

SCHEMATYZM – GALICIAN "YELLOW PAGES"

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The *Schematyzm Galicyjski* [Galician Schematism], the equivalent of today's Yellow Pages, was published during the years 1782 to 1914. Every issue was arranged according to the administrative divisions in effect at the time. The central points were Lwów and Kraków; but Galicia as a whole was covered by a network of *obwody* or districts, followed by the so-called *cyrkuły* [from Latin *circuli*, "little circles"], *powiat starostwos*, and the smallest administrative units, the rural *gminas*. The district seats as of 1875 were Lwów, Sambor, Stanisławów, Tarnopol, Złoczów, Czerniowce, Przemyśl, Kraków, Tarnów, Nowy Sącz and Rzeszów. [The first six cities are now in Ukraine and are called Lviv, Sambir, Ivano- Frankivsk, Ternopil, Zolochiv, and Chernivtsi, respectively]. Finding specific localities and surnames is simple and quick because there are lists in the beginning and indexes at the end of every issue.

The lists are arranged by administrative district, and the indexes contain the names of localities and surnames. The page ratio of the lists and of the indexes definitely favors the latter. The number of surnames is impressive, and this is due to the very detailed treatment of the publication by the Austrian partitioners. The surnames of all officials and workers were printed, from the whole palette of community life. The occupational positions begin with the bosses and go all the way to the storehouse keepers, from the mayors to the trainees, and from the judges to the bailiffs. Also listed are midwives, veterinarians, surveyors, mailmen, railroad workers, aldermen of rural *gminas*, and so forth.

Undoubtedly, not all ancestors will be found here, but the researcher will gain other valuable information such as the precise geographic-administrative localization. Furthermore, information about the *gmina* may be useful in researching registration books. Also, information about the territorial extent of a given jurisdiction can be valuable in searching court and notary records. Last, data about a particular *starostwo*'s seat can help in searching for entries on recruiting in the army, in peasant enfranchisement, and in records and cadastral maps.
