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EMIGRATION OF GALICIAN PEASANTS TO CANADA AT THE END OF THE 19TH AND THE BEGINNING OF THE 20TH CENTURY (BASED ON THE MATERIALS OF THE NEWSPAPER «RUSLAN»)

Abstract. *The aim of this article is to investigate the process of emigration of Galician peasants to Canada at the end of the 19th and the beginning of the 20th century based on the materials of the newspaper «Ruslan.» The article analyzes the socio-economic and political factors that motivated the peasants to emigrate, highlights their experiences of relocation, adaptation to new living conditions, and the challenges they faced in their new environment.*

The scientific novelty of this article lies in the comprehensive analysis of the emigration of Galician peasants to Canada at the end of the 19th and the beginning of the 20th century, based on previously unexplored materials from the newspaper «Ruslan.»

Conclusions. *The emigration of Galician peasants to Canada at the end of the 19th and the beginning of the 20th century is an important historical phenomenon that reflects a wide range of socio-economic, political, and cultural changes. The main factors that prompted Galician peasants to emigrate were the agrarian crisis, low standard of living, limited opportunities for economic development, and national oppression. Many peasants saw Canada as an opportunity to improve their living conditions and secure a future for their families. The materials of the newspaper testify to the difficulties faced by emigrants in Canada. The lack of proper infrastructure, difficult working conditions, and the need to adapt to a new socio-cultural environment created significant challenges. Many emigrants managed to overcome these difficulties and achieve success, contributing to the development of the Ukrainian community in Canada. The emigration of Galician peasants to Canada at the end of the 19th and the beginning of the 20th century is a multifaceted phenomenon that reflects complex socio-economic and cultural processes. The materials of the newspaper «Ruslan» provide valuable information for understanding these processes and their impact on the development of the Ukrainian community in Canada.*

Key words: *emigration, peasants, newspaper «Ruslan», Halychyna, Canada.*

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ЕМІГРАЦІЯ ГАЛИЦЬКИХ СЕЛЯН У КАНАДУ НАПРИКІНЦІ ХІХ – НА ПОЧАТКУ ХХ СТ. (ЗА МАТЕРІАЛАМИ ЧАСОПISУ «РУСЛАН»)

Анотація. Метою статті є дослідження процесу еміграції галицьких селян до Канади наприкінці ХІХ – на початку ХХ ст. на основі матеріалів часопису «Руслан». У статті аналізується соціально-економічні та політичні фактори, що спонукали селян до еміграції, висвітлюється їх досвід переселення, адаптації до нових умов життя та виклики, з якими вони стикалися на новому місці.

Наукова новизна статті полягає в комплексному аналізі еміграції галицьких селян до Канади наприкінці ХІХ – на початку ХХ ст., здійсненому на основі раніше недосліджених матеріалів часопису «Руслан».

Висновки. Еміграція галицьких селян до Канади наприкінці ХІХ – на початку ХХ ст. є важливим історичним явищем, що відображає широкий спектр соціально-економічних, політичних та культурних змін. Основними чинниками, що спонукали галицьких селян до еміграції, були аграрна криза, низький рівень життя, обмежені можливості для економічного розвитку та національні утиски. Багато селян бачили в Канаді можливість покращити свої життєві умови та забезпечити майбутнє своїм родинам. Часопис відіграв важливу роль у формуванні суспільної думки щодо еміграції. Публікації в «Руслані» інформували населення про умови переселення, можливості та виклики, з якими стикалися емігранти. Часопис також сприяв обговоренню соціальних і політичних аспектів еміграції, що впливало на прийняття рішень потенційними емігрантами. Матеріали часопису свідчать про складнощі, з якими стикалися емігранти в Канаді. Відсутність належної інфраструктури, складні умови праці та необхідність адаптації до нового соціально-культурного середовища створювали значні виклики. Проте, багато емігрантів зуміли подолати ці труднощі та досягти успіху, сприяючи розвитку української громади в Канаді. Еміграція галицьких селян до Канади наприкінці ХІХ – на початку ХХ ст. є багатограним явищем, що відображає складні соціально-економічні та культурні процеси. Матеріали часопису «Руслан» надають цінну інформацію для розуміння цих процесів та їхнього впливу на розвиток української громади в Канаді.

Ключові слова: еміграція, селяни, часопис «Руслан», Галичина, Канада.

Problem statement.

The emigration of Galician peasants to Canada at the end of the 19th and the beginning of the 20th century is a significant phenomenon in the context of the socio-economic and cultural changes that were occurring in Europe at that time. This period is marked by a substantial increase in the number of emigrants from Halychyna, driven by both internal factors (agrarian crisis, social instability, national oppression) and external factors (attractive conditions for resettlement, promises of new opportunities). Studying this process is crucial for understanding the historical preconditions and consequences of migration movements, which have impacted the development of Ukrainian society and the formation of the Ukrainian diaspora in Canada.

One of the important sources for studying this phenomenon is the materials of the newspaper «Ruslan», which actively covered the issues of emigration. The newspaper played a significant role in shaping public perception of emigration and informing the population about the opportunities and challenges associated with resettlement to Canada.

The purpose of the article.

The purpose of the article is to investigate the process of emigration of Galician peasants to Canada at the end of the 19th and the beginning of the 20th century based on the materials of the newspaper «Ruslan.» The article analyzes the socio-economic and political factors that motivated the peasants to emigrate, highlights their experiences of relocation, adaptation to new living conditions, and the challenges they faced in their new environment.

The scientific novelty of this article lies in the comprehensive analysis of the emigration of Galician peasants to Canada at the end of the 19th and the beginning of the 20th century, based on previously unexplored materials from the newspaper «Ruslan.» For the first time in domestic historiography, the role of this newspaper in covering emigration processes and its impact on shaping public opinion and emigration policy is examined in detail. The article systematically organizes and analyzes the publications of the newspaper «Ruslan» related to emigration, which allows for a better understanding of the socio-economic, cultural, and political aspects of this phenomenon. The research also complements existing knowledge about the living conditions, adaptation, and integration of Galician emigrants into Canadian society.

Research analysis.

The emigration of Galician peasants to Canada at the end of the 19th and the beginning of the 20th century is an important research direction in the historiography of the Ukrainian diaspora.



Scientific studies of this phenomenon have been conducted both in Ukraine and abroad, particularly in Canada, where a significant number of emigrants found a new homeland. Notable works include those by S. Kachmaraba, O. Rozhyk¹, O. Hlushko², S. Lastovetskyi³, O. Sych⁴, A. Klish, and N. Syrotiuk⁵.

The materials of the newspaper «Ruslan» represent a unique source for studying the emigration of Galician peasants, as they contain numerous reports and analyses of contemporary events that reflect the sentiments and experiences of the emigrants. Research based on these materials allows for a deeper understanding of the motives and circumstances that forced the peasants to leave their homeland, as well as the challenges they faced in their new environment.

The statement of the basic material.

The emigration of Galician peasants to Canada at the end of the 19th and the beginning of the 20th century became a significant phenomenon in the history of the Ukrainian diaspora. This period was marked by substantial changes in the socio-economic life of Halychyna, prompting thousands of people to seek a better life across the ocean. Confronted with poverty, landlessness, and political oppression, Galician peasants set out for Canada in search of new opportunities and hope for a better future. They brought with them not only their hard work but also rich cultural traditions that became an integral part of Canadian society. Undoubtedly, these processes were reflected in the Galician press, particularly in the newspaper «Ruslan,» which was published in Lviv from 1897 to 1914.

In the second half of the 19th century and the beginning of the 20th century, significant implementation of agricultural machinery took place in the agriculture of Austria-Hungary, including Halychyna, which led to a decreased need for labor. Specifically, at the beginning of the 20th century, 33.2% of peasant farms in Austria-Hungary used agricultural machinery, while in Halychyna, this figure was 26.5%. Wealthier and more affluent farms, particularly those owned by landlords, used agricultural machinery more intensively. In 1902, in Halychyna, 71.4% of farms with land areas over 100 hectares, 60.7% of farms with 20 to 50 hectares, and 56.6% of farms with 5 to 20 hectares used agricultural machinery. At the same time, these processes were accompanied by a demographic boom, which caused a sharp increase in population numbers. The natural increase was 18.5 people per 1,000 inhabitants. The surplus labor force in Halychyna's agriculture reached 1.2 million people. As a result, the population was forced to supplement their «family budget» by exporting their labor⁶.

The newspaper «Ruslan» describes a significant emigration movement among peasants from the Zalischyky district to Canada. It is noted that almost every month, several families from the villages of Synkiv, Kolodribka, Blyshchanka, Shchytivtsi, and other eastern villages crossed the ocean. In August and September 1899, this movement also spread to other villages such as Pecharn and Zhezhava on the Dniester, as well as Dzvynyach. At the same time, several dozen families, mostly landowners with more than 6 morgs of land, left their homes due to dissatisfaction with local living conditions and the search for better earnings⁷.

«Ruslan» describes a mass emigration from the Yavoriv district, where over a thousand people left within a few weeks, some to Canada and some to Romania. The main reason for the emigration

1 Качараба С., Рожик М. Українська еміграція. Еміграційний рух зі Східної Галичини та Північної Буковини у 1890-1914 рр. Львів, 1995. 121 с.

2 Глушко О. З. Причини української еміграції в Америку та Канаду (кін. XIX–XX ст.). *Науковий вісник Чернівецького університету*. Рута, 2002. Вип. 143. С. 61–65.

3 Ластовецький С. Початковий період української еміграції до канадської провінції Квебек (1891–1905 рр.). *Вісник Прикарпатського університету. Історія*. 2014. Вип. 25. С. 200–205.

4 Сич О. До питання про роль євреїв у процесі української еміграції в США і Канаду (кінець XIX – перші десятиріччя XX ст.). *Питання історії нового та новітнього часу*. 1994. Вип. 3. С. 35–43.

5 Кліш А., Сиротюк Н. Релігійне життя українських емігрантів у Канаді на початку XX ст. на шпальтах часопису «Руслан». *Закордонне українство: від дослідження історії до прогнозу розвитку: матеріали міжнародної науково-практичної конференції (Київ, 26 квітня 2024 р.)*. К.: ТОВ «Геопринт», 2024. С. 117–120.

6 Сердюк О. Переселенський рух із західноукраїнських земель (кінець XIX – початку XX ст.): масштаби, основні напрями, характерні особливості. *Краєзнавство*. 2019. № 1. С. 102.

7 Новинки. *Руслан*. Ч. 213. 21. вересня (4. жовтня) 1900. С. 2.



was the steadily increasing poverty, which was particularly exacerbated by crop failures. Peasants, lacking means of subsistence, were massively pawning their belongings to Jews and starving⁸.

One of the articles presents a very specific view on the situation of Ukrainian emigration to Canada at the beginning of the 20th century. The author emphasized the number of Ukrainian settlers, which at that time was about 20,000 people, and called for active support of the press to ensure adequate representation of the interests of the Ukrainian community.

Special attention was given to the problems faced by new settlers upon moving to Canada, particularly the necessity of preserving their own identity and not succumbing to the influence of other ethnic groups or religious denominations. The importance of maintaining faith, culture, and traditions in the new environment was highlighted by the author as a key aspect of successful adaptation⁹.

The creation of new settlements for emigrants was noted, particularly in Manitoba, which had significant potential for development. The author also emphasized the high demand for labor, asserting that every hardworking man could earn money. The writer mentioned the availability of land for those willing to settle in Manitoba, but warned that land prices could vary depending on location and infrastructure.

In contrast, when considering the situation of Ukrainian emigration to the province of Alberta, the author pointed out its advantages, such as fertile land and the possibility of settlement. However, he also noted the drawbacks, including climatic conditions and limited employment opportunities.

The contributor emphasized the necessity of a cautious approach to emigration, recommending thorough preparation for relocation and consideration of all possible alternatives, including work in Halychyna. He stressed that the decision to emigrate should be well thought out¹⁰.

The newspaper devoted considerable attention to interethnic relations. It was noted that Ukrainians coexisted peacefully with Indigenous peoples. In contrast, Kyrylo Genyk was skeptical about Jews and the prospects of living alongside them.

Reflecting on the emigration of Galician and Bukovinian peasants to America, the contributor mentioned that living conditions at home were continuously deteriorating, especially for smallholders, prompting them to seek a better life abroad¹¹.

It was also noted that emigration was a natural phenomenon, as other nations were also emigrating abroad in search of a better life. The contributor criticized the intelligentsia for their lack of understanding of emigration issues and their desire to portray them in a negative light. The author believed that mass emigration was the result of the intelligentsia's neglect of the peasants' needs.

K. Genyk also expressed the opinion that emigrants, even in difficult conditions, had a better living situation abroad than at home. It should be noted that the newspaper «Ruslan» presented various viewpoints on Ukrainian emigration to Canada, both negative and positive¹².

K. Genyk criticized the description of Canadian provinces made by Fr. Polyvka. He argued that Fr. Polyvka could not provide reliable information about Canada because his journey was short and limited to small towns.

The author noted that Fr. Polyvka's emotional reaction to Canada was exaggerated, as not all travelers clearly understood where they were going. It is likely that Fr. Polyvka was disappointed because his expectations were higher than the reality in Canada.

Overall, K. Genyk emphasized the importance of an objective approach to emigration and a realistic understanding of what awaited emigrants in the new country. He called for hard work and adaptation in the new environment, highlighting the opportunities for success that could be found in Canada¹³.

8 Новинки. *Руслан*. Ч. 134. 17 (29) червня 1898. С. 3.

9 Кілька слів про рускі кольонії в Канаді. *Руслан*. Ч. 185. 19 (31) серпня 1899. С. 2.

10 Кілька слів про рускі кольонії в Канаді. *Руслан*. Ч. 186. 20 серпня (1 вересня) 1899. С. 2.

11 Вісти з Канади. *Руслан*. Ч. 100. 4 (17) мая 1900. С. 1–2.

12 Вісти з Канади. *Руслан*. Ч. 101. 5 (18) мая 1900. С. 1–2.

13 Вісти з Канади. *Руслан*. Ч. 101. 5 (18) мая 1900. С. 1–2.



K. Genyk stressed that Canada is a vast country with diverse soils. He pointed out the existence of lands unsuitable for agriculture, but also noted that there were regions where farming could be successfully practiced. The author emphasized that central Canada had lands designated for settlement and described provinces that had suitable conditions for agriculture.

The author described the history of the resettlement of peasants from Halychyna and Bukovyna to Canada. He explained that emigration began with the advent of railways to Manitoba and noted that the first settlers arrived in Canada as early as 1800.

The contributor noted the active role of agents in encouraging peasants to emigrate, stating that their actions had a commercial motive—to earn profit from facilitating resettlement — as the Canadian government incentivized the arrival of settlers by paying agents for each person who came to the country.

K. Genyk emphasized that many emigrants lacked adequate information about living conditions in Canada and the risks associated with the journey. He noted that although the Canadian government stimulated emigration, due to the large number of settlers, it tried to halt the flow of Galician peasants by canceling the payments to agents for settlers¹⁴.

K. Genyk outlined several problems faced by emigrants from Halychyna in Canada. He noted that the Canadian currency had a lower value compared to the Austrian currency, creating economically unstable conditions for the settlers. Additionally, due to the significant expenses associated with traveling to Canada, many emigrants arrived practically without financial resources.

It was mentioned that initially, the Canadian government tried to employ the emigrants, but as their numbers increased, this became impossible. A large number of emigrants arrived in Canada in search of work, but many of them remained unemployed and without means of subsistence.

On the other hand, it was noted that the land in the province of Manitoba, which was one of the first territories where emigrants arrived, was already fully settled. This made it difficult to obtain land plots for agricultural purposes, which was the main occupation for many emigrants¹⁵.

The newspaper «*Ruslan*» analyzed the situation regarding the allocation of land plots in various provinces of Canada. It emphasized that acquiring land was a challenging task, as a significant portion of land was already occupied, and the available plots were often located far from infrastructure.

K. Genyk noted that in the province of Manitoba, there was a high concentration of emigrants, but most of the available plots were already occupied, creating additional difficulties for newly arrived peasants.

The province of Alberta, on the other hand, was the most attractive for emigrants due to the availability of a substantial amount of land and opportunities for farming.

K. Genyk emphasized that the economic conditions in Canada were characterized by high costs and required significant persistence from emigrants. He pointed out that earnings often did not match the level of expenses, especially during the initial stages of adaptation and settlement in the new country¹⁶.

The newspaper discussed the difficulties and risks of emigrating to Canada. It highlighted the rising cost of moving to Canada due to changes in transportation payment conditions, which called into question the feasibility of emigration, particularly for those with limited financial means. The contributor urged a thorough analysis of all aspects of emigration, including financial expenses, living conditions, and job availability. He stressed that the decision to emigrate required serious consideration.

The author paid special attention to the risks for family couples, especially those with limited financial resources or significant agricultural holdings. He recommended refraining from emigrating with the family, leaving this option to single individuals who had the opportunity to earn money and later decide on further emigration to Canada¹⁷.

14 Еміграція до Канади. *Руслан*. Ч. 158. 15. (28.) липня 1900. С. 1–2.

15 Еміграція до Канади. *Руслан*. Ч. 159. 16. (29.) липня 1900. С. 2.

16 Еміграція до Канади. *Руслан*. Ч. 159. 16. (29.) липня 1900. С. 2.

17 Еміграція до Канади. *Руслан*. Ч. 160. 18. (31.) липня 1900. С. 2.



In the newspaper, K. Genyk examined various aspects of emigration to Canada, including climatic conditions, economic prospects, and the political situation. The contributor noted that Canada, like any other country, experienced periods of good and bad harvests. For example, attention was drawn to dry weather, which could lead to crop failures, negatively affecting the lives of peasants.

Political conflicts in Canada between liberals and conservatives were also analyzed. According to the contributor, political parties did not act in the interests of ordinary people but only cared about their own interests and enrichment¹⁸.

Particularly concerning were the anti-Catholic sentiments among some Ukrainian communities in Canada, caused by abuses of the Roman Catholic clergy and Russophile propaganda.

Special attention was given to the problems faced by new settlers upon moving to Canada, particularly the need to preserve their own identity and resist the influence of other ethnic groups or religious denominations. The importance of maintaining faith, culture, and traditions in the new environment was highlighted by the contributor as a key aspect of successful adaptation¹⁹.

There was a noted need for spiritual guidance for Ukrainian emigrants in Canada, especially in the context of the arrival of Orthodox missionaries and Doukhobor settlers²⁰. The newspaper reported that the settlers lived without adequate spiritual care due to the lack of a sufficient number of priests. This led to many people being unable to practice their religious rites. Additionally, the settlers were dispersed over a large area, making communication and the performance of religious rites difficult.

As a result, some settlers lost touch with their religious traditions and practices due to the distance from churches and the lack of appropriate spiritual support. The presence of various religious communities complicated the situation and led to conflicts²¹.

In particular, the newspaper mentions the so-called schism, which led to a split among the settlers. As a result, more than 80 Greek Catholic families and several Roman Catholic families converted to the Orthodox rite.

The creation of new churches and the refusal to recognize the French-born bishop indicate a deep division and mistrust among the settlers. They handed over the church to the Orthodox, believing that this action was a better alternative than recognizing the French bishop.

Many settlers expressed distrust towards representatives of other denominations and refused to acknowledge their authority. This indicates a deep divide within the community and a low level of mutual understanding²².

The newspaper discusses the work of Father Vasyl Zholdak as a visitor in Canada, who tried to engage Ukrainians in the religious and cultural community. He supported Ukrainians in Canada who faced the loss of their national identity and religious challenges. Father Zholdak urged the community to help preserve Ukrainian cultural heritage among Ukrainians in Canada, as he observed the threat of losing national identity among the younger generation²³.

The newspaper reflects the complexity of the religious and social landscape among Ukrainian emigrants in Canada and concerns about manipulations and conflicts that hindered communal life.

The newspaper paid considerable attention to the further division between Greek Catholics and Orthodox Christians. This led to some religious leaders using religious identity for political purposes.

«Ruslan» noted the tensions between different religious groups, such as Orthodox and Catholics, which sometimes resulted in conflicts that required police intervention²⁴.

18 Еміграція до Канади. *Руслан*. Ч. 160. 18. (31.) липня 1900. С. 2.

19 Кілька слів про рускі кольонії в Канаді. *Руслан*. Ч. 185. 19 (31) серпня 1899. С. 2.

20 Руска місія для Канади. *Руслан*. Ч. 190. 25 серпня (6 вересня) 1899. С. 2.

21 Церковні справи в Канаді. *Руслан*. Ч. 197. 31 серпня (13 вересня) 1901. С. 1–2.

22 Церковні справи в Канаді. *Руслан*. Ч. 197. 31 серпня (13 вересня) 1901. С. 1–2.

23 О. Василь Жолдак. *Руслан*. Ч. 156. 14 (27) липня 1902. С. 3.

24 Церковні справи в Канаді. *Руслан*. Ч. 198. 1(14) вересня 1901. С. 1–2.



Another problem was the lack of religious buildings, leading to difficulties in practicing religion and preserving traditions. The construction of new churches was complicated by the settlers' difficult financial situation.

It was noted that there was a lack of spiritual care for the Ukrainian community in Canada, which could lead to a loss of religious identity and community discord. The necessity of immediate organization to address the problem of ecclesiastical anarchy was emphasized. The contributor stated that this issue required the attention and collective efforts of the entire community. Additionally, the author called for the immediate provision of Ukrainian priests in Canada who were patriotic and willing to work for their people²⁵.

There was expressed dissatisfaction with the Latinization and control of the Roman Church over the Ukrainian clergy, which did not contribute to the preservation of identity.

It should be noted that Metropolitan A. Sheptytsky sent a special mission to Canada aimed at developing and supporting the Ukrainian community. The main goal of the mission was to engage Ukrainians in the church and cultural community and to meet the spiritual needs of the Ukrainian community in Canada²⁶.

The newspaper proposed the creation of a religious center by building a large church in Winnipeg, which would reflect the grandeur and significance of the city. It was also suggested to establish branches of this church in areas where Ukrainians resided²⁷.

Describing the work of missionaries in Canada and the USA, the contributor emphasized their importance in building and developing churches and providing spiritual support to emigrants. The importance of missionary work and assistance to emigrants in providing support for social adaptation in the new country was noted. Missionaries not only provided shelter but also engaged in education and helped integrate Ukrainians into the new environment²⁸.

The conclusions.

The emigration of Galician peasants to Canada at the end of the 19th and the beginning of the 20th century is an important historical phenomenon that reflects a wide range of socio-economic, political, and cultural changes.

The main factors that prompted Galician peasants to emigrate were the agrarian crisis, low standard of living, limited opportunities for economic development, and national oppression. Many peasants saw Canada as an opportunity to improve their living conditions and secure a future for their families.

The newspaper played an important role in shaping public opinion on emigration. Publications in «Ruslan» informed the population about the conditions of resettlement, opportunities, and challenges faced by emigrants. The newspaper also facilitated discussions on the social and political aspects of emigration, influencing the decision-making of potential emigrants.

The materials of the newspaper testify to the difficulties faced by emigrants in Canada. The lack of proper infrastructure, difficult working conditions, and the need to adapt to a new socio-cultural environment created significant challenges. However, many emigrants managed to overcome these difficulties and achieve success, contributing to the development of the Ukrainian community in Canada.

Despite the difficulties, Galician peasants tried to preserve their cultural identity and traditions. The newspaper «Ruslan» highlighted issues of cultural adaptation, the preservation of national traditions, and interaction with other ethnic groups in Canada. This contributed to the strengthening of the Ukrainian community and the preservation of its cultural heritage.

By examining the publications of the newspaper «Ruslan,» we observe the significant influence of the religious factor on the social, cultural, and religious context of the Ukrainian community's life. The first thing to note is the active role of the Ukrainian clergy in preserving and supporting national

25 Церковні справи в Канаді. *Руслан*. Ч. 199. 2(15) вересня) 1901. С. 1–2.

26 Для канадійської України. *Руслан*. Ч. 180. 13 (26) серпня 1902. С. 1–2.

27 Для канадійської України. *Руслан*. Ч. 182. 15 (28) серпня 1902. С. 1–2.

28 Для канадійської України. *Руслан*. Ч. 257. 15 (28.) листопада 1902. С. 1.



identity and cultural traditions among the emigrant community. Another important aspect is the role of the clergy in ensuring the spiritual and moral upliftment of the emigrant community. Through missionary work, priests contributed to the formation of strong moral values and the upbringing of Ukrainian emigrants in the spirit of Christian principles. Additionally, the clergy played a vital role in maintaining social order and structure within the Ukrainian community in Canada.

However, we also observe the challenges that the settlers faced, particularly in their religious life. Upon arriving in Canada, Ukrainian emigrants encountered other Christian denominations that dominated the country, such as the Roman Catholic and Protestant churches. This required them to adapt to new religious rites, traditions, and perspectives. In the early period of their stay in Canada, Ukrainian emigrants faced the absence of Ukrainian churches and clergy. This complicated the performance of religious rites and the discussion of religious issues. Ukrainian emigrants could also face interdenominational conflicts, especially when trying to preserve their religious identity in the context of the dominance of other Christian denominations.

The emigration of Galician peasants to Canada at the end of the 19th and the beginning of the 20th century is a multifaceted phenomenon that reflects complex socio-economic and cultural processes. The materials of the newspaper «Ruslan» provide valuable information for understanding these processes and their impact on the development of the Ukrainian community in Canada.

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