

BULLETIN OF THE ROSSICA SOCIETY

No. 1, Vol. I

May 1982

This Bulletin will be an aperiodic publication, the sole aim of which will be to inform members of the Society of any important, upcoming event or activity requiring some urgency. It is not intended as a supplement or adjunct to the Rossica Journal. Suggestions or notices for future bulletins, if any, should be directed to:

David M. Skipton
6212 Breezewood Ct. 202
Greenbelt, MD 20770

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Article IV of Rossica's Constitution covers election procedures for the Society's officers.

"Section I: Qualifications: All regular members in good standing of the Society shall be eligible for nomination and election to any office of the Society, except that the Treasurer must additionally be bondable..."

"Section 2: Nominations: The regular nominations for Officers of the Society shall be conducted during the months of April, May and June of the third year following the previous regular elections.

a) Nominating petitions for Officers may be circulated during the above mentioned months through Local Chapters or communities where Local Chapters are not established.

b) Petitions indicating names of candidates and offices for which

nominated shall be mailed to the Secretary not later than June 30th of the then current year.

c) Such candidates shall then be requested to reply by mail to the Secretary upon notification of their nomination for the office to which they have been nominated.

d) The Secretary shall then forward the names of the candidates and the offices for which the individual candidates wish to aspire to the Balloting Committee."

Members wishing to submit a name or names in nomination may do so on the nomination form attached to this Bulletin and send it to:

Mr. Kennedy Wilson
7415 Venice St.
Falls Church, VA 22043

ROSSICA AUCTION

The Rossica Society hopes to conduct an auction of the late Dr. Charles S. Rand's (#282) collection at the ASDA show in New York late this year. Auction catalogs with descriptions and illustrations are in the process of being prepared, and will be sent out to all members of the Society when finished. Please advise the President if you do not wish to receive a catalog.

The collection includes many items of Imperial and Offices Abroad, early to middle-period Soviet and States stamps and covers.

ROSSICA'S ANNUAL MEETING WILL BE HELD ON SEPT. 5, 1982 AT 2 PM AT BALPEX, HUNT VALLEY INN. MR. W.T. WATERS WILL PRESENT A SLIDE PROGRAM ON RUSSIAN PHILATELY DURING THE CIVIL WAR OF 1917-1922. SEE YOU THERE!

ENGLISH TRANSLATION OF PRIGARA'S HAND-
BOOK ON IMPERIAL RUSSIAN PHILATELY

Sergei Vasil'evich Prigara's classic "The Russian Post in the Empire, Turkey, China and the Post in the Kingdom of Poland", originally published in Russian in 1941, is now available at the following rates:

- 1) Rossica members - \$35 per copy
+ postage.
- 2) Non-members - \$40 per copy
+ postage.
- 3) Libraries - \$35 per copy
+ postage.
- 4) Bulk orders
(10 or more) - \$25 per copy
+ shipping.

The final printing came to 1,100 copies, of which 295 have been sold thus far. The books are hardbound in royal purple covers, gold-lettered, and contain approximately 230 glossy pages of text, illustrations, cancellation tables and translator's notes.

Orders for the book may be placed with the President, Treasurer or Librarian, along with personal check or, in the case of members outside of the United States, money orders or drafts drawn on US banks, made payable to "Rossica Society". Your copy will be mailed to you immediately (please allow several weeks for mailing overseas, as the books are sent by surface unless otherwise specified. Postage within the US is currently running at a rate between \$1.50 - \$1.80.

European members of the Rossica Society may order directly from the Society or from Robson Lowe, who has exclusive European rights for sale of the book (except for Rossica members). Non-members must order from Robson Lowe if in Europe.

ENGLISH TRANSLATION OF BAZILEVICH'S
BOOK ON THE RUSSIAN XIX CENTURY POST

"The Russian Post in the XIX Century" was written by Konstantin Bazilevich and published in 1927, in Russian. Only 550 were ever printed, and its rarity is equalled by its wealth of data on the inner workings of the Imperial postal system and the how's and why's of mail transportation and delivery. The work deals strictly with postal history - no stamps, stationery or covers are described, but it is a must for students of the period. The Rossica Society hopes to make this translation available to the membership at some point in the future, but final decisions concerning method of printing and format have yet to be made. The translation is currently in the typing and proof-reading stage, so the membership will be kept advised when the go-ahead is given to print.

If you would be interested in obtaining a copy of this translation, please notify David Skipton, and your name will be entered in a list. Please be prepared for a rather extended wait, as much work remains to be done!

IMPORTANT REMINDER!!

If you have not yet submitted your dues for 1982 to the Treasurer, please be sure to get them in as soon as possible. A check made payable to "Rossica Society" for \$12.00 should be sent to: Mr. Norman Epstein
33 Crooke Ave.
Brooklyn, NY 11226

Remember, only members in good standing may vote, and the Society needs your support and participation.

NOMINATION FORM
(Please print)

I. For President:

"Section 1: PRESIDENT - The President of "Rossica" Society shall be the administrative and judicial head of the organization. He shall preside over all meetings of the National Officers, administer and interpret the provisions of this Constitution; and with the aid of the National Officers, guide the Society to further progress. He shall be a member ex-officio of all Boards and Committees, and shall assume responsibility for the publication of the official "Rossica" Journal. His term of office shall be for a period of three (3) years; and he shall be elected by a popular majority vote of all regular members in good standing voting in the regular or special election."

II. For Vice-President:

"Section 2: VICE-PRESIDENT - The Vice-President of the Society shall be a member of the governing group assuming all functions and duties of the President during the President's absence or inability to function. His term of office shall be for a period of three (3) years; and he shall be elected by a popular majority vote of all members in good standing, voting in the regular elections."

III. For Secretary:

"Section 3: SECRETARY - The Secretary of the Society shall be responsible for recording all proceedings of meetings, presenting them at successive meetings and recording them in the archives of the Society. He shall, when directed to by the President, conduct official correspondence of the Society. His term of office shall be 3 years and he shall be elected by a majority vote of all regular members in good standing, voting at the regular elections."

IV. For Treasurer:

"Section 4: TREASURER - The Treasurer of the Society shall have custody of the financial resources of the Society and shall conduct all financial transactions and other related functions. He shall keep an accurate and up-to-date record of receipts and expenditures, using normal double entry book-keeping methods. He shall prepare and submit a formal written and detailed report of the Society's finances at the last meeting of each year. He shall render full assistance to the auditing committee whenever the committee checks the status of the finances of the Society; and he shall keep the Chairman of the Auditing Committee fully advised at all times of the Society's financial assets and liabilities."

- IV. Treasurer, continued: a) The term of office shall be 3 years and he shall be elected by a majority vote of all regular members in good standing, voting at the regular elections.
- c) The Treasurer shall provide a surety company bond before he assumes the duties of his office, the cost of the bond to be borne by the Society.

V. For Librarian:

"Section 7: LIBRARIAN: The Librarian of the Society shall have custody of files of the journal as well as copies of all other literature collected by or donated to the Society. Upon notification by the treasurer that an issue of the Society's journal has been requested and paid for the Librarian shall cause such issue to be sent out. He shall be responsible for the lending and recovery of all material taken out on loan by the members. He shall also be safekeeper of the archives and the custodian of all awards won by the Society or the Society Journal.

VI. For Chairman of the Auditing Committee:

"Section 6: CHAIRMAN OF THE AUDITING COMMITTEE - The Chairman of the Auditing Committee shall keep constantly informed of the financial resources of the Society. He and the Auditing Committee shall conduct a complete audit of the treasury at the end of each fiscal and/or calendar year. This audit is to be published in the first issue of the journal to be issued the following year.

a) The Chairman shall be elected for a term of 3 years by a majority vote of all regular members in good standing voting at the regular election.

VII. For Chairman of the Membership Committee:

"Section 5: CHAIRMAN OF THE MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE - The Chairman of the Membership Committee shall initiate and press membership drives. He shall receive all applications for membership. He shall pass upon the desirability of each applicant in the light of this Constitution and the continuing directives of the President. In the event an applicant is deemed by him to be undesirable he must so inform the local chapter (when applicable) the applicant wishes to join, and also the National Board of Directors. The local chapter will then make the final decision. If no local chapter is involved the National Board of Directors will then make a

VII. Chairman of the Membership Committee (continued):

a final determination. When an applicant is deemed desirable the Chairman shall notify him of his acceptance and shall forward to the Treasurer the information concerning the new member, including the initiation fee and the first year's dues. He shall also inform the President and the Secretary of election of the new members. The Chairman of the Membership Committee shall issue membership cards to new members and keep an accurate and up-to-date listing of all members and their current interests. In the event an applicant is not accepted for membership in the Society, he shall be so notified and the moneys paid by said applicant shall be refunded.

- a) The Chairman of the Membership Committee shall be elected to office for a period of 3 years by a majority vote of all regular members in good standing voting at the regular election."

VIII. Board of Directors:

"Section 8: BOARD OF DIRECTORS - The Board of Directors of "Rossica" Society shall be three (3) in number. Their duties shall be a) aid and advise the National Officers in the general operations, and b) act as Trustees of the Society's resources. They shall be responsible for the Society's assets in the event of liquidation. They shall review the application for membership of any applicant turned down by the Membership Committee or its Chairman when there is no local chapter to conduct a review. They shall pass upon all proposed amendments to the Constitution and only after their approval can such amendment be voted upon. They shall be elected for a term of three (3) years by a popular vote of all members in good standing voting at the regular elections.