Reference: MS19

MS19

White Russian printed literature

1911-1921

Printed material of or acquired by George Soloveytchik (b 1902), financier, journalist and author, relating to his activities in and support of the British movement against Bolshevism during the Russian civil war and his membership of associated societies, clubs and committees. It also includes publicity material and publications (such as press releases, pamphlets, circulars) newspaper cuttings, and photographs

George Soloveytchik was born on 14 Mar 1902 in Petrograd and lived in Russia until 1919 when he came to England with his mother after the death of his father. They lived in Kensington Gate, London. In Oct 1919 he entered Queen's College, Oxford to read Modern History and he graduated with a BA in Jun 1922.

The records of Queen's College, Oxford provide some additional personal details. He was educated at St Catherine's School and the Reformed School in Petrograd. His family was Jewish and the Provost's Entrance Book describes him as a 'very secular Jew'. His father and grandfather, who were involved in social reform and politics, owned a large bank in Russia which was nationalised by the Bolsheviks.

According to the Queen's College Register of 1937, he was living at 12 Cavendish Mansions, Langham Street, London and had been employed as head of the Finance Department of Messrs Spurling, Skinner, Tudor and Co. He was still living at that address in 1950 but the Register of 1957 prints his name as an appendix, indicating that his address was unknown and had possibly died.

[Much of the above biographical information was supplied by the Keeper of the Archives, Queen's College, Oxford]

He wrote a number of books, including 'The Financier. The life of Ivar Kreuger' (Peter Davies, London, 1933); 'Leu & Co. 1755-1955. Two centuries of history in the life of a Swiss bank' (Zurich, 1955); 'Peace and Chaos?' (MacDonald & Co., London, 1944; new edition, Percival Marshall, London, 1949); 'Potemkin. A picture of Catherine's Russia' (Thornton Butterworth, London, 1938); 'Russia in Perspective' (MacDonald & Co., London, 1946); 'Switzerland in Perspective' (London, Oxford University Press, 1954)

5 manuscript boxes

Open

Access to all registered researchers

Languages: English, Russian, French

Permission to make any published use of any material from the collection must be sought in advance in writing from the Director of Special Collections (email: special-collections@bham.ac.uk). Identification of copyright holders of unpublished material is often difficult. Special Collections will assist where possible with identifying copyright owners, but responsibility for ensuring copyright clearance rests with the user of the material

The purchase of this material is reported in the University Librarian's Annual Report, 1976-77

MS19/1

Printed and other materials of Committees, Societies and Clubs

1918-1921

These papers comprise both printed and published material of these bodies, together with some circular and other correspondence sent to Soloveytchik relating to his membership of individual bodies or his support for or involvement in their work

3 Sub-series

Open

MS19/1/1 Russian Liberation Committee

1919-1921

Papers of or acquired by George Soloveytchik relating to, and his membership of, the Russian Liberation Committee

The Russian Liberation Committee was established in early 1919 and was based in offices at 173 Fleet Street, London. Its primary objective were 'to acquaint the British public with the economic and political conditions of Russia' and 'to publicise the attempts of the anti-Bolshevik forces to restore the Russian State and create conditions favourable to normal social and economic life'.

The Committee instituted its weekly 'Bulletin' in Feb 1919 and by Apr it had also established a telegraphic service by which news from Liberated Russia was telegraphed to the Committee and then distributed. It also produced other pamphlets and anti-Bolshevik literature. In Feb 1920, the 'Bulletin' was incorporated into a new weekly review publication, 'The New Russia', which the Russian Liberation Committee inaugurated in response to a change in the Russian policy of the Allied States which coincided with defeats of the anti-Bolshevik forces. Copies of 'The New Russia', Vols 1-3, 1920, are available in the University's Main Library at per DK 1.N4. It appears to have been replaced in 1921 by a monthly review publication, 'Russian Life'

6 files

Open

MS19/1/1/1

Weekly 'Bulletin' of the Russian Liberation 1919-1920 Committee, Nos 8-52, 12 Apr 1919-21 Feb 1920 (incomplete sequence)

A number of these 'Bulletins' include

supplements:

'Supplement to Bulletin' No. 14: 'Address from the National Centre and the Russian Regeneration Union to the Allies';

'Supplement to Bulletin' No. 19: 'The Military Situation';

'Supplement to Bulletin' No. 25: 'The Military Situation from July 15 to August 4, 1919';

'Supplement to Bulletin' No. 27: 'Conditions in Soviet Russia';

'Supplement to Bulletin' No. 31: 'Appeal in connection with the Evacuation of Archangel';

'Supplement to Bulletin No. 36': 'General Strategic Position on Oct. 20';

'Supplement to Bulletin' No. 46: 'America and Bolshevism';

'Supplement to Bulletin' No. 52: 'To Our Readers'

43 items

Open

This is an incomplete sequence: Nos10, 18 and 47 are missing; Nos. 33-34 is a combined issue

MS19/1/1/2

Typed press agency releases of the Russian Liberation Committee, Nos 1-207, 22 Apr 1919-31 Mar 1920 (incomplete sequence)

These office copies detail the progress of the civil war in Russia, the social and economic conditions of the Russian people under the Bolsheviks, the state of the cooperative and industrial businesses

204 items

Open

1919-1920

Incomplete sequence: Nos 49, 75 and 77

are missing

MS19/1/1/3 'Russian Life: A Monthly Review' edited 1921

by the Russian Liberation Committee, No

1, Aug 1921

1 item

Open

MS19/1/1/4 Miscellaneous printed literature of the

Russian Liberation Committee

These papers comprises:

/1 'Violators of Art', being a short article by Russian artist, N. K. Roerich about his dislike of Bolshevism, 12 Sep1919. 4 pp;

/2 'Socialisation of Women Bolsheviks' being an extract of official mandates for the requisition of girls;

/3 'Soviet Russia'. 8 pp

3 items

Open

MS19/1/1/5 Letters from the Russian Liberation

Committee to Soloveytchik

These letters comprise:

/1 Letter in response to Soloveytchik's suggestion to publish of a Russian calendar, 3 Oct 1919;

/2 Letter in response to Soloveytchik's request for copies of two of the Russian Liberation Committee's pamphlets: 'S.O.S.' and 'Proletarian Culture', 27 Oct 1919;

/3 Letter in response to Soloveytchik's request for further copies of 'S.O.S.' and to his suggestion for Cambridge colleges, 5 Nov 1919;

/4 Circular letter inviting subscriptions to its new weekly review, 'The New Russia',

1919

1919-1920

27 Jan 1920;

/5 Letter of thanks for a copy of 'Facts', a reference to a letter by Soloveytchik's published in 'Facts about Bolshevism', 27 Jan 1920

5 items

Open

MS19/1/1/6

Album of photographs depicting Bolshevik [c 1919] outrages including victims of Bolshevik cruelty and atrocities and desecration of churches, reproduced by the Russian Liberation Committee

These photographs were taken by the official Bolshevist Outrages Inquiry Commission and copies were acquired by the Russian Liberation Committee in 1919. Reproductions of these photographs, together with lantern slides for lectures, were made available at a nominal charge by the Committee. The above album is presumably a set, probably incomplete, acquired by Soloveytchik and the photographs all a manuscript caption in an unidentified hand.

The volume also includes two loose photographs, one of which duplicates a photograph. Both bear the stamp of the Russian Liberation Committee and a caption (in another hand) and a photograph number

1 vol.

Open

MS19/1/2 British Russia Club

1918-1920

Papers of George Soloveytchik relating to, and his membership of, the British Russia Club

6 files, 6 items

Open

MS19/1/2/1	Correspondence and other papers relating to Soloveytchik's successful application to become an associate member of the Club	1919
	6 items	
	Open	
MS19/1/2/2	Printed memorandum about the objectives of the British Russia Club, 15 May 1918	1918
	1 item	
	Open	
MS19/1/2/3	Printed memorandum on British and Allied policy for Russia, presented by the Club to the Government in Jul 1919 and amended in Nov 1918	1918
	1 item	
	Open	
MS19/1/2/4	Annual reports and balance sheets of the British Russia Club for the years 1918 and 1919	1919-1920
	2 items	
	Open	
MS19/1/2/5	Printed rules of the British Russia Club	1919
	1 item	
	Open	
MS19/1/2/6	Printed texts of addresses delivered at dinners of the British Russia Club	1918-1919
	4 items	
	Open	
MS19/1/2/7	Lecture delivered under the auspices of the British Russia Club and the United Russia Societies Association by Leslie Urquhart, 9 Jan 1919	1919

Printed text of lecture entitled 'Russia Today. Its lessons and opportunities' and reprint of article in 'The Financier', 22 Jan 1919, which reports on Urquhart's speech and on the revised memorandum for British and Allied policy for Russia

2 items

Open

MS19/1/2/8 Printed extract from Leslie Urquhart's

1919

speech at Shareholders' Meetings of Irtysh, Kyshtim and Tanalyk Corporations, 15 Dec 1919 [circulated to members of

the British Russia Club]

1 item

Open

MS19/1/2/9 Reprints from 'The Times', 19-26 Aug 1919

1919, of a series of articles under the title

'Russia in the German Grip. The

Policy of the Allies', circulated to members of the British Russia Club

1 item

Open

MS19/1/2/10 Printed circular letters and

1918-1920

communications, mostly issued by the secretary of the British Russia Club, and

sent to members

These comprise notices of events, meetings, and other events; communications of information from the Foreign Office and other departments and

institutions and include:

/1 Letter announcing arrangements for parcel post for British troops serving in North Russia, 2 Sep 1918;

/2 Copy of telegram sent by Committee of British Russia Club to David Lloyd George at the Paris Peace Conference, 17 Jan 1919;

/9 Postcard informing members about the presentation of a portrait to its retiring President, Sir George W. Buchanan and appealing for subscriptions, 4 Sep 1919;

/10 Letter about possible support for a postal courier service to southern Russia, 5 Sep 1919;

/12 Letter in response to a communication from the Foreign Office about the despatch of clothing to British subjects in Russia

/13 Letter passing on information received from the Foreign Office about the death and imprisonment of specific individuals, 10 Dec 1919;

/15 Notice and information about the Russian Library and the inauguration of the Russian Library Association, Feb-Mar 1920 (3 items)

/16 Letter concerning repatriation of British subjects from Russia, with list of names supplied by the

Foreign Office, 25 March 1920 (2 items)

18 items

Open

MS19/1/2/11 Seating plans, menu card, ticket and

letter relating to Soloveytchik's attendance at dinners of the British

Russia Club

5 items

Open

MS19/1/2/12

Correspondence relating to Soloveytchik's 1919-1920 subscription to 'The Russian Outlook'

'The Russian Outlook' became the official organ of the British Russia Club in July 1919 and members of the Club were encouraged to subscribe to this publication. Club notices, reports of speeches and other matters relating to

1919-1920

Club affairs were thereafter reported in this weekly publication

4 items

Open

MS19/1/3 British Russian Relief Committee

1919-1920

Papers of George Soloveytchik relating to his membership of the British Russian Relief Committee

This Committee was set up in Mar 1918 by the United Russian Societies Association in response to an appeal by

Sir George Buchanan. The Committee's objectives included the assistance of relief work in Russia and the relief of distress of Russian and British refugees from Russia

1 file

Open

MS19/1/3/1

Printed reports and statements of accounts of the British Relief Committee

1919-1920

These comprise:

/1 Report and financial statement for the period 22 Mar 1918-31 Mar 1919;

/2Report to 31 Dec 1919, statement of accounts for the period 3 Oct 1918-30 Sep 1919 and list of donations to 30 Sep 1919

2 items

Open

MS19/1/4

Oxford University Anglo-Russian Society

[1919-1920]

Papers of George Soloveytchik relating to

his membership of the Society

1 file

Open

MS19/1/4/1 Posters and handbills advertising lectures

concerts and discussions organised by

the Society

Two of the handbills advertising a lecture by Professor Paul Miliukov on 21 Nov

[1919] have been annotated in

Soloveytchik's hand, indicating that he was involved in the Society's organisation

7 items

Open

MS19/1/5 The Reconstruction Society

1919-1920

[1919-

1920]

Papers of George Soloveytchik relating to

his membership of the Society

The Reconstruction Society grew out of the Anti-Socialist Union, formed in 1908. It was based in offices in Victoria Street,

London

1 file, 3 items

Open

MS19/1/5/1 Circular letter from the Society addressed

to H. J. Tyack Bate publicising its work

and inviting subscription

This letter makes reference to samples of literature which the Society distributed, as propaganda, at public meetings and on

street corners

1 item

Open

MS19/1/5/2 Publicity leaflet of the Reconstruction

[1919]

1919

Society

This lists the members of the Executive Committee and the Society's aims and

objectives

1 item

	Open	
MS19/1/5/3	Reconstruction Society propaganda anti- Bolshevik leaflets and pamphlets	[c 1919-c 1920]
	Nos 1, 4-7, 9-18, 20-23	
	19 items	
	Open	
MS19/1/5/4	'Bolshevism as it is. The story of an eye- witness', reprinted from and published by the 'Westminster Gazette'	nd [c 1919- 1920]
	The above bears the stamp of The Reconstruction Society	
	1 item	
	Open	
MS19/1/6	Other committees, societies and clubs	1919-1920
	Papers of George Soloveytchik relating to his membership of, or association with, miscellaneous committees, societies and clubs	
	1 file, 4 items	
	Open	
MS19/1/6/1	Letter from Winifred Wade, Assistant Secretary, King's College Russian Society, University of London to	1920
	[Soloveytchik]	
	Wade requests payment of subscription	
	1 item	
	Open	
MS19/1/6/2	Appeal leaflet from the Children's Relief Committee, Russian Red Cross	1919
	1 item	
	Open	
MS19/1/6/3	Appeal leaflet issued by the Russo-British	[1919]

Bratsvo. Ladies Section for clothes for the civilian population in north-

west Russia

1 item

Open

MS19/1/6/4 Programme and notice of lectures

[1920]

organised by the Russo-British Bratsvo

2 items

Open

Russian

MS19/1/6/5 Circular appeal letter from a Committee of [1919]

> the House of Commons established to raise funds for relief and reconstruction

work in South Russia, under the

chairmanship of Oliver Locker-Lampson

1 item

Open

MS19/2 Other publications and printed materials 1911-1921

Publications and printed material acquired

by George Soloveytchik

For printed literature and publications produced by the Russian Liberation Committee and The Reconstruction

Society, see MS 19/1/1 and MS 19/1/5

4 Sub-series

Open

MS19/2/1 Issues of magazines, periodicals, 1914-1920

bulletins and newspapers (in English)

8 files

Open

Issue of 'The Russian Review', a quarterly 1914.,/ MS19/2/1/1

review of Russian History politics,

economics and literature, published by

the School of Russian Studies, University of Liverpool. Vol III, No 2, 1914

1 vol.

Open

MS19/2/1/2

Issues of 'Facts about Bolshevism', Nos 1914, Jan-Mar 1920

1920

This magazine was an Oxford publication with its readership intended to be the 'reading public of the University'. It was established as a non-party paper which was opposed to Bolshevism. These issues include the following:

/1 No 1, 20 Jan 1920, includes loose notes in Soloveytchik's hand in which he discusses the meanings of Bolshevism and Menshevism;

/2 No 2, 3 Feb 1920, contains a short piece by Soloveytchik which appears in the form of a letter, dated 20 Jan

1919, written in response to a lecture given by Mr Goode of the 'Manchester Guardian' at Ruskin College the previous term about his experiences in Russia. The piece has been annotated by Soloveytchik with corrections to the text;

/3 No 3, 17 Feb 1920, includes a brief letter from Soloveytchik in which he corrects the two mistakes in his text in

the previous issue

4 items

Open

MS19/2/1/3

Issue of 'The Russian Commonwealth', 1919 Vol II, No 13, Nov 1919, published by the Union "Russian Commonwealth"

1 vol.

Open

MS19/2/1/4 Issue of 'Russian Economic Bulletin', Vol 1920

II, No 3, May 1920

This is a monthly journal dealing with Russian economic conditions, trade with

America, finance, industry and

transportation, published by the American-Russian Chamber of

Commerce

1 vol.

Open

MS19/2/1/5 Issue of Services Bulletin of the Russian 1920

Economic League, No 9 Jan 1920

1 item

Open

MS19/2/1/6 Issue of 'The Jewish Tribune', bi-monthly 1920

organ of the Jews of Russia, No 1, 1 Feb

1920

1 item

Open

MS19/2/1/7 Issue of 'The Sketch', 1 Jan 1919 1919

1 item

Open

MS19/2/1/8 Issue of 'The Graphic', an illustrated 1919

weekly newspaper, Vol XCIX, No 2564,

18 Jan 1919

1 item

Open

MS19/2/2 Issues of magazines, newspapers and 1911-1920

bulletins (in Russian and French)

4 files

Open

MS19/2/2/1 Issues of 'The Jewish Tribune', bi-monthly 1920

organ of the Jews of Russia

These comprise the following issues:

/1 No 26, 25 Jun 1920

/2 No 47, 19 Nov 1920

2 items

Open

MS19/2/2/2 Issues of 'The World in Pictures'

1920

Issues comprise:

/1 No 139, 15 Apr 1920

/2 No 140, 1 May 1920

/3 No.141, I5 May 1920

3 items

Open

MS19/2/2/3 Issues of 'L'Avenir'

1911-1914

Issues comprise:

Nos 3-5, 7-8, 1911; Nos 12-15, 17-22, 30-34, 36-38, 41-42, 1912; Nos 43-44, 46-

48, 1913

30 items

Open

Russian French

MS19/2/2/4 Issue of 'Bulletin du Bureau Economique 1

1920

Russe', No 12, 3 Jul 1920

1 item

Open

French

MS19/2/3 Articles, pamphlets and other printed

1919-1920

literature

3 files, 11 items

Open

MS19/2/3/1 Reprints from the 'Asiatic Review', Apr 1919

1919

These comprise:

/1 'Russia: an appeal to the Anglo-Saxon World' by Major-General Count Arthur

Tcherep-Spiridovitch

/2 Book review by Major-General Count Arthur Tcherep-Spiridovitch of Bulgaria by

George Clenton Logio

2 items

Open

MS19/2/3/2 Articles by I. V. Shklovsky-Dioneo, author nd [c

of Russia under the Bolsheviks

1920]

These comprise:

/1 'Count Smorltork in Russia', 8 pp

/2 'Mr Squeers' Academy', 8 pp

2 items

Open

MS19/2/3/3 Typescript of article in 'The Russian 1919

Outlook', 8 Nov 1919, entitled 'The Bolshevik Regime in Russia. A British

Officer's Investigations'

1 item

Open

MS19/2/3/4 Reprint from 'The Russian 1919

Commonwealth', No 8, 10 Mar 1919 of diagram of Russia's death roll in the World War under the title 'What Russia

did for our common cause'

1 item

Open

MS19/2/3/5	Leaflets advertising books about Russia	nd [c
	3 items	1920]
	Open	
MS19/2/3/6	Programme of the welcome given to George Lansbury on his return from Soviet Russia, held at the Royal Albert	[1920]
	Hall, 21 Mar [1920] and organised by George Lansbury	
	1 item	
	Open	
MS19/2/3/7	Poster issued by the American Committee of Serbian Agricultural Co- operative Unions	1919
	The purpose of the poster was to refute the activities of the All-Russian Government at Omsk under the leadership of Admiral Alexander V. Kolchak	
	1 item	
	Open	
MS19/2/3/8	Illustration of Admiral A. V. Kolchak, with caption: 'Murdered at Irkutsk, February 7, 1920'	nd [c 1920]
	1 item	
	Open	
MS19/2/3/9	Printed proposal of the Russian Political Conference in Paris presented to the President of the Peace Conference	1919
	on the question of Nationalities in Russia, 6 Mar 1919	
	1 item	
	Open	
MS19/2/3/10	Printed declaration of Admiral Koltchak's Government issued from Omsk, 23 Feb	1919

1919, through the Russian Telegraphic Agency 1 item Open MS19/2/3/11 Printed map showing the German nd [c schemes of Central Europe and Central 1920] Africa. Enlarged and reproduced from the map accompanying 'The German Plot Unmasked' by André Chéradame under the title 'What Germany Covets' 1 item Open MS19/2/3/12 Anti-Bolshevik handbill nd [c 1920] This was possibly produced by the Reconstruction Society 1 item Open MS19/2/3/13 Souvenir pamphlet issued to mark the 1919 victory celebrations, published in aid of St **Dunstan's Hostel for Blinded** Soldiers and Sailors 1 item Open Ordinances of General Lavr Georgievich MS19/2/3/14 nd [c Kornilov, published by the Chief 1920] Committee of the Russian National Defence 1 item Open Russian MS19/2/4 1919-1921 Newscuttings Newscuttings [collected by Soloveytchik], largely from national papers (principally

'The Times', 'The Sunday Times' and 'The Daily Telegraph') relating to the political situation in Russia, the progress of the civil war and the policy of the Allies towards the Russian Government. Many of the cuttings have been annotated by Soloveytchik with details of newspaper and date of issue

Filed in chronological order

6 files

Open

MS19/2/4/1 Newscuttings, May-Aug 1919 1919

The file includes a cutting from 'Le Matin',

4 Jun (in French)

1 file

Open

MS19/2/4/2 Newscuttings, Sep 1919 1919

1 file

Open

MS19/2/4/3 Newscuttings, Oct-Dec 1919 1919

1 file

Open

MS19/2/4/4 Newscuttings, Jan-Mar 1920 1920

1 file

Open

MS19/2/4/5 Newscuttings, Apr-Jul 1920 1920

1 file

Open

MS19/2/4/6 Newscuttings, Feb 1921 1921

1 file

Open

MS19/3 Miscellaneous

Miscellaneous materials, ?acquired by Soloveytchik, relating to Russia

1916

1 file

Open

MS19/3/1 Typescript report of a visit undertaken by 1916

Colonel Smirnov, Lt Germonius and 2nd Lt Aleksandrov to visit British and French field armies in England and France, 18-31

Aug 1916

This report comprises a title page, in manuscript, a contents page (which includes amendments to page numbers in Soloveytchik's hand), acknowledgements, and 31 pages of text. The first 4 pages comprise a diary of the visit.

Smirnov's signature appears on the title page, at the end of the acknowledgements and at the end of the text

1 item

Open

21