared a double number), the magazine appeared twice a month in 1st and 15th of each month. In this period the information was shown in two columns per page. Once the magazine appeared in Sibiu, its periodicity modified, too. In the period in which Transylvania was edited in Sibiu by George Barițiu, it appeared in a double number monthly published between 1st and 15th of each month. The editorial format remained on two columns. After it was taken over by Ioan Popescu it changed its image and the way in which it appeared. First of all, the magazine will appear with covers for each exemplar – until then the magazine appeared with covers only at the end of the year when all the published exemplars were bind. From 1890 until 1895 the magazine appeared once a month on 15th and the information was printed on one column. As a consequence, after the taking over of the magazine by Zaharia Boiu,

Transylvania did not go through a reconfiguration process, at least at the editorial level. Z. Boiu introduced some permanent columns which individualizes the editorial period from the previous one. In C. Diaconovici period it appeared pretty irregularly, once a month or once in two months, but at the end of the year there was published a supplement which contained the official documents of the Association. From 1902 until 1906 it appeared in two sections such as: 6 exemplars were dedicated to the Annals which contained the official documents and 6 exemplars of Transylvania which contained different articles. In 1907 and 1908 there appeared only the Annals, as we stated before, and in 1908 they contained also different articles. In 1909 there was adopted the initial format with substance articles and the documents were presented in a shorter format at the end of each exemplar while an exemplar per year was reserved to the decisions of the General Assembly and the most important documents. It appeared in this way until 1913 – in this period there were issued 5 exemplars and in the rest of the years 6 exemplars annually. In 1914 there were issued 12 exemplars and in 1915, 1916 and 1917 two exemplars combined – the first one contained the numbers from 1 to 6 and the second one contained the numbers 7 to 12. In 1918 and 1919 there was issued only one exemplar (1-12).

The printer of *Transylvania* was made between 1868 and 1878 by the Printing House Römer & Kamner from Braşov, and after moving to Sibiu by the Publishing House Arhidiecezană from the town.

Regarding the literary language used in editing *Transylvania*, topic that generated vivid disputes within the *Association*, we can identify two periods: 1. G. Bariţiu period, when the magazine was edited according to the linguistic opinions of the editor; and 2. Ioan Popescu-Andrei Bârseanu period, when the magazine was edited according to the orthographic rules adopted by the Romanian Academy.³

As a general conclusion we can affirm that *Transylvania* had a winding evolution between 1868 and 1919 due mainly to the financial problems that the

³ For more details on this matter see: Victor V. Grecu, *ASTRA: The Vocation of the Romanians perenniality*, București, Romanian Academy Publishing House, 2011, mainly on pages 76-137.

Association had. Even if it was not an important magazine⁴, widespread outside the members of the Transylvania cultural societies, it was its coagulating factor and as it was hoped for, an excellent informing bulletin about the documents and decisions adopted. Also it was an excellent area for scientific debate.

Analyzing the evolution of *Transylvania* magazine we considered necessary to study the historiographical approaches it had along its apparition especially because in the Romanian historiography there is a huge debate on this matter (2. Historiographical horizon formed by *Transylvania* magazine). Studying the historiographical topics and the tendencies was and still is too, one of the most spread preoccupations of the historians but also one of the most difficult issues to be approached.

Although *Transylvania* magazine benefited from a special attention from the Romanian historians, there are not many special studies regarding the analysis of the historical articles published. Thus, in the second part of our research we focused on studying and presenting the articles containing historical topics. We did not want the historiographical analysis of each article regarding the author, current, way of approach and the specific of the period when it was written. We only wanted to arrive to a general conclusion after a short presentation of the articles published. Wishing to keep a logical line of the presentation and the fluency of reading, we chose to describe concisely the studies we consider less important, in the foot notes. Thus, this chapter can be read on two levels, one being represented by the main plan and the other by the foot notes. Using this method, we consider that our work can be used also as bibliographical resource, helping the researchers who study different historical topics.

Tackling a historiography topic, we considered necessary a short presentation of the historiographical concepts evolution from the second half of the 19th century. We did the analysis in the **Short overview on the historical**

⁴ In the works about the literary mas media *Transylvania* is not approached and this makes us believe that it was not a literary magazine. We credit this conclusion basing on the fact that the competent researchers "forget" it or considered that characteristic for literature because it did not create a system/current and it did not published important names in the area.

concept from the second half of the 19th century, where we referred to the Romanian historiography in general, but also to the one from Transylvania. Here we also presented the historical conception of G. Bariţiu and of the other editors, but also of the other Transylvanian historians who collaborated with Transylvania. In The Historiographical purposes of the Association, we presented the way in which the Association and its magazine understood to approach and make popular the historical writings in the period 1861 and 1919 helped by the instruments created in this purpose: the historical section and Transylvania magazine (Historical section and Transylvania magazine). Because in the Romanian historiography there is a vivid debate about the character that the magazine had, we choose to present shortly the evolution of the debate. At the end of the research we want to express a point of view on the matter debated. Because of space lack, we analyzed only a few historic articles focusing on the most significant from the point of view of the historiographical approach. Thus, we filed and analyzed The historical documents published (Chapter divided into the following subchapters: Historical documents published under the editing of G. Barițiu; Corneliu Diaconovici period; Oct. C. Tăslăuanu period), The studies regarding the antique and medieval history published in *Transylvania*, The studies about the history of the 17th and 19th centuries published in Transylvania (divided into the subchapters: The period 1868-1895; C. Diaconovici period; Oct. C. Tăslăuanu period; Andrei Bârseanu period) and The biographies of some personalities (divided in: G. Baritiu period; Zaharia Boiu period; C. Diaconovici period; Oct. C. Tăslăuanu period; Andrei Bârseanu period). In the last part we also integrated the studies referring to Monographers and **Historical – linguistic studies.** We analyzed most of the topics according to the editors in order to reveal the importance they gave to those specific topics.

In this part we wanted to bring a contribution on some problems regarding the instrument of the *Association*. The first problem we wanted to clarify refers to the way the historical articles and the studies were published on preferences. We also wanted to outline who were the authors who published most studies and if they influenced the historical approach of the magazine. A very important matter, but pretty difficult to prove is the one regarding the

question: if *Transylvania* influenced or created its own historiographical style that marked the Romanian historiography or was it a magazine that framed into the time specific? We hope to have succeeded clarifying, at least some of the matters mentioned so far.

Transylvania published between 1868 and 1919 a varied range of historical articles but also an important number of historical documents as the periodic newspapers *Traian Column* (ran by B.P. Haşdeu) and *Archive for philology and history* (ran by T. Cipariu).

No doubt that the most historical representative contribution of the Association magazine is linked to the publishing of the historical documents, this characteristic being representative for the years from 1868 to 1889 when the magazine was ran by George Barițiu. As a consequence, the statement according to which G. Baritiu would have transformed Transylvania in a historical magazine as The historical magazine for Dacia is not far from the truth. But we have to take into account the period's current which focused on publishing historical documents, most of the magazines publishing such materials, while prominent historians as: B.P. Haşdeu, then Ioan Bogdan, Dimitrie Onciul and even Nicolae Iorga published, as we mentioned, a large number of unpublished documents in various collections. We believe, however, that although there have been published several series of documents, they did not totally dominate the magazine content. Their publication did not prevent the apparition of the Association documents or of various science popularization articles deemed necessary to the knowledge development of the Romanian people, the latter being even more prevalent. During the time when it was edited by Ioan Popescu, Zaharia Boiu, Corneliu Diaconovici, Oct. C. Tăslăuanu and Andrei Bârseanu it did not continue at the same level with the publication of historical documents. Between 1890 and 1891 only one historical document was published, they are quite scarce and in Z. Boiu period, he frequently published information about the apparition of historical documents volumes. Neither the last three editors of the period studied focused on historical documents, even if they have published some. During C. Diaconovici and Oct. C. Tăslăuanu "Historical Documents" column regularly appeared, which published various documents, many in German, Hungarian

and Latin. G. Bariţiu's concerns in using the documents as historical source, confesses his researcher conscience. This can be seen on account of patriotic pride in trying not to be left behind his fellow Hungarians and Germans. If during G. Bariţiu period there were published a whole series of historical documents, spread on more numbers, after him this never happened, but remained the procedure of giving brief details about the published documents, especially in other languages, such as translations or short explanations. Starting with C. Diaconovici there were frequently mentioned the names of the authors who created historical documents, especially because after 1900 there were published mostly by the historical section members. After reorganizing the scientific sections, the magazine published the column "From the foreign literature" and here was also shown information about the unpublished documents published in other languages, especially those related to Romanian history.

Regarding the historical articles published by *Transylvania*, we may notice in the studied period articles and studies regarding the history of the 17th and 19th centuries were the most published, followed by the ones regarding to the ancient history and only then the ones about the medieval history. It is true that this preoccupation evolved according to the magazine's editor. During G. Bariţiu period there were published numerous studies regarding the ancient history and they as main topic the continuity of the Romanians in the former Dacia. During the period of Ioan Popescu the ancient history articles were edited by A. Marienescu and P. Broşteanu, but they were more linguistic studies with historic information. After 1895 the articles about antiquity were rather scarce, but what is to be remarked is the fact that A. Marinescu came back as author of articles with Romanian ancient history topics.

The preoccupations about the medieval history are pretty scarce in G. Bariţiu period, too and lest in their followers period. Only Ioan Popescu published an article about this period signed by Atanasie Marienescu, while in Zaharia Boiu period there was not published any article about medieval history. After 1900 they remained outside their preoccupation area, but we can remark the apparition of Alexandru Lapedatu in the pages of the magazine and

he signed the best history articles published in *Transylvania* during 1868 and 1919.

The history of the 17th and 19th centuries is presented through numerous approaches, especially in the G. Bariţiu period, while as for the medieval history, in the next period only Ioan Popescu published an article referring to the period in discussion. From Zaharia Boiu period there could not be found any such information. Between 1896 and 1919 such articles were pretty numerous and they approached different topics.

We must remark that *Transylvania* did not publish articles about the theory and philosophy of the history and this was due to the fact that it was not specialized on history. In turn, the most constant were the biographical articles because of some personalities death as well as completing a number of years from their birth or death. These were constant during all the period between 1869 and 1919. The magazine also published some monographs, especially after 1900 for the purposes of the historic section among which was the fulfillment of Romanian localities monographs.

Regarding the authors who wrote historical articles and studies in *Transylvania* between 1868 and 1919, we can remark the fact that Ioan Popescu published A. Marienescu very often. After taking over the editing by Zaharia Boiu, he disappeared from the pages of the magazine, but he returned after 1900. In G. Bariţiu period there were published different authors of historical studies among which we mention: Ioan Valeriu Barcianu, Ieromim G. Bariţiu, Sebastian P. Radu, Sim. P. Simon, Demetriu Radu, Ioan V. Rusu, V.M. Moldovan, B.M.D. Başiotă, B. Iosif and Ioan Marchesiu, but these were not remarkable historians. There is no doubt that the most numerous contributions were signed by G. Bariţiu, but he chose to sign a great number of them with the pen names: *Transylvania* Editorial Office, The Editorial Office, Red., G.B., B.⁵, and the others were not signed at all. We can notice that G. Bariţiu was the only editor who gave, through his personal and influent contribution, the direction of *Transylvania*, by the attention he gave to the

⁵ Mihail Straje, *Dictionary of nicknames, alonime, anagram, asteronime, criptonime of the Romanian writers and publicists*, Bucharest, Minerva Publishing House, 1973, p. 50-51.

historical area and especially by publishing documents and studies referring to the 19th century. The most mentioned Romanian historians contemporary with G. Bariţiu whom he announced, used and indicated in the magazine were: first of all, B.P. Haşdeu, E. Hurmuzachi, Al. Papiu-Ilarian, Constantin D. Aricescu, N. Densuşianu, bishop Melchisedec, and in the last period was mentioned more often the name of A.D. Xenopol.⁶ After 1896 the most representative authors of historical articles and documents were Nicolae Togan, Alexandru Lapedatu, Ioan Lupaş, Iosif Sterca-Şuluţiu and Silvestru Moldovan. As we can notice, at the beginning of the 20th century, *Transylvania* started to publish names that were to become the most important ones in the Romanian historiography.

The most difficult problem to solve was the one regarding the impact of *Transylvania* magazine and its influence on the Romanian historiography. From the studies published we can notice that it did not have its own historiography style because it published different studies with a strong impact of popularization. From this finding and from the studies analysis of the Romanian researchers who focused on historiography, we can affirm that the magazine did not influence the Romanian historiography in any way in G. Bariţiu period, when it was best represented in terms of the historical articles and studies that were published. One of the reasons might be the small number of editions printed and the fact that it appeared in Transylvania, province that was under the jurisdiction of the Austro Hungarian Empire. This made its spreading difficult in Romania. But we can affirm that the magazine framed into the historiography specific of the time, the series of historical documents published being a characteristic of the historiography of the second half of the 19th century.

The magazine remarked itself from the style of the Romanian historiography of the time regarding the approach of the contemporary historical topics. While in Romania the most debated topics were those about the medieval history, in Transylvania a special attention was given to the ones about the contemporary history.

⁶ George Em. Marica, *History and Sociology Studies of the Romanian Transylvanian Culture from the 19th century George Barițiu – Historian*, vol. III, Cluj-Napoca, Dacia Publishing House Dacia, 1980, p. 160.

Even if the studies with historic content remain present in the magazine's pages after 1881, we jumped to the conclusion that these did not have any more the importance from Braşov period. They were replaced by the popularization and educational studies which became more and more numerous. This editorial policy continued during Ioan Popescu period too, and the magazine treated more philology, folklore and other sciences. During the editing of *Transylvania* by Zaharia Boiu, a lot of popularization and educational studies were published, less literary studies than in I. Popescu period. Gradually, they almost disappear from the magazine, same as the historical ones, the latter being replaced with micro biographies of some personalities. The biographies and the monographers were intensely used after 1895, too. Noticing their number, we can say that they became a constant in the pages of the periodic magazine.

Transylvania had a sinuous evolution regarding the publishing of the historical studies and it reached its climax in Braşov period, the biggest of its existence. If in the first 20 years we can consider it a magazine with historical character, after this period, gradually it will lose its G. Bariţiu direction and it will become an encyclopedic magazine in the real sense of the word. After 1900, a drastic change in approaching the magazine took place, the studies and the historical materials became more and more rare, lacking totally from some numbers or being treated shortly and pretty insignificantly comparing to the ones of popularization.

Transylvania magazine published in the period 1868-1919 a varied range of articles referring to the bibliology area. As our presentation reveals also, the magazines considered more influent in the magazine area of the period, were presented information of this kind. During the presentation we drew the attention on the periodic: Literary Conversations, The Contemporary, Romanian Life, etc.

In the third part of the research (3. Information about books, printing houses and libraries in the pages of *Transylvania* magazine), which is also the most consistent; we intended to study the bibliological topics which the magazine approached along its existence. These are pretty numerous within its pages. In this research we focused on studying and presenting the articles from

Transylvania which approached topics about the new editorial apparitions (Information and special mentions of books in Transylvania magazine pages; divided into the subchapters: Braşov period (1868-1878); Sibiu period (1881-1895); C. Diaconovici period; Oct. C. Tăslăuanu period; A. **Bârseanu period**), articles that treated the evolution of the Romanian printing houses and libraries from Transylvania and Romania (Printing houses and bookshops), but also information about the evolution of the libraries, especially of those supported by the Association (Information about libraries; The Association Library; Zonal libraries; Popular libraries; Ambulant libraries; Information about other libraries). Also, we presented fragments from the books mentioned by the magazine (Publishing the fragments from the mentioned books), reviews of some works (Reviews), information about the different awards received from different cultural institutions (Awards received and mentioned), information about the books published by the Association (Book published by the Association; divided into: Calendars published by the Association and Popular library of the Association), presentation of the cultural exchanges (Presentation of the cultural exchanges) and information about the popular lectures (Popular lectures).

Regarding the informing about the newly appeared books, we analyzed the special columns "The bibliography", "The literature", "The monthly chronicle", "The literary announcement" etc. columns that appeared constantly in the magazine. Due to the great volume of information, but also to continue the analysis of the evolution of *Transylvania* according to its editors, we separated the narrations, trying to analyze them after the principle mentioned in order to be able to identify the periods in which the bibliographical indications reached the climax. Because of the great number of mentioned titles, we chose to indicate only their number. We divided the books mentioned in some categories after their content. We wanted to present this picture in order to emphasize the interest areas of the editors regarding the bibliographic informing.

Many of this information owed to the taking over of the indications from other magazines of the time or at the request of some cultural personalities. The books referred to were, mostly, received at Transylvania publishing office as cultural exchanges. They were sent by cultural people and cultural societies of the time from the country and from Europe. There were also situations when the books were bought or were sent by their authors in order to advertise their books. The way of presentation was rather diverse, from lists of book on authors and different areas to books in foreign languages which titles were usually translated into Romanian. Very often the information referred to the title, the format and the number of pages, the printing house or the publishing house and the author with short presentation of the content which we may consider to be a relevant file of the book. The magazine was also preoccupied by different causes for which old books were sold and the profit was destined to the orphans, to endow some libraries and for some authors who had financial troubles etc. The books presented in the mentioned columns had the form of the bids given by the printing houses and other institutions. In these columns there was also presented information about the apparition, disappearance, the way of submitting a subscription, the format and the price of some newspapers.

If in the 1868-1892 period the announcements from the columns destined to the books were simple informing, after 1892 they became more detailed. Besides the information about their titles there was information about their content thus linking to the area they belonged to. As we noticed, the books considered of a greater interest were presented in special articles.

During the period between 1868 and 1919 only in the columns mentioned above there were presented to the readers 1778 titles. Many of these referred to school books (275), historical books (232), religious books (163), literary books (128), dictionaries (21), magazines (215) etc. It is to be noticed that from the 122 books mentioned in other languages, most of them were in German (55), French (38), Hungarian (21), Latin (7) and Spanish (1). In spite of the efforts to make the Romanians learn Hungarian, it is noticed that such materials were not of interest and they preferred to read books in German and French. Although the *Association* wanted to draw attention on as many as possible books for the Romanian people, it did not complete the role assumed

at the beginning. From the total of the books advertised only 76 books were popular: 24 about agriculture and 56 calendars.

The articles referring to the publishing houses and bookshops, although not so numerous, helped at the bibliographical informing especially because very often lists were published with books that could be purchased from different bookshops and even from printing houses. *Transylvania* also published the bids with the editing prices from some printing houses thus trying to present their number and location. Through this type of informing it was intended to create the best framework for the authors who wanted to publish their works and in this way the best alternatives and offers were presented. That is why the offers of different printing houses from Transylvania and Romania were published. The developing of the bookshops system was also monitored by *Transylvania*. Through information about the way of selling and about the works' price, it wanted to avoid the speculation regarding the cultural materials.

An important part of the research focused on the information analysis of libraries. Even if the Central Library of the Association benefited from different studies⁷ and even volumes⁸, we considered necessary to refer to the way in which its evolution was presented by the official instrument of the *Association*. We tried as much as possible to bring new information about Astra Library. We also approached in this part the evolution of the zonal, popular and ambulant libraries. After 1895 the information about the popular libraries and especially the ambulant ones was pretty important. As in the previous case, we chose to present this analysis in a compact way and without taking into account the editors because being the official instrument of the *Association*, the magazine had as its main purpose the publishing of the official

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⁷ Ioan Holhoş, "The National Character of the Publications Base Map of Astra Library from Sibiu", in *Philology and history – Tribute to the Great Unification –*, Sibiu, Philological Sciences Society from Romania – Sibiu Subsidiary, 1990, p. 363-371.

⁸ Elena Dunăreanu, "Astra" Library to the Great Unification, Sibiu, "Astra" Library, New Series, no. 29, 86 p.; Silviu Borş, *The Central Library of the Association. 1861-1950*, Sibiu, InfoArt Media Publishing House, 2011, Cluj-Napoca, Mega Publishing House, 2011, 392 p.; The last work is the largest analysis of the historical evolution of the Library, being done according to the librarians who ran the institution.

documents and also presenting here the informing about their own libraries. We approached the problem in this way because we noticed that there were presented informing yearly without creating a gap when the editors were changed.

In the pages of Transylvania, the big area of bibliography was represented also trough publishing the reviews of the newly and older appeared books and also through publishing of some parts of them, usually the preface or the content. Regarding the reviews, it is noticed an evolution of the way of their conceiving and approaching and in time they became important sources of bibliographic informing. Also, to emphasize the way in which the magazine supported the bibliography, we presented the way in which there were mentioned different awards received by the authors as well as the way in which the Association helped the publishing of certain works and collections. We also considered that in supporting the spreading of information about the books, articles about the cultural exchanges between the different institutions were published. It is to be remarked the collaboration between the Association and the foreign cultural institutions such as the libraries from Argentina and Norway, but also from the neighboring countries. The popular lectures helped the way of books spreading and especially of those published by the Association. Here we have to notice the fact that the information presented by the magazine was not the most accurate in terms of popular lectures and especially of the courses for illiterates. There was very often specified that the information was not very accurate because some zones did not present the necessary information to have an exact image.

The problem regarding the evolution of the *Association* libraries, from the representative one (The Central Library) to the one of the zones, preoccupied constantly the articles of the authors and the editors. We can remark from the Annual Reports of the *Association*'s librarians that the number of books evolved pretty slow, but constantly. If at the beginning the reports presented to the General Assembly informed only about the new acquisitions and the evolution of the number of books, in time they became more and more detailed. They contained the lists with the books bought and the ones received for free, but also with the magazines that formed the periodic newspapers

assets of the Library. In other words, there started to be published lists with the duplicates found in the Central Library deposit which could be bought. By publishing them in *Transylvania*, the information accomplished their mission and some of the mentioned books started to be sold. This also results from the references published by the librarians. Once the library system of the *Association* was developed, the librarian started to present information about libraries founded by the zones. At the beginning they did this in their offices and then in the neighboring villages. The new libraries received books and different materials from the Central Library of the Association in order to increase its number of different books.

Transylvania magazine, between 1868 and 1895, and through its content served to develop the taste of the Romanians for reading, spreading the books among the population, drawing attention on the importance of libraries of all types, supported the Romanian authors and tried to bring information about what happened in Europe in that time, in the cultural area. Through the attitude of the editors and authors of the articles, *Transylvania* contributed to the development of the modern Romanian bibliology.

Although the magazine was considered by the historiography to be a historical, literary, encyclopedic etc. one, if we take into account the volume of information published and the frequency of apparition, we can affirm that *Transylvania* was, without a doubt, a magazine which supported fully bibliology. The articles dedicated to bibliology field and to the *Association*'s documents were published constantly between 1868 and 1919 regardless of the editors who ran it or the period in which it appeared. Here we can include also the history articles published, which very often presented parts or debated ideas from certain important books.

We chose to study the evolution of the magazine, the historical articles, studies and the bibliological information published by *Transylvania* because they represent almost a total research about the history of the magazine. The term of bibliology also refers to the spreading and diffusing of the books and that is why we think that the technical approach of the analysis of the way in which the periodic magazine evolved enrolls in this area of analysis. The research of the historical studies, which are the most numerous and significant

ones from the official instrument of the *Association* (especially in G. Bariţiu period), reveals the spreading way of the magazine and that is why it was somehow enforced by the circumstances of the analysis.

Our research ends, as it is natural, with a chapter of **Conclusions** and with the presentation of the studied **Bibliography**.

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