

The A to Z of the



SOVIET UNION

*Facts and Figures on every aspect of
Soviet Life*

A POCKET REFERENCE BOOK
compiled by ALEX PAGE

Russia Today Society



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Compiled by

ALEX PAGE

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FORENOTE

This very brief and condensed outline of the U.S.S.R. is necessarily limited by the lack of essential data due to war conditions. Production figures are, for obvious reasons, several years in arrears ; exports and imports are given for the last full normal year before the outbreak of the war. On the other hand, such recent decisions of the Soviet Government as the grants for large families are well up to date.

It should be clearly understood that space prevents dealing with many subjects as adequately as they deserve ; reference to larger works is always desirable, and at the end of each section names of inexpensive booklets for further reading are given. At the end of the booklet is a list of more expensive books recommended.

A.P.

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SECTION I.

GEOGRAPHY

AREA : 8,348,100 square miles.

(British Empire : 13,313,000 ; U.S.A. : 3,026,000 ; China : 4,000,000).

POPULATION : 193,198,000 (1939)

(British Empire : 456,000,000 ; U.S.A. : 106,000,000).

NATIONALITIES : 175

CONSTITUENT REPUBLICS : 16.

R.S.F.S.R. (Russian)	Azerbaijan	Turkmenistan
Ukraine	Georgia	Estonia
Byelorussia	Armenia	Latvia
Uzbekistan	Tadjikistan	Lithuania
Kazakhstan	Kirghizistan	Moldavia
	Karelo-Finn.	

CITIES : (Population figures acc. to 1939 Census).

Moscow	RSFSR	4,137,000	Kazan	RSFSR	402,000
Leningrad	RSFSR	3,191,000	Kuibyshev	RSFSR	390,000
Kiev	Ukr.	846,000a	Riga	Lat.	385,000b
Kkarkov	Ukr.	833,000a	Saratov	RSFSR	376,000
Baku	Azerb.	809,000	Voronezh	RSFSR	327,000
Gorki	RSFSR	644,000	Lvov	Ukr.	318,000b
Odessa	Ukr.	604,000a	Yaroslavl	RSFSR	298,000
Tashkent	Uzb.	585,000	Zaporozhe	Ukr.	289,000a
Tbilisi (Tiflis)	Geor.	519,000	Ivanovo	RSFSR	285,000
Rostov on Don	RSFSR	510,000a	Archangel	RSFSR	281,000
Dnepropetrovsk	Ukr.	501,000a	Omsk	RSFSR	281,000
Stalino	Ukr.	462,000a	Chelyabinsk	RSFSR	273,000
Stalingrad	RSFSR	445,000a	Tula	RSFSR	272,000
Sverdlovsk	RSFSR	426,000	Perm	RSFSR	255,000
Novosibirsk	RSFSR	405,000	Astrakhan	RSFSR	254,000

Note : a. These towns have been affected by German occupation and these figures are therefore inaccurate today.

b. Riga and Lvov were incorporated in the U.S.S.R. in 1940 and the figures are not from Soviet sources. Note a. also applies.

Eleven Soviet cities had peace-time populations over 500,000 ;
Thirty-one cities had peace-time populations between 500,000 and 200,000 ;
Forty-six cities had peace-time populations between 200,000 and 100,000.

PORTS

- (a) On the Black Sea. ODESSA, NOVOROSSISK, NIKOLAYEV, KHERSON, BATUMI, SEVASTOPOL, EVPATORIA, YALTA, THEODOSIA, TUAPSE and POTI.
- (b) On the Sea of Azov. MARIUPOL, ROSTOV, BERDYANSK, TAGANROG, KERCH.
- (c) On the Caspian Sea. BAKU, MAKHACH-KALA, ASTRAKHAN, KRASNOVODSK.
- (d) On the Arctic Ocean. ARCHANGEL, MURMANSK, IGARKA, TIKSI.
- (e) On the Pacific Coast. VLADIVOSTOK, NIKOLAYEVSK, SOVIET HARBOUR.
- (f) On the Baltic Coast. LENINGRAD, RIGA, TALLINN, LIEPAJA, MEMEL.

RIVERS AND WATERWAYS : (Navigable routes in 1938 totalled 83,000 miles).

Rivers. VOLGA (into the Caspian) ; NEVA, DVINA, (into the Baltic) ; SVIR, VOLKHOV, (into Lake Ladoga) ; DVINA, ONEGA, (into the White Sea) ; OB, IRTYSH, YENISEI, LENA, (into the Arctic) ; AMUR (into the Pacific) ; DNIESTER, BUG, DNIEPER, (into the Black Sea) ; DON, DONETZ, (into the Sea of Azov). (There are 42 rivers with lengths of over 1,000 kilometres).

Canals. STALIN BALTIC-WHITE SEA, linking Leningrad to Murmansk. MOSCOW-VOLGA, linking Moscow to the Volga, and thus to the Caspian. In addition there are a number of canals under construction designed to link the Black Sea, the Sea of Azov, Caspian Sea in the south, with the Baltic Sea and the Arctic Ocean in the North.

FRONTIERS :

On the West : with Poland, Germany (East Prussia), Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Rumania.
in the North : Finland.
in the South : Turkey, Iraq, Iran (Persia), Afghanistan, China, Outer Mongolia.
in the East : Japan (on Sakhalin Island), Manchuria.

CLIMATE : Ranges from polar in the north to sub-tropical.

Vegetation :

TUNDRA, marshy, snow-covered, unsuitable for cultivation.

MARSHES and TAIGA, heavily-wooded (the forestland of the U.S.S.R. is approximately one-quarter of the world's wood reserves).

STEPPE, varies from wooded to open. In the Ukraine, the steppeland is rich, in Kirghizia, sandy and bare.

SUB-TROPICAL, similar to that of the Mediterranean coasts. Marshland, about 1/5th of the total area of the U.S.S.R., is being extensively drained and used for cultivation on a huge scale. Forestland totals 38% of the U.S.S.R.'s area.

Reference :
Atlas of U.S.S.R. (Oxford Press).

SECTION 2.

STATE ORGANIZATION

1. SUPREME SOVIET ("Council") of the USSR.
consists of two "Chambers," viz.

- (a) SOVIET OF THE UNION (569 deputies)
- (b) SOVIET OF NATIONALITIES (574 deputies).

- (a) is elected directly : one deputy for every 300,000 voters.
- (b) is elected as follows : 25 from each *Union Republic* ; 11 from each *Autonomous Republic* ; 5 from each *Autonomous Region* ; 1 from each *National Area*. (See Section III).

All deputies are subject to recall by their electors. In 1940, there were 189 women and 954 men in the two chambers. All over 18 have a vote to each chamber (1).

2. PRESIDUM OF THE SUPREME SOVIET

is elected by the Supreme Soviet and governs between full sessions of that body.

3. COUNCIL OF PEOPLE'S COMMISSARS

approximates to our Cabinet and consists of 'Commissars' responsible for 'Commissariats' such as Foreign Affairs, Defence, etc. Elected by the Supreme Soviet. (About 35 members ; Chairman is J. Stalin).

1. Exceptions are: the insane and those deprived of civil rights by law.

4. COMMITTEE OF DEFENCE

Appointed as a war-time measure, approximates to our War Cabinet. Established by decree of the Presidium June 29, 1941. Seven members: *J. Stalin* (Chairman), *V. Molotov* (Vice-Chairman), *Marshal K. Voroshilov*, *G. M. Malenkov*, *L. P. Beria*, *L. M. Kaganovich*, and *I. A. Mikoyan*.

Attached to the Supreme Soviet are the *Legislation Commission*, *Foreign Affairs Commission*, *Budget Commission*, *Supreme Court*, *Public Prosecutor*. Attached to the Council of People's Commissars are the *State Planning Commission*, *Control Commission*, *Economic Council*, *Arts Committee*, *Higher Education Committee*, *State Bank*.

References :
Soviet Socialist Constitution (R.T.S.)
Enquire Within on the U.S.S.R., R. Bishop (R.T.S.)

SECTION 3.

THE SIXTEEN REPUBLICS ("Union Republics")

Name	Capital	Population (pre-war)
R.S.F.S.R.(1)	Moscow	109,000,000(3)
Ukraine	Kiev	40,000,000(3)
Byelorussia(2)	Minsk	10,386,000(3)
Uzbekistan	Tashkent	6,282,000
Kazakhstan	Alma-ata	6,146,000
Georgia	Tbilisi	3,542,000
Azerbaijan	Baku	3,210,000
Lithuania	Vilnius	2,880,000(3)
Moldavia	Kishinev	2,200,000(3)
Latvia	Riga	1,971,000(3)
Tadjikistan	Stalinabad	1,485,000
Kirghizia	Frunze	1,460,000
Armenia	Erivan	1,282,000
Turkmenia	Ashkhabad	1,254,000
Estonia	Tallinn	1,131,000(3)
Karelia (Karelo-Finn S.S.R.)	Petrozavodsk	469,000(3)

- (1) Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic.
- (2) Sometimes called "White Russia."
- (3) Have been occupied by Nazis during the present war.

Within these *Union Republics* are a number of *Autonomous Republics*, catering for areas mainly populated by a particular nationality.

Within the R.S.F.S.R. are 16 : Tartar A.S.S.R., Bashkir, Dagestan, Buryat-Mongol, Kabardino-Balkaria, Kalmyk, Komi, Crimea, Mari, Mordva, German-Volga, North Ossetian, Udmurtsk, Chechen-Ingush, Chuvash, Yakutia.

Within the Azerbaijan S.S.R. is the Nakhichevan A.S.S.R. ; within the Georgian S.S.R., are the Abkhazian and Adjar A.S.S.R.s ; within the Uzbek S.S.R. is the Kara-Kalpak A.S.S.R.

Apart from these *Autonomous Republics* there are *Autonomous Regions*, *Regions* and *Territories*. A feature of all these sub-divisions is the use of their own language in schools and public life.

One Autonomous Region of interest is *Biro-Bidjan*, an area populated by Jews and in which Jewish culture is particularly developed.

Each of the Union Republics have their own rights including that of secession from the USSR ; control of internal affairs ; light industry ; finance ; agriculture etc. By amendment of the Soviet Constitution in 1944, Republics also have the right to enter into direct relations with foreign powers and other Republics, and to establish their own military formations.

Defence, finance and banking are All-Union matters.

References :
Peoples of the USSR., D. G. Wolton (R.T.Soc.)

SECTION 4.

NATURAL RESOURCES

The USSR has an enormous variety of natural riches, RUBBER being the only important lack (now largely balanced by development of new sources discovered by Soviet botanists and by synthetic means).

Some 1940 figures :

GRAIN	111,700,000 tons	(in 1913, 80,100,000 tons)
COTTON	2,500,000 tons	(in 1913, 740,000 tons)
COAL(1)	164,600,000 tons	(in 1913, 25,700,000 tons)
OIL(2)	34,200,000 tons	(in 1913, 9,200,000 tons)
TIMBER	201,000,000 cu. mts.	(in 1913, 30,000,000 c.m.)

Other mineral products :—MANGANESE (Aver. ann. prod. pre-war 3 million tons) ; IRON(3), (28 Million tons in 1937) ; COPPER, (60 million tons yearly during 2nd 5-Year Plan) ; ZINC, LEAD, SILVER, ALUMINIUM, TIN, NICKEL, FERRO-ALLOYS, CHROME-ORE, APATITE (Phosphate), GOLD, MAGNESIUM, MOLYBDENUM, PLATINUM, SULPHUR, TUNGSTEN.

RUBBER (Synthetic and kok-sagyz), SUGAR, TOBACCO, TEA, HEMP, FLAX, WINES.

CATTLE, HORSES, SHEEP, PIGS, FURS.

World Production figures (1938).

Wheat	25%	U.S.A. 15%	Rest of world 60%
Oil	10%	U.S.A. 60%	Rest of world 30%
Coal	10%	U.S.A. 30%	Rest of world 60%
Iron Ore	20%	U.S.A. 20%	Rest of world 60%
Manganese	43%	U.S.A. 1%	Rest of world 54%

- (1) Coal reserves estimated at 1,654,000 million tons
 (2) Oil " " 8,700 " "
 (3) Iron Ore " " 10,600 " "

References :

USSR.: Strength of our Ally (L. & W.)

SECTION 5.

PRODUCTION

The Position of the USSR in World Production, 1936.

	Place in World	Place in Europe
Gross Industrial Output	2nd	1st
Machine Building	2nd	1st
Agricultural Machinery	1st	1st
Tractors	2nd	1st
Grain	1st	1st
Beet Sugar	1st	1st
Automobiles and Trucks	6th	4th
Gold	2nd	1st
Iron Ore	2nd	1st
Steel	3rd	2nd
Electricity	3rd	2nd
Aluminium	3rd	2nd
Coal	4th	3rd
Raw Copper	5th	1st

Industrial Output

	1929	1937	1938
USSR	taken as 100	424	477
Rest of World	taken as 100		91

Number of Industrial Workers and Employees

	1933	1938
	22,000,000	28,000,000

Railroad Length

	1913	1938
	36,000 miles	54,000 miles

National Income

	1933	1938
	48,500 million rubles	105,000 million rubles

Average Annual Earnings of Industrial Workers.

	1933	1938
	1,513 rubles	3,447 rubles

Centres of Production

COAL : Donetz, Urals, Kazakhstan, Siberia, Far-east, Moscow Region.

OIL : Azerbaidjan, Volga-Urals, Northern Caucasus, Georgia.

IRON : Urals, Krivoy-Rog (Ukraine).

MANGANESE : Nikopol (Ukraine), Georgia, Azerbaidjan.

ALUMINIUM : Omsk (Siberia).

TEXTILES : Moscow, Ivanovo, Leningrad, Sverdlovsk, Omsk, Perm, Barnaul.

GOLD : E. Siberia, Irkutsk and Yakutsk, Urals, W. Siberia, and the Far-east.

MACHINERY : Moscow, Leningrad, Urals, Donetz, Gorki, Stalingrad, Kirov, Perm, Kazan, Mogilev and Minsk.

Industrial Areas :

URALS : Coal, Iron, many metals, Machinery, Chemicals.

KUZBAS : Coal, Heavy Industry, textiles, food, sugar.

UKRAINE : Coal, Iron, Machinery, food, sugar, leather, power.

CAUCASUS : Oil, Power, Textiles.

LENINGRAD-MOSCOW : Heavy Machinery, textiles, ship-building, Power, Tractors, Machine Tools, Chemicals, Light Industry.

References :

New Industrial Revolution, K. W. Watkins, (R.T.S.)

SECTION 6.

FINANCE

Controlled by the All-Union Commissariat for Finance.

THE BUDGET FOR 1941.

Revenue :

1. Turnover Tax on Industry, State and Co-operative Trade	124,500 million rubles		
2. Profits Tax	31,000	"	"
3. State Social Insurance	10,000	"	"
4. State Loans	13,000	"	"
5. Income and Agricultural Tax	10,842	"	"
6. Other Items	27,498	"	"
	216,840		

Expenditure :

1. National Economy, New Factories, Transport, Research etc.	59,320 million rubles		
2. Agriculture ; credits to Collectives, Tractor Stations, Irrigation etc.	13,580	"	"
3. Social and Cultural Services, Education, Health, Pensions etc.	47,800	"	"
4. Defence	70,900	"	"
5. Other items	24,452	"	"
	216,052		

Explanation :

The essential point of Soviet Finance is the *STATE PLAN* which ensures 'production for use instead of production for profit.'

The *STATE PLAN* is based on an estimate of resources and labour productivity together with the needs of the community. The *BUDGET* is therefore subject to the *PLAN*.

(Item 1) on the Revenue side consists of tax levied on gross turnover of all industrial and trading enterprises. (Item 2) is tax levied on 'profits' made by these enterprises. (Item 3) is also chargeable against industry. (Item 5), now more steeply graded during wartime, is charged on higher incomes and the profits from Collective Farms.

On the Expenditure side, the items are self-explanatory but it should be noted that Item 3 was 22% of the total during a time when Defence called for huge increases. (See Section 13).

Wartime Measures.

In Jan. 1942, a special "*War-Tax*" was levied on all employees. Thus he or she now pays three taxes : *Income Tax*, a '*Cultural Tax*' and the *War-Tax*. This latter is also levied on earnings of Collective Farmers. Individual farmers and artisans pay at a much higher rate. There are no exemptions for dependents. Unmarried and childless citizens pay an extra 5%. Exemptions include servicemen, pensioners (both invalid and old-age). Government Bonds have been issued for many years. Three large issues of War Bonds have each been over-subscribed within a few days of issue. A "*Defence Fund*" was launched early in 1942 and hundreds of thousands of rubles have in this way been donated to the Government.

References :

Soviet Millionaires, R. Bishop. (R.T.Soc.)

SECTION 7.

SOVIET PLANNING.

The *STATE PLANNING COMMISSION* is appointed by the Council of People's Commissars. It consists of experts in all fields of economy and culture. From the Commission goes out to factories, collectives, state farms, trading organizations etc. a draft plan based on the considered possibilities of production. Each unit discusses the Plan and decides whether it can be fulfilled or over-fulfilled. Their amendments go back to be incorporated in the State Plan.

In a factory, definite figures for quantity and quality are stipulated ; production costs, size of staff and wage-bill ; expenditure quotas and depreciation are all taken into account.

A Collective Farm plans the acreage of various crops and the probable yield. Treatment of the soil and such items are taken in.

A Store plans its volume of trade and its overheads.

PHASES OF SOVIET PLANNING.

New Economic Policy (N.E.P.)

In August 1921, following the devastation of the country by intervention and civil war, the Council of People's Commissars introduced N.E.P. In brief, N.E.P. designed to revive industrial enterprises as rapidly as possible by means of a limited amount of private trading and facilities for individual farming. Basic Industries and Public Utilities were excluded. 1924 saw the end of N.E.P.

First Five Year Plan

Launched in Oct. 1928, this plan, which so startled the rest of the world by its scope, had the function of establishing firmly Soviet Heavy Industry, Light Industry (Food and Textiles) and Transport necessarily took secondary place during this period. Its results, achieved in $4\frac{1}{4}$ years, nine months under schedule, raised the production enormously of Oil, Coal and Steel. Thousands of new plants were opened and laid the basis for the

Second Five Year Plan

Commenced in 1933, this Plan was mainly to build up Light Industry, Collectivization, Labour Productivity, and in this way rapidly to increase the standard of living. A feature of the latter part of the Plan was the springing up of the *Stakhanovite Movement* by which productivity rose rapidly by rationalization and intensive training of new forces of skilled workers. During this period, a drive for Collectivization of the farms met with some opposition due largely to the excessive zeal of local enthusiasts. For a while, stock was killed off by individual farmers but after a famous speech by Stalin ("*Dizzy with Success*"), a more reasoned approach was adopted and greater stress laid on the benefits of collectives as against single farms.

Third Five Year Plan.

Followed on from 1938 when the USSR had become equipped for a great constructive surge forward. There now existed nationalized Industry, collectivized Agriculture and a new stratum of skilled Soviet technicians and specialists. The Nazi attack in 1941 entirely disturbed the steady growth planned and altogether more intensive schedules were forced on the Soviet peoples.

SECTION 8.

AGRICULTURE.

Before 1914, 75% of the total population was engaged in agriculture, and even in 1939, 50% were. The small and uneconomic individual farms tended by a peasant and his family and the larger farms on which peasants were employed for a pittance, have both disappeared and farming is now conducted as (a) *Collectives (Kolkhoz)*; (b) *State Farms (Sovkhoz)* and (c) *Machine Tractors Stations (M.T.S.)*.

(a) Collectives.

Developed rapidly in 1929. By 1934, there were 233,300, and in 1939, 243,300 uniting 18,800,000 peasant households. The average size is 1,228 acres compared with the average of 50 acres of farms in the U.S.A.

(b) State Farms.

May be described as 'agricultural factories.' The workers are state employees drawing wages. They are heavily mechanized and often centre around a township possessing all the amenities of urban life. In Jan. 1939, there were 3,957 covering a total of 168 million acres (i.e. an average of 42,000 acres). Of this area, over 30 million acres were sown while the rest were occupied for stock-breeding, fruit-growing and poultry-raising.

(c) Machine Tractor Stations.

In 1938, totalled 6,158 owning 483,500 tractors and other machines, including 153,500 combines. (At the same time, Germany boasted of only 100 combines). The staff of an M.T.S. is usually young and highly-skilled in the use of machinery and in research work. Machines are hired to Collectives, lectures are held for farmers, advice and research work is placed at the benefit of the farmers. They are financed by the State and by the hiring fees charged for the use of the machines.

References :

Soviet Countryside, J. Thompson, B.Sc.
(R.T.S.)
What are Collective Farms, Karpinski
(Pilot Press)

SECTION 9.

EXPORTS AND IMPORTS.

Generally, *Exports* declined from a peak in 1931 (22 million tons) to 12 million tons in 1937. This was due to greater home utilization of natural resources and rising standard of living. *Imports* also declined from 3,564 thousand tons in 1931 to 1,285 in 1937, due largely to the increasing production of machinery inside the USSR.

All foreign trade is controlled by the People's Commissariat for Foreign Trade and entrusted to a number of 'Export Trusts.' All trading, of course, is planned to fit production and consumption figures in accordance with the State Plan.

Chief Exports, 1937 and 1938.

	1937		1938	
	thousand tons		thousand tons	
TIMBER	5,103	3,334
OIL	1,929	1,388
WHEAT	846	1,275
FERTILIZERS	704	800
MANGANESE ORES	1,001	446
COAL & ANTHRACITE	1,274	427
BARLEY	221	406
RYE	204	356
PEAS, BEANS etc.	26	131
SUGAR	134	114
IRON ORES	351	7
CAST IRON prods.	239	73

Value of Exports to other countries : (in millions of rubles).

	1937		1938	
Great Britain	566	375
Belgium	130	116
U.S.A.	134	97
Holland	112	93
Germany	108	88
Mongolian P. Republic	66	70
France	87	60
Iran (Persia)	92	58
Spain	92	52
China	25	44
Denmark	17	27

Value of Imports (in millions of rubles).

	1937		1938	
U.S.A.	244	406
Gt. Britain	192	240
Holland	105	102
Germany	200	67
Belgium	67	64
Iran	85	64
Australia	32	51
France	28	39
Mongolian Republic	34	39
China—west	26	35

	1937		1938	
China—east	15	33
Canada	55	31
Sweden	17	27
Spain	23	26
Japan	54	18

Britain's trade with the USSR in 1939 consisted chiefly of—
to USSR : Machinery, iron, steel and electrical goods.
from USSR : Timber, hides and skins, wheat, fish, petroleum and barley.

SECTION 10.

WAGES.

In Industry, *piece-work* is practically universal. A basic wage is paid for an agreed norm with bonuses for production over the norm. Stakhanovites and the so-called "100, 200 etc. per-centers" thus can earn quite high wages.

Office workers get *monthly salaries* with bonuses if their department or plant exceeds its plan.

Artists, cultural workers etc., receive an *annual salary*. They are paid through the Co-operative or institution through which they work, and their taxes are deducted before payment. Art workers are among the highest paid workers in the USSR.

Doctors, lawyers, teachers are *paid by the state* but some may also have private practices. Tax is very heavy on these extra earnings, however.

Holidays with Pay are universal. In normal times, two weeks a year was the rule. In heavy and dangerous trades, three and four weeks. The average peacetime working day was 7 hours (6 in dangerous trades and 6 for women in heavy work). In wartime, overtime, with pay at time and a half, is obligatory up to three hours. Unemployment disappeared in 1928.

Average earnings of industrial workers in 1933 and 1938 were 1,513 and 3,447 rubles respectively.

A number of "Stalin Prizes" of up to 100,000 rubles each are awarded each year to outstanding writers, artists, inventors etc.

Comparisons with wages in this country are difficult to make and accordingly it is difficult to assess the value of the ruble in terms of our money. The Soviet worker receives, apart from his wage, many benefits which in this country are paid for by the worker. Health and social services, rest-

homes, pensions, insurance against loss of the bread-winner are all charges on the state, while freedom from unemployment is a very real part of the income of a Soviet worker.

Inheritance.

No one may will his property to a stranger, only to direct descendants who have had the complete support of the deceased for at least a year. All such must receive equal shares. If a man or woman has no direct descendant, and has made no provision for an institution to inherit, the government takes the property.

Reference :
Social Insurance in the U.S.S.R., M. Dobb.
(N.C.B.S.U.)

SECTION II.

SOCIAL SERVICES.

(a) HEALTH.

Is administered by the Commissariat of Health and financed by contributions from central funds and from local budgets. (See Section 6). The service includes free advice of general practitioners and specialists, oculists, dentists and surgeons, provision of free medicine and appliances or free treatment in a clinic or hospital.

(b) OLD AGE PENSIONS.

Are administered by the Commissariat for Social Assistance in each Republic. They cover all wage-earners who have been employed for a minimum of 25 years (20 for women). It amounts to between 50 and 60 per cent of the normal wage and varies with industries. In certain industries the qualifying period is less. Pensions can be claimed at 60 years for men and 55 years for women.

(c) INSURANCE.

administered by the Trade Unions, covers disablement and maternity benefits, funeral allowances, children's aid, rest-home and sanatoria benefit.

Disablement Pension : payable to those incapacitated due to accident or illness. They vary between 45 and 100% of wages.

Sickness benefit : full wages were payable to all trade unionists with 3 years' employment until 1938. In that year, there was a slight grading down of this scale. Non-unionists receive half these benefits. (Union membership in Oct. 1940 was 25,500,000 out of 30,400,000 insured workers).

Death and Funeral Benefits : 40 rubles is granted towards a town funeral and 20 rubles for a country funeral. If the survivors of a deceased earner are under 16 years, or are invalids, pensions are payable.

Maternity Benefits : Important changes were made in July 1944. State aid was previously granted to mothers of seven and more ; the new Law now makes the following grants :

		initial grant	Monthly payment (from 2 yrs. to 5 yrs.)
Mother with			
2 children on birth of	3rd	400 rubles	—
3 " " " "	4th	1,300 " "	80 rubles
4 " " " "	5th	1,700 " "	120 " "
5 " " " "	6th	2,000 " "	140 " "
6 " " " "	7th	2,500 " "	200 " "
7 " " " "	8th	2,500 " "	200 " "
8 " " " "	9th	3,500 " "	250 " "
9 " " " "	10th	3,500 " "	250 " "
10 on birth of each subsequent child		5,000 " "	

The leave for Pregnancy is increased from 63 to 77 days (35 days before and 42 after). In the case of difficult births, or twins, the post-birth period is increased to 56 days. Full wages are, of course, paid.

Pregnant women from the 4th month of pregnancy do no overtime.

Women with children at the breast do no nightwork. The normal ration of supplementary food is doubled as from the 6th month of pregnancy and for four months of the nursing period.

Creche and kindergarten fees are reduced by 50% for :

Parents with 3 children earning up to 400 r. per month

" " 4 " " " 600 r. " "

" " 5 " " or more irrespective of earnings.

Mother and Child Homes, rest-homes, factory feeding-rooms, children's institutions, production of children's clothing are all to be considerably extended.

The grant made for each new-born child (for layettes etc.) is increased from 45 to 120 r.

Unmarried mothers receive State Assistance until the child is 12 years :

100 r. monthly for one child

150 r. " " two children

200 r. " " three or more.

These are in addition to the grants made above. (If she marries, both grants persist.) Alternatively, if the unmarried mother wishes, she can

place the child in a State Institution where it is brought up at state expense (she has the right to remove the child at any time).

Medals, Orders and Certificates are also granted for 5 children and upwards.

By this Law, additional taxes are levied on those with no or few children. See SECTION 6 for details.

Reference :
Social Insurance, M. Dobb. (N.C.B.S.U.)
Soviet Health in Wartime, Dr. E. Black (R.T.S.)

SECTION 12.

EDUCATION.

Compulsory from 8 to 15 years of age.

Prior to school-years, *creches* are available up to $3\frac{1}{2}$ years and nursery-schools from $3\frac{1}{2}$ to 8. These are voluntary and a small fee is charged according to means.

From 8 to 11 is *General School*, and from 11 to 15, *Secondary School*. These are free to 15 years of age except for certain higher classes in the latter.¹ (For gifted children, there are special schools for music, art, dancing etc).

From the Secondary, the boy or girl may go to a *University*, or Technical or Professional Schools. Fees are charged except for pupils attaining a certain standard.²

War prevented an extension of the compulsory age to 18 years.

Out-of-School Education is highly organized. Special schools exist for defective children.

Administration is by means of the *Commissariat of Education* in each Republic (Union and Autonomous). It is financed from the State Budget and from the republic budget. (12.3% of State Budget for Education in 1940.)

(1) Fees : Classes 8, 9, 10 (ages 15 to 17):
in Moscow and Republic capitals : 200 r. per year.
in other towns and villages : 150 r. per year.

(2) Fees : In Moscow etc. 400 r. per year
In other towns and villages 300 r. per year
In Art, Music etc., Institutions 500 r. per year.

Subsistence Grants are made only to those who show 'excellent progress.'

Adult Education is widespread. Prior to the introduction of compulsory education in 1918 by the new Soviet Government, illiteracy was high (72 to 80% in European Russia and up to 99% in some Asiatic districts). In 1940, 50 million adults were attending some kind of educational course. 34 million children attended school in 1940 compared with 8 million in 1914. 605,000 students in higher education compared with 112,000 in 1914.

Discipline is considered necessary. Self-government is encouraged as an aid to this. Corporal punishment is a criminal offence.

Training of Teachers.

(a) Education Schools. For intending teachers. Age 15—18 years. Includes 10 weeks School Practice.

(b) Teaching Institutes. 18 to 21 years. Train teachers for the Secondary Schools.

(c) Education Institutes. 18 to 23 years. Train teachers for the upper schools and for the teaching schools.

School Life is closely linked with outside life. Parents are encouraged to take part in 'Parents' Councils.' Well-equipped holiday camps are patronized by about 75% of the children.

'Parks of Culture and Rest' cater for the general education and entertainment of the young. 'Pioneer Palaces' provide educational entertainment and visits to these are extremely popular.

References :
Education in the U.S.S.R. (S.C.R.)
Soviet Schools Today (R.T.S.)
Soviet Childhood in Wartime (R.T.S.)

SECTION 13.

TRADE UNIONS.

168 trade unions with $25\frac{1}{2}$ million members. Anyone over 15 may join. Membership is voluntary and in 1939, 85% of the wage-earners were members. Peasants (i.e. in Collectives and individual farmers) do not join Unions but have their own 'Mutual Assistance' organizations.

They are organized "industrially." For example, in a metal factory, all from the manager to the sweeper will be members of the same Union. Branches consist of not less than 25 members.

The Unions' primary task is to aid in increasing production through publications, classes, competitions etc. They have the responsibility of administering certain social services and ensuring observance of the Labour Protection Laws.

Shop Committees are elected in an enterprise where there are 100 or more in a 'shop.' Trade Union groups meet monthly and attendance is usually nearly 100%.

Dues : Entrance fee is 1% of current monthly earnings and the monthly contribution is 1½% of monthly earnings. The worker pays no contributions to Insurance Funds.

Trade Union Officials are paid wages equivalent to the most skilled workers, but in addition there are many voluntary part-time officers. All elected officials are liable to recall on the demand of not less than one-third of their electorate.

Collective Agreements are drawn up yearly between the Factory Committee and the Management. The Factory Committee has to see that the Agreement is carried out. Disputes are referred to Arbitration Courts (one Management nominee, one from the Trade Union and one independent agreed on by both sides.).

Reference :
Soviet Trade Unions (L. & W.)

SECTION 14.

DEFENCE FORCES.

- (a) The RED ARMY and the RED AIR FORCE (Commissariat for Defence)
- (b) The RED NAVY (Commissariat for the Navy)
- (c) Frontier Troops (Commissariat for Home Affairs)
- (d) Osoaviakhim. (The Society for defence against Air and Chemical Warfare).

The Army and Air Force are under one command. The Navy has its own Air Arm. Supreme control is vested in the 'Committee of Defence' (See Section 2).

In peace-time every able-bodied male between 16 and 50 years of age, serves for two years in the armed forces. The numerical strength is, of course, not known but some 15% of the population could be mobilised (27,000,000 men).

The RED ARMY DAY is Feb. 23rd ; RED NAVY DAY, July 26th, and AVIATION DAY, August 18th.

There is no separation between 'Commissar' and Commander in Chief as in Britain. Stalin is Chairman of the Committee of Defence and also Commander in Chief. Admiral Kuznetsov is both Commander in Chief of the Navy and Commissar for the Navy.

RANKS in the Red Army (Epaulette markings in brackets).	
MARSHAL	(large star on gold braid)
ARMY GENERAL	(four medium stars on braid) (equals our GENERAL)
COL. GENERAL	(three medium stars on braid) (equals our Lt. Gen.)
LIEUT. GENERAL	(two medium stars on braid) (equals our Maj. Gen.)
MAJOR GENERAL	(one medium star on braid) (equals our Brigadier)
COLONEL	(three medium stars)
LIEUT. COLONEL	(two medium stars)
MAJOR	(one medium star)
CAPTAIN	(four small stars)
SEN. LIEUTENANT	(three small stars)
LIEUTENANT	(two small stars)
JUN. LIEUTENANT	(one small star)
SENIOR SERGEANT	(one broad stripe) (equals our Staff Sgt.)
CHIEF SERGEANT	(one broad stripe) (equals our Sgt. Major)
SERGEANT	(three narrow stripes)
JUN. SERGEANT	(two narrow stripes) (equals our Corporal)
CORPORAL	(one narrow stripe) (equals our L/Cpl.)
RED ARMY MAN	(equals our Private).

The Soviet Army DIVISION consists of :

three Rifle Regiments, an Artillery Regiment, three Tank Battalions, Engineer Company, Signal Company, Medical Service Battalion, Quartermaster Company, and attached aviation. Total personnel amounts to about 18,000 men.

Pay and allowances :

The Red Army Man draws only a 'pocket-money' pay, but cleaning and shaving material, cigarettes, cinema and theatre tickets are supplied free. (The payment of only nominal 'wages' is customary in countries where conscription is the rule.)

Officers' pay is on a level with professional workers in civil life. In normal times, officers are, in fact, professional workers, making army life their full-time occupation.

'Guards' units (those that have distinguished themselves in battle) enjoy double pay in the ranks and an increase of 50% for the officers.

Dependant's Allowances are payable to all 'non-able bodied' in the soldier's family. In the U.S.S.R., the wife is not considered as a chattel dependent on the husband and she customarily has a job at which she earns pay on a level with the male workers.

Pensions are based on a high percentage of the former earnings of the soldier.

The soldier and sailor have, of course, full civic rights as citizens. They may vote and be elected to the Supreme Soviet. (There are a number of serving men who are deputies).

THE RED NAVY consists of five separate fleets : Baltic Sea, Black Sea, Far-eastern, White Sea, and the Caspian. Details are lacking of their strengths, but it is generally agreed that the submarine strength of the Red Navy is very considerable. These seem to be largely of about 1500 tons submerged displacement and with two guns, a machine gun and eight torpedo tubes.

The 'Frontier Troops,' under the control of the Commissar for Home Security were lightly armed men used for guarding the borders.

Osoaviakhim, Society for Development of Air Force and Chemical Defence' is a civilian body. Even in peace-time it gave its fifteen million members training in anti-gas and anti-raid measures. Glider clubs and parachute jumping were highly developed. Apart from this form of peace-time training, all men aged 16 to 50 were made liable to 110 hours of military training outside work-hours by a decree in September 1941.

The Guerilla forces, rising after the invasion, were an integral part of the Red Army, maintaining contact and often including Army units detached from their main forces.

References :
Red Army at War, Ivor Montagu, (R.T.S.)
Who's Who in the Red Army, E. G. Burroughs, (R.T.S.)
Ships and Sailors of the Red Navy, (R.T.S.)
Red Army Men and their Dependants, Eleanor Fox, (R.T.S.)

SECTION 15.

STATUS OF WOMEN.

To quote from the Soviet Constitution of 1936 : "Women in the USSR are accorded equal rights with men in all spheres of economic, state, cultural, social and political life."

In the elections of 1937, 189 women were elected to the Supreme Soviet ; among the People's Commissars are 12 women. To the Soviets of the various national Republics, over 1,700 were elected. The Soviet Ambassador to Sweden is a woman : Mdme. Kollantai. She holds the 'Order of Lenin' for her services.

No jobs are closed to women. On the railways, in the merchant navy, industry, as well as the professions and the air, women play a prominent part. Some have even taken part in air-fighting against the Nazis.

Some interesting figures are available for 1938. In large scale industry the percentage of women workers was 39.8% ; physicians, 50.6% ; teachers, 64.8% ; university students 43.1%. These figures have probably increased during war-time.

Pregnancy does not debar a woman from holding her job ; it must be kept open for her and full pay is given during the period of absence. Maternity benefits are shown in Section XI.

Reference :
Woman in Soviet Society, Maggie Jordan, (R.T.S.)

SECTION 16.

CULTURAL DEVELOPMENTS.

The Soviet THEATRE enjoys a world-wide reputation. Apart from the well-known theatres in the big cities, the countryside and the minor republics and regions, both have highly developed systems of theatres. Particularly are the young catered for by the 'Children's Theatres.' Among the leading theatres are the Kamerny, the Vakhtangov, the Moscow Art, the Leningrad Gorki Drama, the Maly, the Bolshoi Opera.

Great attention is paid to the preservation of HISTORICAL and CULTURAL MONUMENTS. A central Museum administration functions

under the Commissariat for Education. In 1940, the 180 museums of Tsarist times had increased to 836, many of these being in the outer republics where none previously existed. Those of outstanding importance are : the LENIN MUSEUM, RED ARMY MUSEUM, GORKI, MUSEUM OF THE REVOLUTION, MUSEUM OF ORIENTAL CULTURE, MUSEUM OF MODERN WESTERN ART, STATE HERMITAGE MUSEUM, TRETYAKOV GALLERY. Many have been demolished by the Nazis including : the Peterhof Galleries, the Novgorod and Istra Cathedrals, Tolstoy's Home at Yasnaya Polyana, the Tchaikovsky in Klin, the Chekhov in Taganrog, the Pushkin and Turgenev museums.

SOVIET LITERATURE is, essentially, a new development, different from that of Tsarist times and also from that of other countries. The WRITERS' UNION numbered 3,000 members in 1941. Maxim Gorki is looked upon as a 'father of modern Soviet literature and the link between the old and the new. The new is ably carried on by a number of talented young writers.

MUSIC occupies a special place in the cultural programme of the USSR. Large sums of money are expended by the State in developing new talent and productions. Striking successes have been achieved by Soviet artists at home and also in international contests abroad.

STALIN PRIZES: In 1939, in honour of the 60th Birthday of Joseph Stalin, prizes were instituted for outstanding achievements in Science, invention, writing, poetry, music, painting, sculpture, the theatre etc. The title of Stalin Prize Winner is accompanied by large cash awards (up to 200,000 rubles).

DIRECTORY :

THE THEATRE.

K. Stanislavsky, co-founder with *V. Nemirovich-Danchenko* of the Academic Art Theatre, Moscow. Died Aug. 7th 1938, aged 75.

I. Vakhtangov, pupil of Stanislavsky, founder of the Vakhtangov Theatre. Died 1922, aged 38.

Maxim Gorky, playwright and author, the leading Soviet dramatist. Died June 18th 1936.

Anton Chekhov, master of the short story, dramatist. Died 1904.

K. Simonov, young Soviet playwright, author of "The Russians."

A. Korneichuk, Ukrainian playwright, author of "Front."

L. Leonov, *Afinogenev*, *Ostrovsky*, *Pogodin*, *V. Kataev*, all playwrights. *Afinogenev* and *Kataev* have both lost their lives in the war.

Moskvin, *Mikhoels*, *Shchukin*, *Khanayev*, *Shtraukh*, *Gelovani*—all leading actors.

THE CINEMA.

Eisenstein, producer of THE GENERAL LINE, POTEMKIN, ALEXANDER NEVSKY etc.

Pudovkin, producer of STORM OVER ASIA, SUVOROV, MININ & POZHARSKY, etc.

Mark Donskoi, director of three great films on the life of Maxim Gorky, etc. *Dovzhenko*, producer of ARSENAL, EARTH, SHCHORS, and other films of the Ukraine.

Michael Romm, producer of THE THIRTEEN, LENIN IN OCTOBER, etc. *Dziga Vertov*, *Kozintzev*, *Trauberg*, producers.

N. P. Cherkasov, *N. Simonov*, *B. Blinov*, *V. Orlova*, *Shchukin*, *O. Zhakov*, *Z. Feodorova*, *N. Mordvinov*, all well-known stars.

LITERATURE :

Maxim Gorky (see also 'Theatre')

Anton Chekhov (see also 'Theatre')

Alexander Pushkin, shares with Gorki the fatherhood of modern Soviet literature. Died Feb. 10th, 1837.

Vladimir Mayaskovsky, pre-eminent Soviet poet. Died 1930.

Alexei Tolstoy, born 1883, died 1945.

Mikhael Sholokhov, author of the famous "Quiet Flows the Don" etc.

A. Fadayeve, *M. Zoshchenko*, *V. Ivanov*, *L. Leonov*, *N. Ostrovsky*, *L. Sobolev*, *Ilya Ehrenburg*, *N. Pogodin*, *Eugene Petrov*, *Wanda Wasillievskia*, modern Soviet writers.

Earlier Russian writers :

Gogol, *Lermontov*, *Lomonosov*, *Saltykov-Schedrin*, *Turgenev*, *Leo Tolstoy*, *Chernyshevsky*, *Dostoiyemsky*.

MUSIC :

Peter Tchaikovsky, greatest of Russian composers. Died Nov. 6th, 1893.

Mikhail Glinka, composer, died Feb. 15th, 1857.

Nikolai Myaskovsky, founder of Soviet symphonic music.

Shostakovich, best-known of modern Soviet composers.

Serge Prokofiev, composer of the cantata *Alexander Nevsky*.

A. Khachaturian, composer of "Ode to Stalin."

A. Alexandrov, V. Zakharov, I. Dunayevsky, Dmitri and Daniel Pokrass, all modern composers.

Lev Oborin, Yakov Fliere, Emil Gilels, pianists.

David Oistrakh, Marina Kozolupova, violinists, these last five all winners of international music contests.

Vladimir Sofronitsky, pianist.

K. Igumnov, K. Mostras, P. Stolyarsky, outstanding music teachers.

PAINTING and SCULPTURE.

Vasili Surikov, outstanding Russian painter, Cossack parentage, died, March 19th, 1916, aged 68.

Ilya Repin, world-famous artist, died Sept. 29th, 1930, aged 86.

Reference :

Writers and Readers of the Soviet Union. Charles Snow, (R.T.S.)
Soviet Cinema, Herbert Marshall, (R.T.S.)
Twenty Soviet Composers, (W.M.A.)
Actors and Audiences in the U.S.S.R. Eric Capon (R.T.S.)

SECTION 17.

SOVIET LEADERS.

LENIN, (Vladimir Ilyich Ulianov), born April 22nd, 1870, at Simbirsk (now renamed Ulianovsk). Died Jan. 21st, 1924. Founder of the Bolshevik Party and leader of the Soviet State until his death.

STALIN, (Josef Vissarionovich Djughashvili), born Dec. 21st, 1879, at Gori, Georgia. Elected General Secretary of the Communist Party of the S.U., 1922 and still holds that position. Appointed Chairman of Council of People's Commissars, May 6th, 1941; Chairman of State Committee of Defence since June 1941; Supreme Commander in Chief Red Army. In 1943, appointed Marshal of the S.U. First post in the Soviet Government was Commissar for Nationalities (1917 to 1923). Author of the Soviet Constitution, 1936.

KALININ, (Mikhail Ivanovich), born Nov. 20th, 1875, at Verkhaya Troitsa, Kalinin (Tver) Region. Elected Chairman of the All-Russian Central Executive Committee in March 1919 succeeding Sverdlov. Jan. 1938 elected Chairman of Presidium of the Supreme Soviet.

MOLOTOV, (Vyacheslav Mikhailovich Skriabin), born March 9th, 1890, at Kukarka, now Sovietsk, Kirov Region. From 1930 to 1941, was Chairman of Council of People's Commissars. Stalin succeeded in that post and Molotov became Vice Chairman. Also Vice-Chairman of Committee of Defence and Commissar for Foreign Affairs.

Red Army Marshals.

Vassilievsky, A. M. Chief of Staff
Zhukov, G. K., Deputy C. in C.
Voroshilov, K. E.

Chistyakov, M. N. (Artillery)
Yakovlev, N. D. (Artillery)
Novikov, A. A. (Chief Marshal of Aviation)

Timoshenko, S. K.
Budyenny, S. M.
Shaposhnikov, B. M. (ex-Chief of Staff)

Astakhov, F. A. (Aviation)
Vorozheikin, G. A. (Aviation)

Rokossovsky, K. K.
Koniev, I. S.
Malinovsky, R. Y.
Tolbukhin, F. I.
Govorov, L. A.
Meretskov, K. A.

Falalayev, F. Y. (Aviation)
Golovanov, (Aviation)
Khudyakov, S. A. (Aviation)
Rotmistrov, P. A. (Tanks)
Federenko, Y. N. (Tanks)
Vorobyev, M. P. (Engineers)
Peresyypkin, I. T. (Communications)

Kuznetsov, N. G. (Admiral, Commander of the Red Navy)

Reference :

Who's Who in the Red Army, E. G. Burroughs, (R.T.S.)
Stalin the Soldier, Hans Kahle (R.T.S.)

SECTION 18.

FOREIGN RELATIONS.

The USSR has diplomatic relations with all allied and non-enemy countries with the exception of the Polish Government in London, Spain, Portugal, Switzerland, Manchukuo, the Argentine, Eire and some of the South American states.

With China, the USSR has a Non-aggression Pact, also with Japan. A Mutual Assistance Pact with the Mongolian People's Republic.

With Britain, the USSR has a Twenty Years' Pact of Mutual Assistance (signed May 26th, 1942). With the U.S.A., the United Nations' Agreement of Jan. 1st 1942, and a Lend-Lease Agreement signed June 11th 1942. Stalin's speech of Nov. 6th 1941 declared that the USSR stood for no territorial conquest, and the self-determination of Nations.

More recently, the Soviet Government has participated in Allied Conferences on Food Relief (UNRRA), Monetary Regulation, World Security, Economic Co-operation.

The first meeting of the heads of the USSR, USA and Britain took place in Teheran, Persia, November 1943. Complete agreement was reached as to the scope of military operations and on the responsibility for the maintenance of peace after the conclusion of the War. Stalin and Churchill again met in Moscow in Oct. 1944—Churchill's second visit to the Soviet capital. The second meeting of the 'Big Three' was held in Yalta, Crimea, February, 1945.

Reference :
British-Soviet Relations and the Future, R. Bishop,
(R.T.S.)
From Russian Revolution to Yalta. Pat Sloan,
(R.T.S.)

SECTION 19.

SOVIET ENTERPRISE AND RECORDS.

The Arctic.

In 1937, an expedition of four reached, and stayed at the North Pole. Prior to this, in 1937-40, the icebreaker "Sedov" spent 27 months making meteorological observations. In 1932, the icebreaker "Sibiriyakov" made the trip from Archangel to the Pacific—the first time the trip had been made in one season. In 1939, the route, known as the Great Northern Sea Route, was opened for regular traffic. Professor Schmidt and Ivan Papanin are the two most closely associated with this Arctic exploration.

The Air Route over the Pole.

May 21st, 1937 : The landing of the Papanin Group at the Pole.

June 18-20th, 1937 : Chkalov, Baidukov and Belyakov flew from Moscow to the U.S.A.

July 11-13th, 1937 : Gromov, Yumashev and Danilin flew from Moscow to the U.S.A. via the North Pole. (Long-distance record at that time : 6,700 miles non-stop).

According to 1940 data, 62 out of 168 international records for the air were held by the USSR.

Sport.

Soviet marksmen hold nine world records. Semyon Boichenko, swimmer, holds world record for 100 metres, breast stroke (1m. 6.8 secs.). World record for 1,500 metre skating belongs to Maria Isakova (2m. 37.4 secs.). 23 out of 35 world-records for bar-bell lifting belong to Soviet athletes.

Music.

Five out of six top places taken by Soviet violinists in Brussels Music Contest, 193-.

SECTION 20.

SCIENCE.

The Academy of Sciences was formed by Peter I in 1724.

Following the Revolution, its character was fundamentally altered and a broad plan of scientific and technological work adopted. In 1943, the Academy had 150 members, 200 corresponding members, and over 3,000 professors and workers.

The work of the Academy, and its branches and corresponding Academies in the other Republics, is not only in the fields of research but preponderatingly applied science.

Directory :

M. Lomonosov, physicist and chemist, died 1765.

I. Pavlov, physiologist, died Feb. 27th, 1936.

D. Mendelyev, chemist, died 1907.

L. Sechenov, physiologist, died 1905.

K. Timiryazev, botanist, died

N. Lobachevsky, mathematician, died

P. Kapitza, the field of low temperatures and gas liquefaction.

S. Chaplygin, aerodynamics.

Lena Stern, physiologist.
 A. Bach, bio-chemist.
 V. L. Komarov, botanist and President of the Academy.
 D. S. Belyankin, petrographer.
 M. M. Dubinin, anti-chemical defence.
 A. A. Polkanov, petrographer.
 Y. N. Sukachev, botanist.
 I. I. Chernayev, chemist.
 V. M. Rodianov, organic chemist.
 N. D. Strazhesko, pathophysiologicalist.
 F. P. Savarensky, hydro-geologist.
 L. N. Ivanov, naval armaments.
 B. N. Yuriev, aero-dynamics.
 B. A. Vedensky, ultra short wave radio.
 S. S. Smirnov, mineralogist.
 A. Alikhanov, X-rays.
 A. A. Lebedev, physicist (Optical glass)
 S. A. Christianovich, theoretical mechanics.
 A. Baikov, metallurgist, (Vice President of the Academy).

VIEM (The Institute of Experimental Medicine) in 1932 became the All-Union centre for scientific and medical research.

Among famous scientists attached are :
 A. Speransky, B. Lavrentiev, E. Pavlovsky, A. Gurvich, M. Ushakov, A. Vishnevsky.

PAVLOVO BIOLOGICAL STATION is a research institute for the higher forms of nerve activity named after the famous Pavlov.

Medical science in the USSR has been responsible for the fact that over 86% of the wounded in the present war have been able to return to the front.

SECTION 21.

SOVIET CHURCHES.

were dis-established by decree, February 1918.

The Constitution of 1936 lays down : "In order to ensure to citizens freedom of conscience, the church in the USSR is separated from the state, and the school from the church. Freedom of religious worship and freedom of anti-religious propoganda is recognized for all citizens (Art. 124) The ORTHODOX CHURCH is headed by the Metropolitan Alexis of Leningrad, assisted by the HOLY SYNOD, an advisory body of six. It controls over 100 bishoprics. Each congregation is governed by a Church Council elected by the parish. Ten to twelve parishes are linked in a deaconry.

The REFORMED ORTHODOX CHURCH, an off-shoot of the Orthodox Church, is headed by the Metropolitan Vvedensky.

The EVANGELICALS, led by the All-Union Council of Baptists and Evangelical Christians, claims, according to the Baptist Times, five million members. Mikhail Orlov and A. Karev are the leading figures.

The OLD BELIEVERS, a break-away from the Orthodox Church in the 16th century, is led by Archbishop Irinarch.

The ARMENIAN CHURCH, led by Archbishop Kilandyan.

Contact is maintained with the Government through a "Council for matters relating to religious creeds." All religious bodies come within its terms of reference : Orthodox, Catholics, Evangelicals, Old Believers, Armenians, Moslems, Jews and Buddhists.

Reference : Soviet Churches and the War, Rev. S. Evans, (R.T.S.)
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SECTION 22.

SUNDRY FACTS AND FIGURES.

Weights and Measures. The METRIC SYSTEM was introduced in 1927 The old measures, still sometimes used, were the VERST (two-thirds of a mile), the SAZHEN (7 feet) ; the POOD (36 pounds) ; the VEDRO (2.7 gallons).

Renamed Towns. Among the larger towns which have been renamed since Tsarist days are : GORKI (was Nijni-Novgorod), TBILISI (Tiflis), KALININ (Tver), KUIBISHEV (Samara), CHKALOV (Orenberg), KRASNODAR (Ekaterinodar), ORDZHONIKIDZE (Vladikavkaz), STALINGRAD (Tzaritsyn), ULYANOVSK (Simbirsk), STALINO (Yuzovka), DNEPROPETROVSK (Ekaterinoslav), VOROSHILOVGRAD (Lugansk).

Leading Newspapers. PRAVDA (The Truth), over 2,000,000 daily ; IZVESTIA (The Gazette), 1,660,000 daily ; TRUD (Labour), 480,000 daily. KRASNAYA ZVEZDA (Red Star) ; KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA.

Reference:
Soviet Press, R. Bishop, (R.T.S.)

Decorations and Awards.

HERO OF THE SOVIET UNION and HERO OF SOCIALIST LABOUR Both include the ORDER OF LENIN, the HAMMER & SICKLE GOLD MEDAL and a certificate of honour. These are the highest Soviet distinctions.

Other orders : The Order of the Red Banner (instituted 1918).
The Order of the Red Banner of Labour (1920).
The Order of Lenin (1930).
The Order of the Red Star (1930).
The Order of the Badge of Honour (1935).

The Medals for Valour, :—For Meritorious Service in Action, for Valiant Labour, for Distinguished Labour. (1938)

Issued during the present War :—Order of the Patriotic War.
Order of Suvorov. Order of Kutuzov. Order of Alexander Nevsky.
Order of Bogdan Khmel'nitsky. Order of Victory and Glory. Medals of Leningrad, Stalingrad, Odessa and Sevastopol.

New Soviet Words.

A number of Soviet words now met with are composed of the first syllables of several component words. A few examples are given :

Sovnarkom—Council of Peoples' Commissars.
Sovkhoz—State Farm.

Sovtorgflot—Soviet Merchant Fleet

Gosplan—State Plan

Gosteatr—State Theatre

Narkomindel—Peoples' Commissariat for Foreign Affairs.

Narkomvnudel—Peoples' Commissariat for Home Affairs.

Komsomol—Young Communist

Kolkhoz—Collective Farm

In some cases, only the initial letters are used :

G.T.O.—'Ready for Labour and Defence.'

TASS—Telegraph Agency of the Soviet Union

VIEM—All-Union Institute for Experimental Medicine

VOKS—Society for Cultural Relations with other Countries

One or two frequent suffixes ;

-stroï—building. (Dnieprostroï)

-ges—hydro-electric Station

-grad or -gorod—city or town

SECTION 23.

THE STALIN CONSTITUTION.

The first Constitution of the USSR was ratified by the 2nd All-Union Congress of Soviets on Jan. 31st, 1924. It was designed to serve the State during the period of building Socialism. The great changes occurring during the succeeding period brought about the need for a new Constitution. A Commission, under the chairmanship of Stalin, drafted the clauses of the Constitution finally passed on Dec. 5th, 1936 by the 8th, Congress of Soviets. Popular discussion of the draft lasted for five months before the congress adopted it. Since then there have been minor amendments adopted by the 1st., 2nd., 3rd., 6th., 7th., and 8th, Sessions of the Supreme Soviet. The Constitution can only be amended by a majority of not less than 2/3rds of the two Chambers.

There are 146 articles. The first article lays the basis for all the rest : 'The Union of Soviet Socialist Republics is a socialist state of workers and peasants.'

Reference :
Soviet Socialist Constitution, (R.T.S.)

SECTION 24.

HISTORICAL LANDMARKS.

1917

Nov. 7th, The 'October' Socialist Revolution (1)
Dec. 15th, Brest-Litovsk Armistice signed.

1918

Feb. 23rd, Red Army formed.
March 3rd, Treaty of Brest-Litovsk signed.
March 12th, Moscow becomes capital of USSR (2)

1920

Jan. 16th, Foreign blockade lifted.

1921

March 16th, Trade agreement with Britain.
August 11th, 'New Economic Policy' introduced.

1922

April 16th, Soviet representatives at Genoa Conference.
Oct. 25th, Japanese evacuate from Vladivostok—the end of foreign intervention.
Dec. 30th, First Congress of Soviets.

1924

Jan. 21st, Death of Lenin.
Feb. 2nd, Britain recognizes the USSR *de jure*
Nov. 21st, Baldwin refuses to ratify Anglo-Soviet Agreement.

1926

Dec. 17th All-Union Census.

1927

May 12th, Arcos Raid in London.
May 28th, Diplomatic relations between Britain and USSR broken.
Oct. 15th, Seven-hour working day introduced.
Dec. 1st, Disarmament proposals submitted at Geneva.

(1) Oct. 26, (Old Style Calendar) ; Gregorian or New Style introduced only after the Revolution.

(2) Previous Capital : Petrograd (afterwards re-named Leningrad).

1928

May 18th, Trial of Russian and German saboteurs in Donetz.
Oct. 1st, Introduction of First Five-Year Plan.

1930

May 1st, Turksib Railway opened.
Aug. 10th, Introduction of compulsory primary education.
Dec. 7th, Conviction of engineers of the "Industrial Party."

1932

Feb.—March, Litvinov proposes complete disarmament. (Geneva).
Oct. 10th, Opening of DNIÉPROGES.

1933

March 11h, Arrest of six British engineers for sabotage.
Nov. 17th, Diplomatic relations with USA resumed.

1934

July 10th, Abolition of O.G.P.U.
Sept. 15th, USSR joins League of Nations.
Oct. 15th, Trial run on Moscow Underground.
Dec. 1st, Kirov assassinated.

1935

March 28th, Eden's first visit to Moscow.
Aug. 30th, Stakhanov Movement born
Sept. 14th, Litvinov speech at Geneva.

1936

Aug. 23rd, Conviction of Zinoviev, Kamenev and others.
Dec. 5th, Constitution adopted.

1937

Jan. 29th, Radek, Sokolnikov Trial ended.
June 11th, Tukhachevsky and others sentenced.

1938

Jan. 12th, First Sessions of the Supreme Soviet.
Jan. 17th, Kalinin elected President.
March 13th, Rykov, Bukharin Trial ended.
Aug. 10th, Cessation of hostilities on Manchukuo border.

1939

March 10th, Stalin's Speech on foreign affairs.
May 3rd, Molotov supersedes Litvinov as Foreign Commissar.
June 29th, Zhdanov article in PRAVDA, criticising delay by Britain and France in negotiations.
July 6th, Japanese attacks on Soviet frontier.
Aug. 24th, Soviet-German Non-Aggression Pact.
Sept. 17th, Soviet troops enter Western Byelorussia and Western Ukraine.
Nov. 30th Invasion of Finland.
Dec. 20th, "Stalin Prizes" initiated.

1940

March 12th Peace with Finland signed.
June 27th, Rumania cedes Bessarabia and N. Bukovina.
June 28th, Sir Stafford Cripps in Moscow as Ambassador.
Aug. Baltic States enter the USSR as Union Republics.

1941

April 13th, Neutrality Pact signed with Japan.
June 22nd, NAZI GERMANY INVADES USSR.
June 30th, Committee of Defence formed.
July 13th, Mutual Aid Agreement signed with Britain.

1942

May 26th, Treaty of Alliance signed with Britain.
Oct. 10th, Political Commissars in the forces abolished.

1943

April 26th, Relations between USSR and Polish Emigre Government broken.
July 21st, 'Free Germany' Committee formed.
Aug. Gousev and Gromyko appointed as Ambassadors to Britain and the U.S.A. respectively.
Dec. 6th, Stalin, Roosevelt and Churchill meet at Teheran, Persia.
Dec. 16th—18th. First trial of war criminals at Kharkov.

1944

Jan. 17th. Special Commission set up to investigate Katyn crimes.
July 26th. Agreement between Soviet Government and Polish Committee of National Liberation after entry of Red Army into Poland.
Sept. 5th. End of war with Finland.

Sept. 5th. USSR declares war on Bulgaria.
Oct. 19th. Kuznetsov, Soviet Trade Union leader, addresses T.U.C. in London.

1945

Jan. 4th. USSR recognizes Polish Provisional Government.
Feb. 4th—12th. CRIMEA CONFERENCE.

Anniversaries regarded as STATE HOLIDAYS.

February	23rd.	Red Army Day
March	8th.	International Women's Day (Women only)
May	1st.	Labour Day
July	16th.	Physical Culture Day
August	18th.	Aviation Day
September	3rd.	International Youth Day
November	7th.	Revolution Day
December	5th.	Constitution Day

Major Orders of the Day.

Up to March 15th, 1945, there had been 300 Orders of the Day issued by Marshal Stalin. Of these, 17 had been for 24 salvos from 324 guns :—

Jan. 27th, 1944.	Liberation from blockade, Leningrad.
Mar. 26th, 1944.	Forcing of Dniester.
April 8th, 1944.	Czechoslovak frontier reached.
April 10th, 1944.	Odessa liberated.
May 10th, 1944.	Sevastopol liberated.
June 29th, 1944.	Petrozavodsk liberated.
July 3rd, 1944.	Minsk liberated.
July 13th, 1944.	Vilnius liberated.
Aug. 24th, 1944.	Kishinev liberated.
Aug. 31st, 1944.	Bukarest entered.
Sept. 22nd, 1944.	Tallinn liberated.
Oct. 13th, 1944.	Riga liberated.
Jan. 17th, 1945.	Warsaw captured.
Jan. 19th, 1945.	Cracow captured.
Jan. 19th, 1945.	Lodz captured.
Jan. 28th, 1945.	Dombrowa and southern Upper Silesia cleared.
Feb. 13th, 1945.	Budapest captured.

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APPENDIX

NOTES ON THE WESTERN FRONTIERS OF THE USSR.

WESTERN BYELORUSSIA and WESTERN UKRAINE were incorporated into Poland after the Great War of 1914-18 following the war between the new Soviet State and Poland.

The Allied Commission at Versailles defined the Soviet-Polish border (The Curzon Line) on ethnographical grounds. Despite this decision and because of the pre-occupations of the Soviet Union against the interventionists, Poland retained these two areas until November 1939. Then, Soviet troops moved in and took up positions corresponding to the Curzon Line facing the invading German forces.

Following elections, the two areas were incorporated into the Byelo-Russian S.S.R. and the Ukraine.

The VILNA area, disputed between Poland and Lithuania, after the Soviet occupation, was re-incorporated into the new Lithuanian S.S.R.

The Baltic Republics (ESTONIA, LATVIA and LITHUANIA), set up as independent states by Germany and the interventionists in 1918, ceded bases to the USSR and afterwards voted for incorporation into the USSR as Union Republics in August 1941.

Parts of Karelia and the isthmus north of Leningrad, part of Finland following the interventionist wars, were once again brought into the USSR following the Soviet-Finnish War in 1940. A new Union Republic, the KARELO-FINNISH S.S.R. was then formed.

In the south, Bessarabia, seized by Rumania in 1918, was ceded to the USSR in 1940. Bukovina became part of the Ukrainian S.S.R. and most of Bessarabia went into the new MOLDAVIAN S.S.R.

These five new Union Republics brought the total of S.S.R.s up to sixteen. (See Section 3).

THE CRIMEA CONFERENCE

The nine points agreed by the heads of the USSR, the USA and Great Britain.

1. *THE DEFEAT OF GERMANY.* Timing, scope and co-ordination by the armies and air forces was fully agreed and planned in detail.

2. *OCCUPATION OF GERMANY.* Agreement on common policy and plans. A Control Commission in Berlin (the three powers plus France, if she desires); Three (or four) zones of occupation; disarmament of German forces, disbandment of German General Staff; removal or destruction of

German military equipment and elimination or control of German war industry ; trial of war criminals and exaction of reparations ; destruction of Nazi Party, Nazi laws, organizations and institutions and influence.

3. **REPARATIONS BY GERMANY.** Compensation for all damage in kind to the greatest extent possible. Commission to be set up, working in Moscow.

4. **UNITED NATIONS' CONFERENCE.** To establish an international peace and security organization. Agreement reached on voting procedure. Agreement to call a Conference at San Francisco, U.S.A., on April 25th, 1945.

5. **DECLARATION ON LIBERATED EUROPE.** Agreement was reached to assist the peoples of liberated Europe during the period of instability following cessation of war. The Powers will assist liberated states to establish condition of internal peace ; carry out emergency measures for relief ; form interim governments representative of all democratic elements pledged to early establishment of freely elected Governments. France was invited to associate in this work.

6. **POLAND.** Agreement on the broadening of the Polish Provisional Government by inclusion of democrats from Poland itself and from Poles abroad. A Commission of three (V. M. Molotov, Mr. Harriman and Sir Archibald Clark-Kerr) to consult on this question. The Curzon line (with minor digressions in favour of Poland) was accepted, and recognition that Poland must receive accessions of territory in the north and west. The final delimitation of Poland's frontier to await the Peace Conference.

7. **JUGOSLAVIA.** Agreement to recommend to Marshal Tito and Dr. Subasic that a Provisional Government be immediately formed on the basis of the agreement between them. The new Government should be extended to include members of the last Yugoslav Government who have not compromised themselves by collaboration with the enemy. Legislative Acts passed by this Government (AVNOJ) will be subject to ratification by a Constituent Assembly. (There was also a general review of other Balkan questions).

8. **MEETINGS OF FOREIGN SECRETARIES.** It was agreed that the three Foreign Secretaries should meet about every three or four months in rotation in the three capitals.

9. **UNITY FOR PEACE AS FOR WAR.** A re-affirmation of joint determination to maintain unity of purpose and action after the war. "Victory in this war and the establishment of the proposed International Conference will provide the greatest opportunity in all history to create in the years to come the essential conditions of such a peace."

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