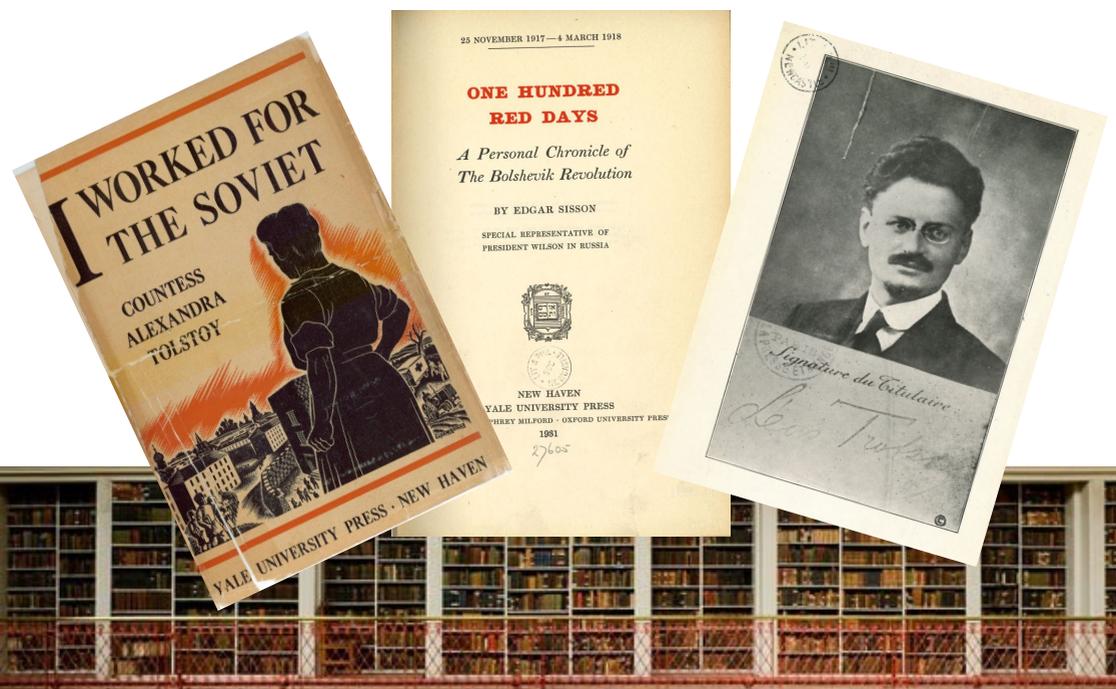


Revolutionary Books

Reflections on the Russian Revolution
in the Lit & Phil's collections



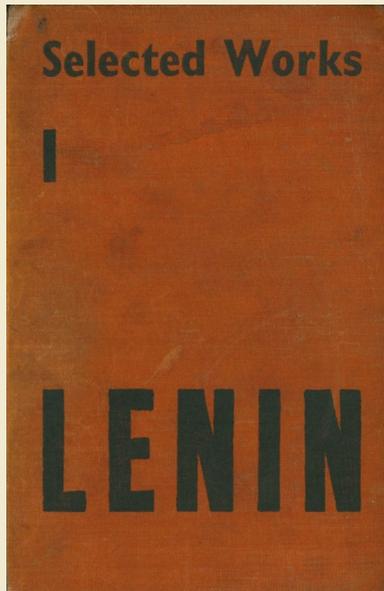
THE Lit & Phil



REVOLUTIONARY BOOKS

Reflections on the Russian Revolution in the Lit & Phil's collections

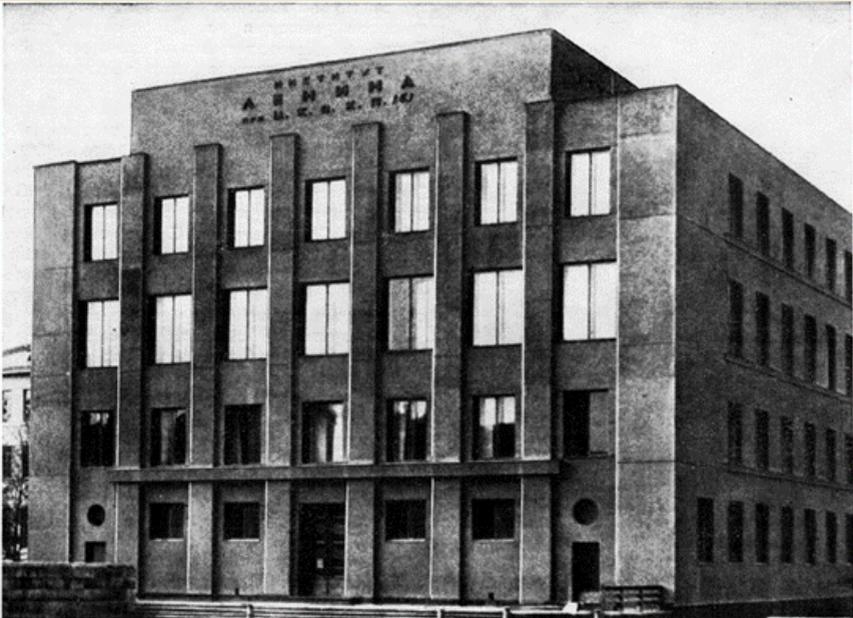
The Lit & Phil's collections include many contemporary accounts of the Russian revolutions of 1917. These were principally acquired around the same time that they were published, in 1917-18 or in the early 1920s, and they testify to the appetite for information about the revolution, and about the world's first socialist state. The library's collections include the memoirs of key participants and politicians, accounts written by western witnesses of the revolution, travelogues devoted to early visits to the Soviet Union, and early editions of the works of revolutionaries. There are also numerous books which document the changing relationship between Britain and Russia in the pre-revolutionary years, from exposés of the Siberian exile system to books designed to encourage understanding of Russian culture and bolster the Anglo-Russian alliance during the First World War; and a number that illustrate both pre- and post-revolutionary connections between the North East of England and Russia. This brochure and the accompanying exhibition showcase just a few examples from the library's collections.



1. REVOLUTIONARY WORKS

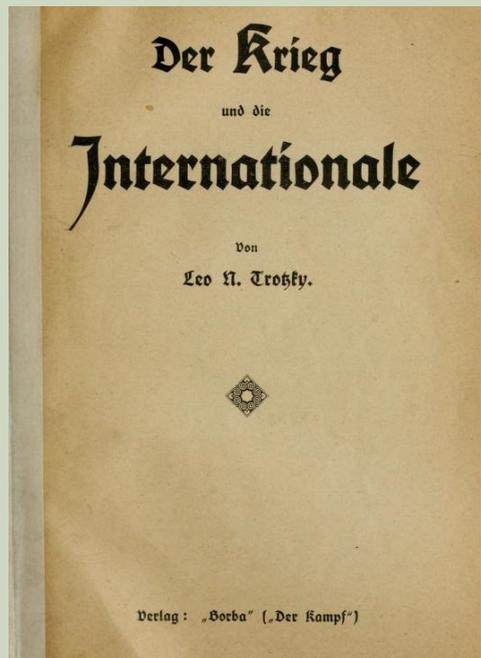
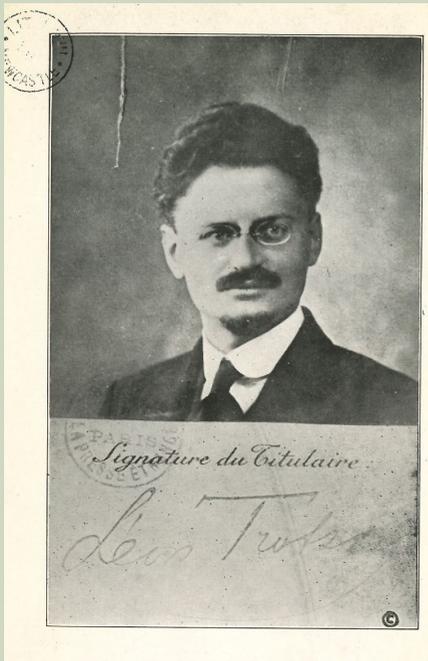
Selected works of Lenin, 12 volumes (London: Lawrence and Wishart, 1936)

The publication of Lenin's collected works was begun in the 1920s by the Commission on the History of the Russian Communist Party and the October Revolution' (Istpart), and was taken over in the late 20s and early 30s by the Lenin Institute (later the Marx, Engels and Lenin Institute) in Moscow. These institutions produced histories and documentary materials aimed not only at a domestic but also at an international audience. This 12-volume edition of Lenin's works was one of the first publishing projects of Lawrence and Wishart publishing house, and is a translation of a selection that the Marx, Engels and Lenin Institute produced for international dissemination. Lawrence and Wishart were established only in 1936, through a merger between Martin Lawrence, the British Communist Party press, and Wishart Limited, a liberal, anti-fascist publisher. They specialized in publishing left-wing political fiction, drama and poetry, working class histories, and Marxist classics. MI5 apparently tapped the phones at their premises in the late 30s, believing their offices to be used for 'illegal and conspiratorial activities'. The introduction to these volumes stresses that Lenin's writings are not, as his detractors might maintain, applicable only in Russia, but on the contrary are of 'decisive importance' for the international revolutionary movement.



Leon Trotsky, *The Bolsheviks and World Peace* (New York: Boni and Liveright, 1918), with introduction by Lincoln Steffens

Trotsky wrote this tract around the time of the outbreak of war in 1914, while he was briefly in Zurich. It was serialized in the Russian émigré journal *Golos*, edited by Menshevik leader Yuli Martov, and was also issued as a German-language pamphlet, *Der Krieg und die Internationale*, by the Borba/Der Kampf (the Struggle) press. The edition on display here was published in 1918 by Boni and Liveright in New York (a publishing house known for issuing slightly scandalous novels, but also some other radical books, including John Reed's *Ten Days that Shook the World*). By this time Trotsky was Commissar for Foreign Affairs in the Bolshevik government. In this pamphlet Trotsky argues that the war is fundamentally a clash of imperialist interests, and that it demonstrates the redundancy, in economic terms, of the nation state. He laments the collapse of the Second International, but looks forward to the social revolution that must inevitably emerge from the war, and the revival of socialism in a new, stronger international. The introduction to this volume was written by Lincoln Steffens, an American journalist who specialized in exposing corruption, but who became increasingly revolutionary-minded during the war years, when he witnessed and reported on the Mexican revolution. Steffens would later (in 1919) visit Soviet Russia as part of William Bullitt's mission to establish peace terms with the Bolshevik government: in commentaries on the Soviet state upon his return he made his infamous remark 'I have seen the future and it works'.



Leon Trotsky, *History of the Russian Revolution* 3 vols. (London: Victor Gollancz, 1932-33)

Trotsky wrote his three volume *History of the Russian Revolution* in exile in Turkey. As Stalin secured his hold on power in the late 1920s and moved against his leading rivals, Trotsky was first expelled from the Central Committee of the Communist Party, and then exiled to Alma Ata in Kazakhstan. He was expelled from Russia at the beginning of 1929, and lived in Turkey for four years, before moving to France, Norway, and finally Mexico. His vocal opposition to Stalin and his role as a coordinator and rallying point for the left-wing opposition resulted in his death at the hands of an agent of the OGPU in 1940. Besides organizing, speaking and writing about contemporary politics in the Soviet Union, Trotsky also spent his time in emigration writing his memoirs, and writing about the revolution. He began writing his *History of the Russian Revolution* in 1929, and it took him about a year to complete. As early as the spring of 1929 he was in negotiations with Albert Boni, the publisher of his earlier work *The Bolsheviks and World Peace*, about the English language rights to the work: Boni visited Trotsky in Constantinople to conduct the negotiations, and later shipped him a typewriter. Trotsky dispatched the manuscript, chapter by chapter, to Boni in New York. The book was translated by Max Eastman, and published by Simon and Schuster in New York, and Victor Gollancz in London. The Lit & Phil bought the first edition of the *History* in 1933. Trotsky's *History of the Russian Revolution* was enormously influential. It was one of the first histories written, and was by someone who, as Chairman of the Petrograd Soviet, Commissar for Foreign Affairs and later for War, and a member of the first Politburo, was closely involved in events. Many western historians relied on it, even while they recognized its polemical nature. Trotsky's *History* downplayed his own role in the revolution, and heightened the differences in approach between Lenin and Stalin. The Lit and Phil also holds Trotsky's *The Revolution Betrayed* (London, 1937), an account of the development of the Soviet Union following the death of Lenin.

Also in the Lit and Phil's collections:

James Maxton, *Lenin* (London: P. Davies, 1932)

Christopher Hollis, *Portrait of a Professional Revolutionary* (London: Longmans and Green, 1938)

Elizabeth Hill and Doris Mudie (eds.), *Letters of Lenin* (London: Chapman and Hall, 1937)

Joseph Stalin, *Leninism* (London: George Allen and Unwin, 1928)

Leon Trotsky, *The Revolution Betrayed* (London: Faber and Faber, 1937)

Isaac Deutscher, *Trotsky* (London: Oxford University Press, 1954-1963)

2. WITNESSES OF REVOLUTION

25 NOVEMBER 1917—4 MARCH 1918

ONE HUNDRED RED DAYS

*A Personal Chronicle of
The Bolshevik Revolution*

BY EDGAR SISSON

SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE OF
PRESIDENT WILSON IN RUSSIA



NEW HAVEN

YALE UNIVERSITY PRESS

LONDON · HUMPHREY MILFORD · OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS

1931

27605

Edgar Sisson, *100 Red Days: A Personal Chronicle of the Bolshevik Revolution* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1931)

Edgar Sisson was an American journalist who had worked for the *Chicago Tribune* and edited *Cosmopolitan* before being appointed in the spring of 1917 as a member of the Committee on Public Information, an American government initiative aimed at publicizing America's war effort. While the CPI's efforts were principally directed at encouraging support for the war on the home front, it also aimed at 'mobilizing the mind of the world so far as American participation in the war was concerned'. A Commission headed by veteran statesman Elihu Root had been sent to Russia on the outbreak of the February Revolution to demonstrate American support for the liberal Provisional Government, and in its report had intimated that more could be done in terms of publishing, lecturing and distributing films relating to the American role in the war. In October 1917 Sisson was sent to Russia as a representative of the CPI, with a mission to disseminate information about America's war effort, and to boost Russian morale. Armed with letters of introduction to Alexander Kerensky and members of his cabinet, Sisson arrived in Petrograd eighteen days after the Bolshevik seizure of power. This memoir details the 'one hundred red days' that Sisson spent in Russia, his impressions of leading Bolsheviks, and his efforts to disseminate propaganda for the American cause, including printing and distributing copies of President Wilson's 'Fourteen Points'. Sisson became best known for the publication of the 'Sisson Documents', a compendium of documents that purported to prove that the Bolshevik party were heavily subsidized by the German government. The documents were the subject of extensive publicity and debate about their authenticity. The CPI issued the Sisson Documents in pamphlet form under the title 'The German Bolshevik Conspiracy', and this pamphlet is reproduced as an appendix to Sisson's memoirs.

АМЕРИКАНСКАЯ УСЛОВИЯ ОБЩАГО МИРА. ДЕКЛАРАЦИЯ Президента Вильсона.

(Известиями от № 203 "Американский Центр" в Нью-Йорке, Петрограде, Риге и Оскар-Делуэ" в Ленинграде. См. Там и Оса. Делуэ.)

Великобританский Пресс-Бульвар, 25-е издание (8 марта 1918 года)

PRESIDENT WILSON'S FOURTEEN POINTS
IN RUSSIAN

First page of a two-page poster displayed on Petrograd billboards, carrying a line showing that it had been printed in the newspaper *Zvezdita*. The same form was used for handbill distribution on the streets. The heading reads: "American Conditions of General Peace.—Declaration of President Wilson."

PART I

The German-Bolshevik Conspiracy

A REPORT BY
EDGAR SISSON

Special Representative in Russia of the Committee on Public Information in the Winter of 1917-18

CHAPTER I.

THE BASIC CONSPIRACY

Three groups of documents are subjected to internal analysis in the material that follows. One group consists of originals, one group consists of photographs of documents believed still to be in the file rooms of the Russian Bolsheviks, and the third (Appendix I) of typewritten circulars that have not been traced to their originals except perhaps in the case of two of the number. The chief importance of the third group is that its appearance inspired the efforts that led to the uncovering of the other groups. And they fit into the fabric of the whole.

The first set of these appendix circulars came into my hands on February 2, in Petrograd. An additional set appeared the following day at an office where I frequently called. A third appeared in another quarter a day afterwards. One set was in Russian and two in English. On February 5 I held all three sets. A possible explanation for their appearance at this time and their intent is given in Appendix I.

By themselves they were plausible but not substantiated. Having first performed the obvious duty of analyzing them for surface values and transmitting them and the analyses to Washington, I turned, therefore, to the task of further investigations.

It is not yet possible to name those who helped, but in three weeks' time the judgment of facts became apparent.

The text of the documents discloses both the methods and the effects of the German conspiracy not alone against Russia but the world. With each document is the indication of whether it is an original or photograph. With each document is an interpretative note.

DOCUMENT NO. 1

People's Commissary for Foreign Affairs.
(Very Secret)

Petrograd, November 16, 1917.

TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL OF PEOPLE'S COMMISSARS:

In accordance with the resolution passed by the conference of People's Commissars, Comrades Lenin, Trotsky, Podvoisky, Dybenko, and Volodarsky, the following has been executed by us:

1. In the archives of the Ministry of Justice from the dossier re "treason" of Comrades Lenin, Zinovieff, Koslovsky, Kollontai and others, has been removed the order of the German Imperial Bank, No. 7433, of the second of March, 1917, for allowing money to Comrades Lenin, Zinovieff, Kameneff, Trotsky, Sumensson, Koslovsky and others for the propaganda of peace in Russia.

2. There have been audited all the books of the Nis Bank at Stockholm containing the accounts of Comrades Lenin, Trotsky, Zinovieff, and others, which were opened by the order of the German Imperial Bank No. 2754. These books have been delivered to Comrade Müller, who was sent from Berlin.

Authorized by the Commissar for Foreign Affairs.

E. POLIVANOFF.
F. ZALKIND.

NOTE.—The Russian Council of People's Commissars was dominated by the president, Vladimir Ulianov (Lenin); the then foreign minister, Leon Trotsky, now war minister; and the ambassador to Germany, A. Joffe. The marginal endorsement in writing is: "To the secret department, B. U." This is the fashion in which Lenin is accustomed to initial himself. The English equivalent would be V. U. for Vladimir Ulianov. So, even if there existed no further record of German Imperial Bank order No. 7433, here would be the proof of its contents, and here is the link connecting Lenin directly with his action and his guilt. The content matter of the circular exists, however, and herewith follows:

Order of the 2d of March, 1917, of the Imperial Bank for the representatives of all German banks in Sweden:

Notice is hereby given that requisition for money for the purpose of peace propaganda in Russia will be received through Finland. These requisitions will emanate from the following: Lenin, Zinovieff, Kameneff, Trotsky, Sumensson, Koslovsky, Kollontai, Sivers, and Merkahn, accounts for whom have been opened in accordance with our order No. 2754 in the agencies of private German businesses in Sweden, Norway, and Switzerland. All these requests should

bear one of the two following signatures: Dirshau or Milkenberg. With either of these signatures the requests of the above-mentioned persons should be complied with without delay.—7433, IMPERIAL BANK.

I have not a copy of this circular nor a photograph of it, but Document No. 2, once in order, proves its authenticity at once curiously and absolutely. Particular interest attaches to this circular because of Bolshevik public denial of its existence. It was one of several German circulars published in Paris in the "Petit Parisien" last winter. The Petrograd Bolshevik papers proclaimed it a falsehood. Zalkind, whose signature appears not only here but on the protocol (Document No. 3), was an assistant foreign minister. He was sent in February on a mission outside of Russia. He was in Christiania in April when I was there.
Have photograph of the letter.

DOCUMENT NO. 2

[Great] [General] [Staff], Intelligence
[Nachrichten] Bureau, Section A, No. 392.

(Secret)

February 12, 1918.

TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL OF PEOPLE'S COMMISSARS:

The Intelligence Bureau has the honor to inform you that there

G. G.-S.

NACHRICHTEN-BUREAU.

Section A

№ 392

16 февраля 1918 г.

Г. Председателю Совета Народных Комиссаров.

Handwritten notes:
"Всё в архиве"
"В архиве"
"В архиве"
"В архиве"

Разъясненное Отделение имеет честь сообщить, что наданные у преставляемого кап. Конлина два германских документа с пометками и промпелами Петербургского Схранного Отделения, представляющих собой подлинные приказы Имперского Банка за № 7433 от 2 Марта 1917 года объ открытiи счетов г.г. Ленину, Суменсон, Козловскому, Троцкому и другим деятелям на пропаганду мира, по ордеру Имперского Банка за № 2754.

Это открытие доказывает, что не были своевременно приняты меры для уничтожения означенных документов.

СОВЕТЪ

2. Начальника Отделения *В. Залкинд*

АДЪЮТАНТЪ *Гуманов*



Facsimile of Document Number 2



PORTRAIT OF THE EMPEROR NICOLAS II
By VALENTINE SYEROV

THE RUSSIAN DIARY OF AN ENGLISHMAN

Petrograd, 1915-1917



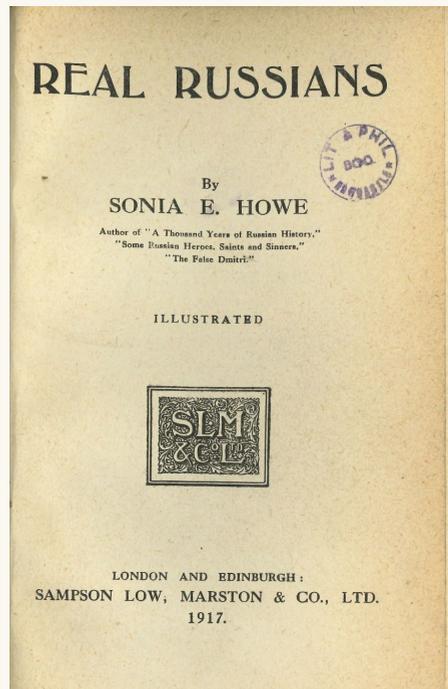
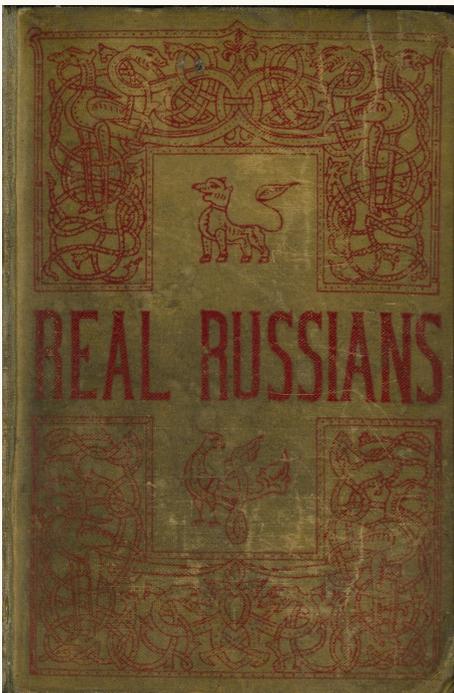
LONDON: WILLIAM HEINEMANN

The Russian Diary of an Englishman: Petrograd, 1915-1917 (London: William Heinemann, 1919)

This anonymous account of the progress of the war and revolution in Petrograd was probably written by Bertie Stopford, a diplomatic courier and art dealer. The narrative is constructed from diary entries and letters, beginning in the summer of 1915, and ending in September 1917, when the author 'quits Russia at the moment when the Bolshevik volcano is boiling up to its fiery finale'. Stopford was close to the Romanov court, and his diaries detail his social encounters with members of the Russian aristocracy as well as recounting notable political and military developments. In February 1916 the author had an interview with Tsar Nicholas II at Tsarskoe Selo, where the two apparently exchanged stories and reflections about the war. The book focuses in particular depth on the death of Rasputin in December 1916. The author knew Felix Yusupov, one of the participants, well. Diary entries and letters recount details the author picked up both from Russian society circles and from the British Embassy: the book also contains a 'True and Authentic Story' of the murder as told to the author 'on June 6 1917, at Yalta, by the perpetrator'.

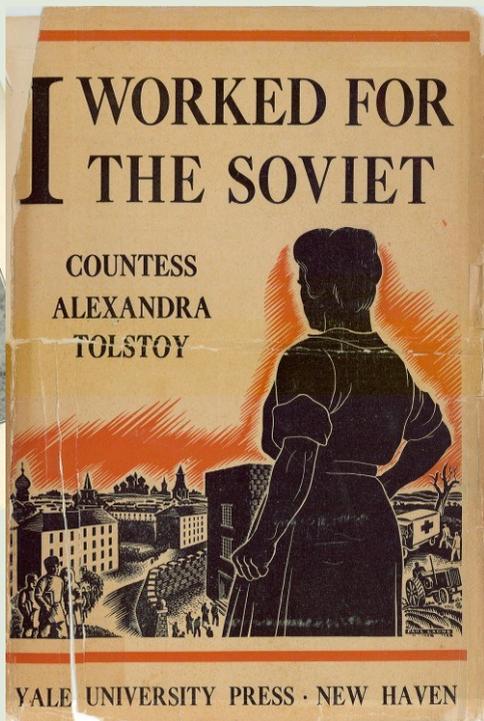
Sonia Howe, *Real Russians* (London and Edinburgh: Sampson, Low, Marston and Co. Ltd, 1917)

Sonia Howe visited Russia in the summer of 1916, on a mission to 'plead privately with those in authority' for an amnesty for political prisoners. Howe seems to have been Russian by birth, but was married to the vicar of St. Luke's Church in Finchley. She was the Honorary Secretary of a Committee for the Relief of Administrative Exiles in Northern Russia and Siberia, which raised funds to send to prisoners in Russia's exile system – she kept a model of a Russian pilgrim, made by an exile out of prison bread, on her mantelpiece. She was also however a fervent advocate of the Anglo-Russian wartime alliance, and gave lectures and published books (including her *A Thousand Years of Russian History*, published in 1915), designed to cement the relationship between the two countries. In May 1916 she was invited by a member of Russia's Imperial Council, who was visiting Britain as part of an official delegation, to come to Russia and present proposals for a political amnesty. Little did she expect, she tells her reader, that the amnesty she sought would be granted within a year, but by an entirely different government. Howe tells us that after her return many acquaintances asked whether she had any inkling during her visit of the forthcoming revolution. She reflected that 'many of the disorders now become apparent were even then existing', and this made her think that 'the story of my personal experiences on a journey rather unique for a woman, would prove of interest to the general reader'. In this book she recounts her experiences in Petrograd, Kiev, Tsarskoe Selo and Mogilev, and gives her impressions of Russian soldiers and workers. Her account was published in 1917, and was acquired by the Lit & Phil shortly afterwards.



Ernest Poole, *The Dark People: Russia's Crisis* (London: Macmillan, 1919)

Ernest Poole was an American journalist and novelist who spent time in Russia during both the 1905 and 1917 revolutions. In the 1900s Poole lived and worked at the University Settlement in New York City, and his journalistic output focused on social conditions in the city's Lower East Side. He joined the Socialist Party of America in 1908. During the early years of the war he was sent as correspondent of the *Saturday Evening Post* to Berlin to cover the war from the German side, and in early 1917 he was sent to Petrograd. His experiences during Russia's revolutionary year form the basis of *The Dark People*, which was first published by Macmillan in New York in 1918. The Lit & Phil has the first UK edition of the book, which came out the following year. Poole was a socialist, but not a Marxist, and his sympathies in this book are very much with the 'Dark People' of the title, the Russian peasantry. Poole saw 1917 as their revolution. They 'have lived for generations in bleak and lonely villages, in poverty and ignorance. They have been inarticulate. But now at last, from underneath the present angry turmoil, from every part of Russia their deep voice begins to be heard'. He was sympathetic to Alexander Kerensky, whose coalition government he believed had the support of the majority of socialists in the summer of 1917, and he praised the Soviets as representatives of all labour and socialist groups. The Bolsheviks he regarded as an 'extreme socialist faction', and he routinely linked their actions in 1917 to German exploitation. Poole warned his readers against dismissing Russia simply because her contribution to the world war had ended. Whatever happened in future in Russia, he believed it would have a dramatic impact on radical forces in other lands.



Also in the Lit and Phil's collections:

John Pollock, *War and Revolution in Russia: Sketches and Studies* (London: Constable and co., 1918)

Pierre Gilliard, *Thirteen Years at the Russian Court* (London, Hutchinson and Co., 1921)

George Buchanan, *My Mission to Russia and other Diplomatic Memories* (London: Cassell, 1923)

Alfred Knox, *With the Russian Army, 1914-1917* (London: Hutchinson and Co., 1921)

Bernard Pares, *My Russian Memoirs* (London: Jonathan Cape, 1931)

C. E. Bechhofer, *In Denikin's Russia and the Caucasus 1919-20* (London, W. Collins sons and co., 1921)

E. H. Wilcox, *Russia's Ruin* (London, Chapman and Hall, 1919)

Florence Farnborough, *Nurse at the Russian Front: A diary 1914-18* (London, Constable and Co., 1974)

Julia Cantacuzene, *Revolutionary Days: Recollections of Romanoffs and Bolxheviki 1914-1917* (London: Chapman and Hall, 1920)

3. MEMOIRS OF REVOLUTION

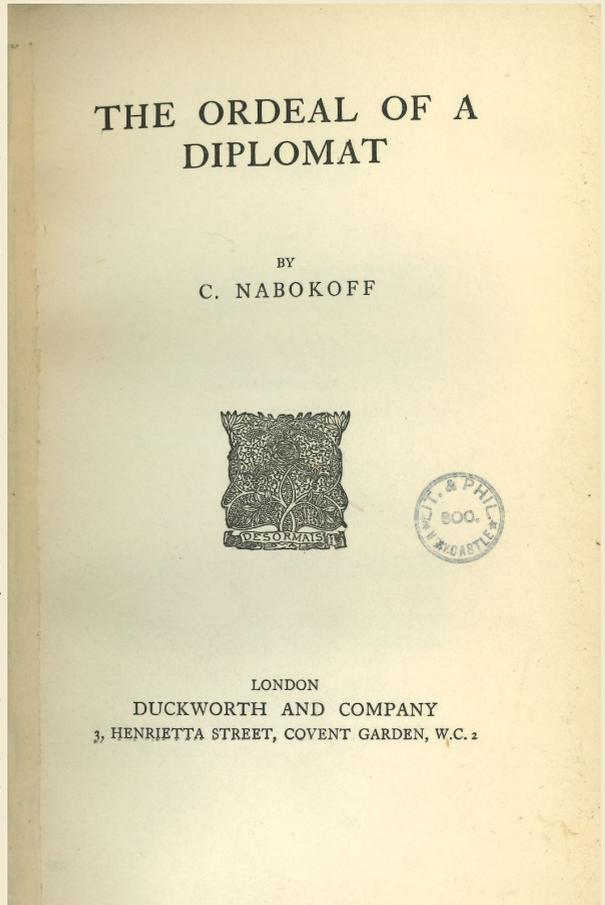
Alexandra Tolstoy, I Worked for the Soviet (London: Allen and Unwin, 1935)

Leo Tolstoy's youngest daughter, Alexandra, was working as a nurse in a wartime field hospital when the Russian revolution broke out. As the Russian army collapsed, she returned to Moscow to work in the State Library editing her father's works. Alexandra was close to her father personally and in her political beliefs: after his death she occupied a prominent role in the Tolstoyan movement in Russia. This movement, which embraced pacifism, vegetarianism and anarchism, flourished in the years following the revolution. Lenin regarded the popular appeal of Tolstoy's philosophy as a threat to state communism, and one that should be 'fought all along the line'. Nevertheless Tolstoy's literary heritage was important to the Soviet state, and they intended to preserve it. Alexandra was appointed Commissar for Yasnaya Polyana (the Tolstoy family home, now a museum) by the Commissar for Enlightenment, Anatoly Lunacharsky, in 1919. Nevertheless, between 1917-1921 she was arrested and imprisoned a total of six times by the Bolshevik authorities. This memoir documents Alexandra's experiences of the early Soviet regime. In emigration she founded the Tolstoy Foundation in New York State, and organization that helped Russian émigrés and refugees, and preserved émigré cultural heritage. In the decades following her departure from Russia Alexandra was labeled a 'traitor to the motherland'. She was partially rehabilitated in 1977, and was invited to visit Russia for the 150th anniversary of her father's death, but she was too ill to travel, and died in the United States in 1979.

Konstantin Nabokov, *The Ordeal of a Diplomat* (London: Duckworth and Company, 1921)

This memoir tells the story of Russia's war and revolution from the perspective of a Russian in London: the Chargé d'Affaires at the Russian Embassy, Konstantin Nabokov. Nabokov had previously held appointments as First Secretary in Washington and as Consul General in India: the young Vladimir Nabokov, his nephew, described him as 'my father's Englished brother'. Nabokov arrived in London in December 1915, as Counsellor of the Russian Embassy, and only on the death of the Ambassaor Alexander Benkendorff in January 1917 became Chargé d'Affaires. In this memoir Nabokov describes the rather muted initial reaction in London to the abdication of the tsar, which arrived late in the evening on 15th March. He recounts the divisions within the Russian colony in London, between monarchists in diplomatic or military employ, and revolutionaries who welcomed the revolution with enthusiasm.

Nabokov's memoir bears out the young Nabokov's comments on his English sympathies, as he displays considerably more sympathy for the British government than he does for the Russian Provisional Government of 1917, though he regarded himself as *persona non grata* on all sides. Following the October Revolution he occupied the curious position of being recognized (and for a while funded) by the British government, but not by the prevailing government in Russia. His memoirs were published in London in 1921, and he lived there until his death in 1927. His brother's family, including Vladimir Nabokov, then in his late teens, also left Russia at the revolution. Vladimir Nabokov studied at Cambridge before living in Berlin, Paris and the USA: his most famous works, including *Lolita* (1955) were published in emigration.





A. F. KERENSKY.



Photo] ["Central News,"
GENERAL KORNILOV.

Frontispiece



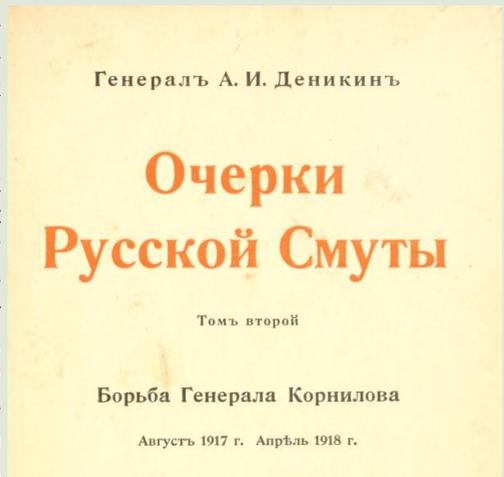
Alexander Kerensky: *The Prelude to Bolshevism: the Kornilov Rebellion* (London: T. F. Unwin, 1919)

Alexander Kerensky was one of the most controversial figures of the Russian revolutionary period. He was Minister for Justice in the first Provisional Government of 1917, and was the only member of that government who also sat on the Petrograd Soviet. As the government experienced crises in the spring and summer of 1917, Kerensky, who was seen as a figure who bridged the gap between Russia's liberals and socialists, became first Minister of War, and then Prime Minister. He launched a dynamic campaign to encourage soldiers in Russia's army to fight in the 'Kerensky Offensive' of June 1917, but initial successes in this campaign were quickly reversed, and discipline and morale in the army continued to disintegrate.

This volume, published in London in 1919 and purchased by the Lit & Phil shortly afterwards, gives Kerensky's account of the 'Kornilov affair' of August 1917. Ostensibly this was an attempted coup d'état against Kerensky's government by Kornilov as Commander in Chief, but some contemporaries suggested that Kerensky was complicit in the events, and only turned on Kornilov at the last minute. A large part of this book consists of annotations and remarks on the proceedings of the Extraordinary Commission of Inquiry that was set up in the immediate aftermath of the affair, by Kerensky, to investigate the incident. While Kerensky emphatically denies authorizing Kornilov's actions, he does concede that he 'never doubted [Kornilov's] love for his country'. After the Bolshevik seizure of power Kerensky left Russia: he was in London in 1918, campaigning for Allied intervention in Russia's civil war, and remained at the centre of the Russian political emigration until his death in 1970. His most comprehensive memoir, *Russia and History's Turning Point*, was published in 1965, and is also held by the Lit & Phil.

Anton Denikin, *The Russian Turmoil* (London: Hutchinson & Co., 1920)

This book is a translation of the first volume of Denikin's memoir, *Ocherki russskoi smuty*. The Russian-language version was published in Paris by Jaques Povolozky in 1921. It recounts Denikin's experiences from the February revolution of 1917 until his imprisonment in the Bykhov monastery in the autumn of that year. He was imprisoned because of his complicity in Commander in Chief General Kornilov's attempted coup in September 1917. Denikin was Kornilov's Chief of Staff, and had acted as Chief of Staff to both General Alekseev and General Brusilov before him. He regarded the Provisional Government as 'criminally incapable', and, as he stated in a telegram that he reproduces here, believed the reforms that had taken place in the army since the revolution had 'destroyed and debauched the army, and had trampled our battle honours in the mud'. Kornilov and Denikin escaped from Bykhov after the October revolution and fled south, where they joined Alekseev's volunteer army. After Alekseev's death Denikin became Commander in Chief of the anti-Bolshevik armies in the South. His drive towards Moscow in the summer of 1919 was the focus for the hopes of the anti-Bolshevik cause, but his forces were halted at Orel, and forced to retreat all the way back to the Crimea. Denikin was replaced as Commander in Chief by Petr Wrangel in 1920, and he left Russia, initially for England. He lived most of the rest of his long life in Paris, and remained in France during the German occupation, but died in the United States in 1974.



Also in the Lit and Phil's collections:

Princess Paley, *Memories of Russia, 1916-1919* (London: H. Jenkins Ltd, 1924)

A.P. Izvol'skii, *The Memoirs of Alexander Iswolsky, formerly Russian minister of foreign affairs and ambassador to France* (London: Hutchinson and Co., 1920)

A.V. Nelkiudov, *Diplomatic Reminiscences before and during the World War 1911-1917* (London: John Murray, 1920)

Alexander Kerensky, *The Crucifixion of Liberty* (London: A. Barker, 1934)

Alexander Kerensky, *The Kerensky Memoirs* (London: Cassell and Co., 1966)

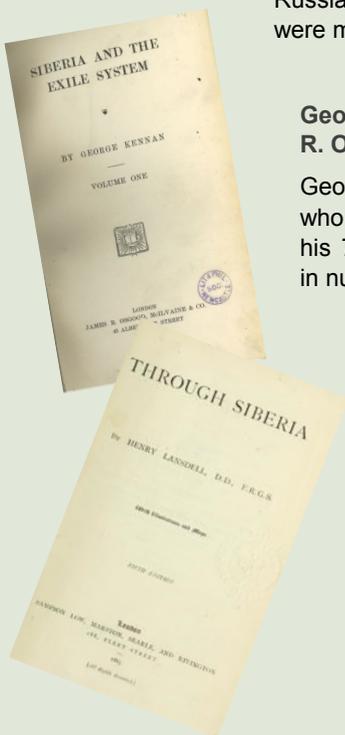
4. PRE-REVOLUTIONARY CONNECTIONS

Henry Lansdell, *Through Siberia* (Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1882)

Henry Lansdell (1841-1919), an English clergyman, was one of many foreigners who published travel accounts of journeys through Russia in the late-nineteenth and early-twentieth centuries. Such accounts often focused on Siberia, its wildlife, and populations. Lansdell visited Russia and Central Asia on many occasions, and though his books were popular among English readers, Russian émigrés including Stepniak criticised his willingness to believe everything he was shown or told by representatives of the tsarist regime and his disregard for facts and details. This particular edition of *Through Siberia* was published in America the same year as the first English edition. Houghton Mifflin were an established and well-respected Boston publishing house, still in existence as Houghton Mifflin Harcourt in the present day. Houghton Mifflin manuscript reader Francis Jackson Garrison (1848-1916), son of the famous American abolitionist William Lloyd Garrison (1805-1879), would later become a founding member and the treasurer of the Society of American Friends of Russian Freedom, affiliated with the English Society and formed during Stepniak's lecture tour to America. FJ Garrison was active in a number of contemporary social and humanitarian causes alongside that of Russian freedom, including the campaign for women's suffrage, as were many of his contemporaries.

George Kennan, *Siberia and the Exile System* (London: James R. Osgood, McIlvaine & Co, 1891)

George Kennan was an eminent American explorer and journalist who chronicled his travels across Russia in several books, including his *Tent Life in Siberia* (New York: G.P. Putnam's Sons, 1870), and in numerous articles in the New York-based *Century Magazine*. Originally having travelled to Russia as part of exploration efforts by the Russian-American Telegraph Company in the 1860s, he was permitted to return in the mid-1880s in a period where the Russian government was receiving increasingly negative press attention regarding the treatment of political prisoners in Siberia. Kennan, however, corroborated these accounts and returned from Russia determined to spread the knowledge of atrocities being committed under tsarist rule and what he saw as the deplorable treatment of political prisoners in internal exile in Siberia. Kennan supported efforts to establish the Society of American Friends of Russian Freedom, but was never able to devote large amounts of time to the cause. He continued to lecture extensively on Russian topics across America, which took up most of his time, and his increasing ill-health appears to have taken its toll. Kennan's not so distant relative George Frost Kennan (1904-2005) was a diplomat and later US Ambassador to the Soviet Union.



Harry de Windt, *Russia as I know it* (London: Chapman & Hall, 1917)

Published shortly after the February Revolution in Russia in which the tsarist regime was brought to an end, Harry de Windt's *Russia as I know it* was based on several of his popular books about his travels across the Russian Empire. *Russia as I know it* was one of many books that appeared around the time of the First World War, 1917 Revolutions, and Russian Civil War. This surge in publishing corresponded to increased public and press interest in Russian affairs. Similarly to Lansdell, de Windt (1856-1933) had attracted criticism from Russian émigrés, press reviewers, and George Kennan for his portrayal of the Russian prison and internal exile system in his book *Siberia as it is* (London: Chapman & Hall, 1892). De Windt was also close the Russian émigré supporter of the tsarist regime Countess Olga Novikoff, whose journalism was widely derided by revolutionary émigrés. De Windt and Novikoff's arguments against depictions of the tragedies and abuses within the Siberia prison system were strongly supported by William Thomas Stead (1849-1912) in his periodical *The Review of Reviews*.

George Herbert Perris, *Russia in Revolution* (London: Chapman & Hall, 1905)

Dedicated to the Russian revolutionary émigré Felix Volkhovsky, *Russia in Revolution* by the journalist and peace activist George Herbert Perris (1866-1920) recounted the history of the Russian revolutionary movement from the 1870s up to the unrest and strikes occurring in Russia in 1905. Perris had been a founding member of the Society of Friends of Russian Freedom and, as such, his book focused on the revolutionaries he had known in England, including the anarchist-communist theorist Peter Kropotkin. The book's publishers, Chapman & Hall, were just one of many publishing houses to take advantage of growing interest in Russian affairs following the revolutionary events of that year.



WALRUS-HIDE HUT IN WHICH THE AUTHOR LIVED AT WHALEN (EARLY SPRING-TIME)

Father George Gapon, *The Story of My Life* (London: Chapman & Hall, 1905)

Georgii Apollonovich Gapon (1870-1906) was perhaps one of the most widely-known figures of the events of 1905 in Russia. A Russian Orthodox priest and leader of a police-supported labour organisation the Assembly of Russian Factory and Mill Workers, Gapon had taken part in the events known as Bloody Sunday in St Petersburg in January 1905 which saw him lead demonstrators to the Winter Palace to present a petition to the tsar calling for, among other things, a shorter working day, universal suffrage, and an end to the war with Japan. Soldiers fired on the unarmed demonstrators and hundreds were killed or injured, triggering widespread unrest in Russia. In his memoirs, Gapon recounted these events and his subsequent escape from arrest and likely imprisonment by fleeing the country shortly after these events. In Switzerland, where Russian revolutionary thinkers and activists had sought refuge since the nineteenth century, Gapon joined the Socialist Revolutionary Party and soon returned to Russia. However, under suspicion of being a police spy, his murder was arranged by the infamous double agent Evno Azef in April 1906.



*Portrait by V. Shchegolev.
Largius Repinski (Krasovskiy),
after the portrait by Felix Mendelssohn.*

RUSSIA IN REVOLUTION



BY
G. H. PERRIS

AUTHOR OF
"LEO TOLSTOY, THE GRAND MUJIK," "THE FURTHER MEMOIRS OF MARIE
BARSKIRETSEFF," "THE EASTERN CRISIS AND BRITISH POLICY,"
ETC.

WITH ILLUSTRATIONS

"What is passing at present is not a simple riot, but a revolution."—Prince
TROUBETSKOY, President of the Moscow Zemstvo, to Prince SVYATOPOLK-
MIRSKY, December, 1904.

LONDON
CHAPMAN & HALL, LTD.
1905



GAPON IN LONDON, 1905.
(Photo: N. Zakharin.)

[Presented by...]

THE STORY OF MY LIFE

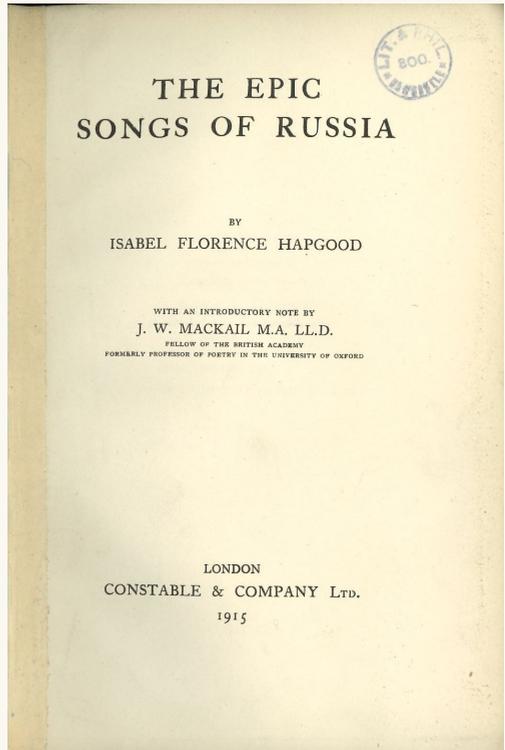
BY
FATHER GEORGE GAPON



LONDON
CHAPMAN & HALL, LTD.
1905

Isabel Florence Hapgood, *The Epic Songs of Russia* (London: Constable, 1915)

Originally published in 1886, *The Epic Songs of Russia*, translated by Isabel Florence Hapgood (1851-1928), a renowned American translator of Russian and French literature into English, was issued in a new edition in 1915. The new introduction to the volume described the time of publication as more appropriate than the original date, as interest in Russian culture had not piqued thirty years before. Hapgood dedicated this new edition to those Russians fighting in the First World War, likening them to the heroic figures represented in the epic poems, or *byliny*. Hapgood also prefaced her translations by noting that the book would help readers to understand what contemporaries saw as exotic about Russia. One of the epic poems in the volume tells the story of the life of Prince Vladimir of Kiev, who ruled from the end of the tenth century to the beginning of the eleventh. Figures in this cycle have been compared to King Arthur and his knights. Among Hapgood's other work included translations of work by the Russian writer Leo Tolstoy, with whom she corresponded extensively, including his *Childhood, Boyhood, Youth*.



Rosa Newmarch (ed), *The Russian song books: a selection of songs from the works of Russian composers, old and new / edited and translated into English* (London: J & W Chester, 1917)

Another example of the great wealth of books concerning Russian arts and culture in this period in the Literary and Philosophical Society's collections is this book of sheet music, compiled by Rosa Newmarch (1857-1940) who did much to introduce Russian music to Britain in the late-nineteenth and early-twentieth centuries. Newmarch was the author of several books on Russian music, including on the famous Russian composer Peter Illich Tchaikovsky. This volume, comprising songs arranged for soprano voice, is one of a series of songbooks for different voices collected by Newmarch.

Also in the Lit and Phil's collections:

George Kennan, *Tent Life in Siberia* (New York: GP Putnam & Sons, 1870)

Maurice Baring, *A Year in Russia* (London: Methuen, 1907)

Carl Joubert, *Russia as it really is* (London: E. Nash, 1904)

Fridtjof Nansen, *Through Siberia: the land of the future* translated by Arthur G. Chater (London: William Heinemann, 1914)

Stephen Graham, *A vagabond in the Caucasus, with some notes of his experiences among the Russians* (London: J. Lane, 1915)

Donald Mackenzie Wallace, *Russia* (London: Cassell, Petter and Galpin, 1877)

FA Wellesley, *With the Russians in peace and war :recollections of a military attaché* (London: E Nash, 1905)

Robert Steele, *The Russian garland :Being Russian folk tales* (London: McBride, Nast, & Co, 1916)

Rosa Newmarch, *The Russian Arts* (London: Herbert Jenkins, 1916)

5. VISITORS TO EARLY SOVIET RUSSIA

H. G. Wells, *Russia in the Shadows* (London: Hodder and Stoughton, 1920)

H. G. Wells first visited Russia in the winter of 1913-14. His impressions of the Russian parliament and of a visit to a country estate near Novgorod are recorded in his novel *Joan and Peter*. At the outbreak of war Wells was an enthusiastic supporter of the Anglo-Russian alliance. The character Peter reflects that 'They had a closer parallelism with each other than... any of the other great political systems of the world. Russia was Britain on land. Britain was Russia in an island and upon all the seas of the globe'. Wells later condemned his attitude and his literary output in the early months of the war as belligerent and misguided. Wells made his second visit to Russia in 1920. The articles that make up *Russia in the Shadows* were serialized in the *Sunday Express* before they appeared in book form. The newspaper articles testify to the appetite for unbiased accounts of the Soviet regime: they appeared under a statement from the paper's editor which read 'Mr. Wells's articles are wholly unbiased and independent... he gives blame and praise to both sides without reservation or evasion.' Wells insisted that he had not been taken around Russia with blinkers on, as he had been warned he might. He described in detail the difficult conditions in St. Petersburg and Moscow, but blamed these not on the communist regime, but on the autocracy which had preceded it, and which had plunged the country into an exhausting war. Wells also describes a meeting with Lenin, at which they discussed the reasons for the absence of a social revolution in England. Some of Wells's pre-war Russian friends were exasperated by his articles: Ariadna Tyrkova-Williams, whose family had hosted Wells briefly during his stay in Russia, wrote that he 'comes into the room of one who is dying, and bears himself as though he were at some curious public spectacle'. The book sold well, however, and the articles boosted the circulation of the *Sunday Express* substantially. On a final visit to Russia in 1934, Wells interviewed Stalin.

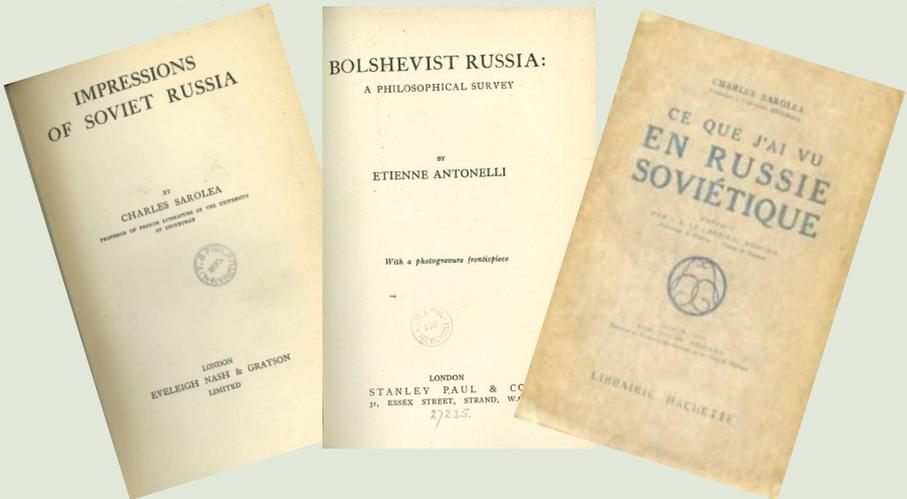


Etienne Antonelli, *Bolshevist Russia: A Philosophical Survey* (London: Stanley Paul and Co., 1920)

Etienne Antonelli was a French economist and social democrat. During the First World War he served as a military attaché in Russia, and did not return to France until after the revolution. In the 1920s he became Professor of the History of Economic Thought in Lyon, and was elected as a Socialist MP. This account of the revolution and the policies of the early Soviet state makes no mention of Antonelli's own personal experiences. Instead he gives a detailed account of the history of the revolutionary movement, explaining the politics of the principal parties, recounts the details of the Bolshevik seizure of power, and then devotes chapters to Bolshevik policies on property, individual rights, and industry. Antonelli's account is accompanied by a series of original documents, including the Land Decree of October 1917, and instructions given to emissaries who were sent into the provinces in the immediate aftermath of the revolution. This book was first published as *La Russie Bolcheviste* by Bernard Grasset in Paris in 1919, and subsequently appeared in separate British and American editions. Charles Carroll, who translated the text for the American edition, believed that the book owed its success in France largely to its straightforward and vivid description of the actual revolution, in contrast to the many 'hysterical' accounts on the market it would be valued by people 'who want to understand rather than to find corroboration for emotional judgements'. Antonelli points out in his text that while 'in the salons of the diplomats and the boudoirs of the exiles from Slavism' it was routine to dismiss the Bolshevik revolution as 'nothing', as a German intrigue, or later as a 'plague', the Bolsheviks had maintained themselves in power 'not for a few days, but for months, and in such fashion that their power came to take on all the outward signs of stability'. His book was an attempt to document the initial stages of this attempt at 'a democracy which will not descend from the powerful ones to the people, as in all present forms of society, but which will rise voluntarily and surely from the unorganized and uncultivated folk to an organizing intelligence'.

Charles Sarolea, *Impressions of Soviet Russia* (London: E. Nash and Grayson, 1924)

Charles Sarolea was a Belgian scholar who in 1894 took up a lectureship (and in 1918 a chair), in French Language and Literature at the University of Edinburgh. Sarolea was Belgian consul in the city from 1901, and during the war he organized relief for Belgian refugees across Scotland. Sarolea was the author of an eclectic range of books on literature and international affairs, with volumes devoted to Ibsen and Tolstoy as well as the Belgian Congo and the League of Nations. He wrote a total of five books on Russian subjects. Of these one dealt with the 1905 revolution, and another with 1917. Two volumes, *Europe's Debt to Russia*, and *Great Russia: Her Achievements and Promise*, were designed to further the alliance with Russia; these were both published in 1916. Sarolea was active in the campaign for Allied intervention in the Russian Civil War, writing on the topic and lecturing up and down the country. Sarolea's *Impressions of Soviet Russia* was based on a trip he undertook in 1923. Like other early accounts, it claimed to be a dispassionate, balanced report on developments in the country, but it was very far from being so. Sarolea described the Bolshevik leadership as 'fanatics', 'madmen, thieves and murderers'. The French edition of this book, *Ce que j'ai vue en Russie Soviétique* (Paris: Hachette, 1925) received glowing reviews in the Russian émigré press.



Also in the Lit and Phil's collections:

Paul Dukes, *Red Dusk and the Morrow : Adventures and Investigations in Red Russia* (London: Williams and Norgate, 1923)

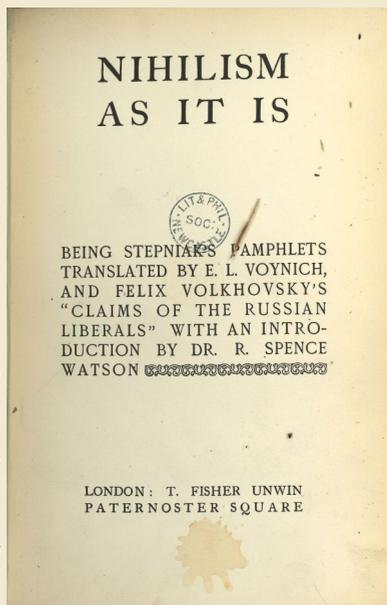
Michael Farbman, *Russia and the Struggle for Peace* (London: G. Allen and Unwin, 1918)

Arthur Ransome, *The Crisis in Russia* (London: G. Allen and Unwin, 1921)

6. TYNESIDE AND THE REVOLUTION

***Nihilism as it is. Being Stepniak's Pamphlets translated by E.L. Voinich, and Felix Volkhovsky's 'Claims of the Russian Liberals', with an introduction by Dr R. Spence Watson* (London: T Fisher Unwin, 1894)**

This volume reproduced two pamphlets and a new work by London-based Russian revolutionaries who worked closely with Robert Spence Watson (1837-1911), a lawyer, businessman, and civic figure in Newcastle-upon-Tyne. Spence Watson was President both of the Lit & Phil, and of the Society of Friends of Russian Freedom, founded in 1890. The book was published by Thomas Fisher Unwin, another member of the Society, whose business regularly published books on Russian topics. Sergei Kravchinskii (1851-1895), was a Russian revolutionary terrorist who had killed the head of the Russian secret police in 1878 before leaving Russia for Europe, where he became known by his pseudonym Stepniak (meaning 'man of the steppes'). Arriving in England in 1884, Stepniak was already relatively well-known following the publication in 1883 of his book *Underground Russia*, comprising profiles of Russian revolutionary figures and stories of revolutionary activity. In the two pamphlets published here, 'What is Wanted?' and 'The Beginning of the End', Stepniak described the crisis in tsarist rule, detailed the political rights and freedoms the revolutionaries hoped to obtain, and what assistance foreigners might offer to Russian revolutionaries. In an attempt to offer a more inclusive account of the Russian political opposition, looking beyond the 'Nihilists' popularised by Stepniak's books, the volume also included a new work by Felix Volkhovsky (1846-1914) on the Russian liberals. Volkhovsky's escape from internal exile in Siberia became a newspaper sensation in 1889. Spence Watson, having first met Stepniak in person when he invited the latter to speak at the Sunday Lecture Society in January 1890, was intensely interested in the Russian revolutionary cause from a humanitarian perspective. His support, both financial and otherwise, was crucial in founding the Society of Friends of Russian Freedom and its press organ, *Free Russia*, which was edited by Stepniak until his death and after by Volkhovsky. Ethel Lilian Voinich, formerly Boole, (1864-1960) who translated Stepniak's pamphlets for this volume was also a writer and novelist and her novel, *The Gadfly* (1897) became especially popular in the Soviet Union. The Spence Watson/Weiss papers, held by the Newcastle University Special Collections, contain a number of letters from Stepniak to Robert and Elizabeth Spence Watson regarding support for the Russian revolutionary cause in England and the Society of Friends of Russian Freedom.





Harold Heslop, *Out of the Old Earth* (Newcastle upon Tyne: Bloodaxe Books, 1994)

Harold Heslop was a coalminer and author. He was born near Bishop Auckland in County Durham, but worked for many years at Harton Colliery near South Shields. Heslop sat on the council of the Durham Miners' Association, and was secretary to a local branch of the Independent Labour Party. His first novel was published in 1926, not in England but in the Soviet Union, where there was apparently a considerable appetite for his stories about mining in north east England. Subsequent novels about the General Strike of 1926, and about unemployment in London, were published both in English and in Russian. In 1930 Heslop travelled to the Soviet Union to attend the Second International Conference of Revolutionary Writers, as the British representative. He passed through Moscow on his way to Kharkov (where the conference was to be held), and in Moscow met Evgenii Zamyatin, who was now persona non grata with the Soviet authorities, but had also lived in Newcastle before the revolution. At the International Conference of Revolutionary Writers, Heslop denounced the bourgeois character of British literature, and bemoaned the fact that anti-capitalist references in his work were routinely censored in English-language editions of his work. While his novels were popular in the Soviet Union, Soviet critics still regarded him as an author who struggled to escape the bourgeois influences in his environment. This autobiography, *Out of the Old Earth*, was published in 1994, some 10 years after Heslop's death.



КРАТКІЙ МОРСКОЙ СЛОВАРЬ

на русскомъ, нѣмецкомъ, латышскомъ, шведскомъ,
англійскомъ, французскомъ и эстонскомъ языкахъ,

составленный

Россійскимъ Консуломъ въ Ньюкастлѣ на Тайнѣ

барономъ **А. А. ГЕЙКИНГЪ**

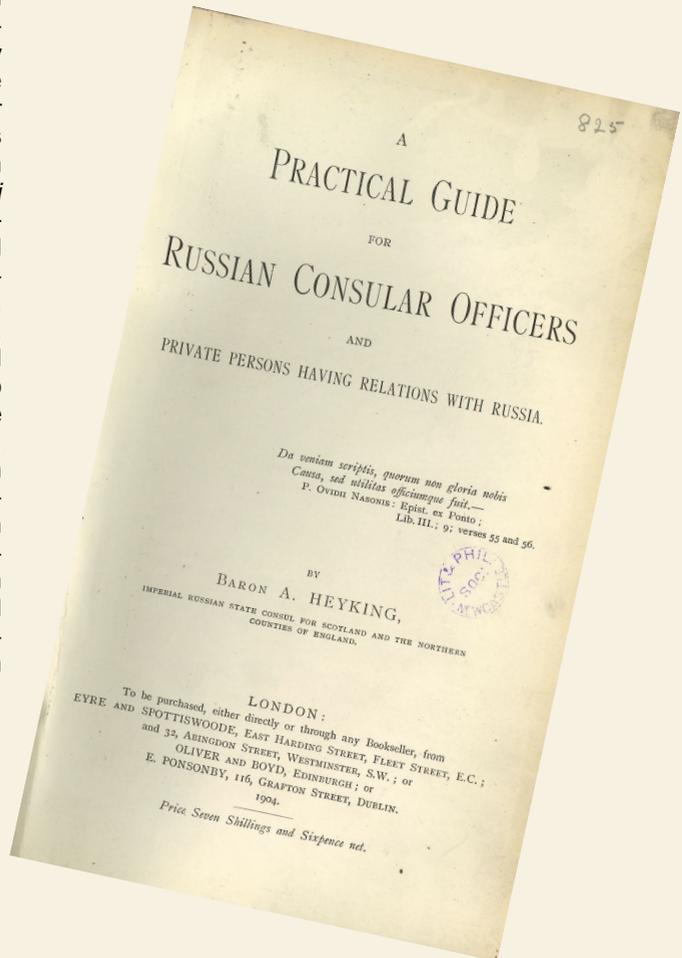
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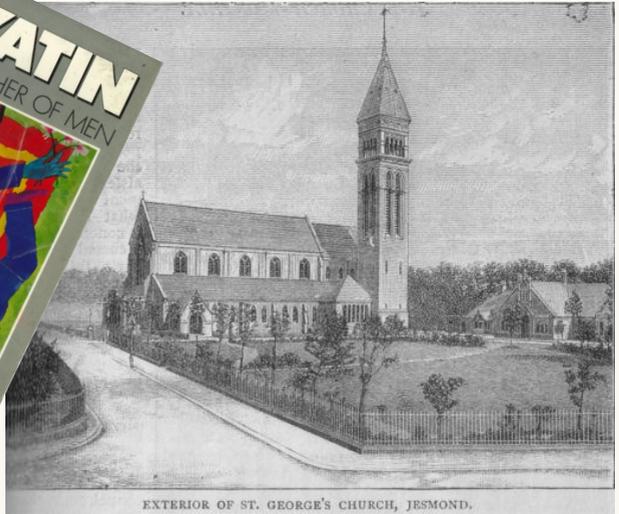
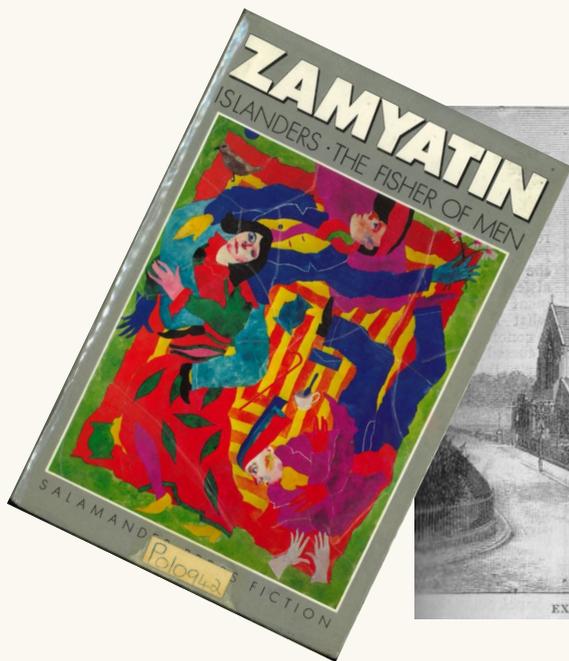
Handy-book for Seamen

in the Russian, German, Lettonian, Swedish, English,
French and Esthonian languages.

Baron Alfons von Heyking, *Handy-book for Seamen in the Russian, German, Lettonian, Swedish, English, French and Esthonian Languages* (Leipzig: Julius Klinkgardt, 1907)

There was a Russian consul in Newcastle from at least the 1830s. Initially these were 'elective' consuls, who were British subjects, but from the 1890s the tsarist government appointed their own 'state' consuls to the city. This is at least in part explained by the fact that Newcastle was an important centre for trade with Russia in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Shipyards on the Tyne built ships and icebreakers for Russia, and Russia was also an important export market for coal. Baron Alfons von Heyking (or Geiking) was consul in Newcastle from 1899 until 1908, and the Lit & Phil holds two of his publications. The first, *A Practical Guide for Russian Consular Officers and private persons having relations with Russia* was written during Heyking's tenure in Newcastle. It was published in London by Eyre and Spottiswoode in 1904 and was reissued by P. S. King in 1916. In this book Heyking set out all manner of practical information relating to consular duties, the technicalities of dealing with Russian citizens and Russian commerce abroad. Heyking also wrote further books and articles on the consular service, and in his broader body of work he emphasized the important work done by consuls, who, unlike diplomats, were in touch with the people of the country they served in, as they lived in towns where there was no large colony of their own nationality. Heyking's family were Baltic German nobility in Latvia. His *Kratkii Morskoi Slovar* or 'Handy-book for Seamen' lists naval terminology in seven different languages: Russian, German, Latvian, Estonian, Swedish, English, and French. Heyking was also the author of a 688-page book entitled *England*, which drew extensively on his impressions and experience of Newcastle upon Tyne. It included descriptions of mines at Seaton Delaval, iron and steel works at the Armstrong factory, and shipbuilding in Sunderland and Wallsend.





Evgenii Zamyatin, *Islanders, and The Fisher of Men* (Edinburgh: Salamander Press, 1984)

Evgenii Zamyatin was a revolutionary but also a naval engineer: during the First World War he lived in Newcastle, where he supervised the construction of ice-breakers that were being built for the Russian navy at the Swan Hunter shipyard in Wallsend and the Armstrong Whitworth shipyard in Walker. He returned to Russia only in September 1917, and so missed the February revolution and arrived just in time for October, an experience he described as being like 'never having been in love and waking up one morning already married for ten years or so'. Zamyatin had been a member of the Bolshevik party in his youth, but after the revolution joined the Left Socialist Revolutionaries, and opposed the methods of censorship and control used by the Bolshevik government. Zamyatin's most famous novel is the dystopian science fiction story *We*, which was one of the first books to be banned in Soviet Russia: it was first published by E. P. Dutton and Co. in New York in 1924. However, it is this novel, *Islanders*, that Zamyatin draws at greatest length on his experiences in Britain, and specifically in Newcastle. When he was first in the city Zamyatin stayed at the Central Station Hotel, but later he moved to Jesmond, where he found the people horribly middle class, and declared that the housing stock resembled nothing so much as the grain barns near the Aleksandr Nevskii monastery in St. Petersburg. Zamyatin was allowed to leave the country in 1931, and he died in Paris in 1937.

Also in the Lit and Phil's collections:

Percy Corder, *The Life of Robert Spence Watson* (London: Headley Brothers, 1914)

Sergei Stepniak, *The Russian Peasantry: their agrarian condition, social life, and religion* (London: Swan Sonnenschein and Co, 1890)

Sergei Stepniak, *King Stork and King Log: a story of modern Russia* (London: Downey and Co, 1895)

Baron Alfons von Heyking, *A Practical Guide for Russian Consular Officers and private persons having relations with Russia* (London: Eyre and Spottiswode, 1904)

Further Reading:

David Saunders, 'A Russian Consul in Newcastle upon Tyne: Baron Al'fons Al'don-ovich Geiking (1860-1930) and Anglo-Russian Connections at the Beginning of the Twentieth Century' *Slavonica* 20:2 (2014) pp. 95-113

Alan Myers, 'Evgenii Zamiatin in Newcastle' *The Slavonic and East European review* 68:1 (1990) pp. 91-99.

Compiled by Charlotte Alston and Lara Green

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