

Book studies (knigovedenie), or the history of the book, in modern Russia: A brief overview

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This paper examines issues of terminology and the history of bibliology, as well as publications by leading specialists and academic centers, including universities specializing in this field, and provides a short summary of the results.

Terminology and historical excursus

According to the articles on book studies in the *Great Soviet Encyclopedia*, “Book studies (knigovedenie) is an integrated science relating to books and book studies, which examines the processes of creation, distribution, and use of writing and printing in society.” The same term is used to refer to the general theory of books and book studies, practically replacing the closely related terms “bibliology,” “bibliognossia,” and others. Book studies incorporates a number of scholarly disciplines, including the history of the book, the history, theory, and methodology of publishing, the retail book trade, library science, and bibliography. These disciplines all share a “functional approach to the book from the standpoint of the actual or potential reader.”¹

One of the most recent articles specifically devoted to the content and structure of book studies emphasizes that it is an institutional form shaping the academic study of

1 N. M. Sikorsky, I. E. Barenbaum, and A. I. Barsuk, “Knigovedenie,” in *Great Soviet Encyclopedia* (Moscow: Soviet Encyclopedia Publishing House, 1969–78). Сикорский Н.М., Баренбаум И.Е., Барсук А.И. Книговедение // Большая советская энциклопедия. Москва: Советская энциклопедия, 1969-1978.

wide-ranging practical activities related to books, from creation to use.² Notably, although M. V. Rats does not use the term “knigovedenie” in the title of his study, he does use it in the text itself as a synonym for “book studies,” alongside the Latin version “bibliology.” In his opinion, the name of the discipline remains a matter for discussion. Rather than the academic disciplines combined under the common term “knigovedenie” (“book history” included), he lists two classes of “types and systems of practical activities” related to the book: a) those related to the creation of the book such as authorship, editorial and / or publishing work, book design, and printing activities and b) those related to its further existence and use, including bibliography, distribution, reading, critique, collecting, librarianship, and museum preservation.³ In comparison, the official SHARP website refers to “book history,” rather than “book studies,” although the academic area is interpreted in a broad sense and in principle coincides with that referred to above.

The first steps in book studies in Russia date back to the late eighteenth century. The term “knigovedenie” (V. Anastasevich) replaced “bibliography” (in a broader sense, cf. for example V. S. Sopikova) toward the mid-nineteenth century. N. M. Lisovskii introduced a course of book studies at the universities of Moscow and St. Petersburg. His concept had a significant impact on subsequent book studies theory. In 1889, the Moscow Bibliographic Circle was founded. It was then transformed into the Russian Bibliographic Society at Moscow University (1890–1930), with its own periodical publications. The

2 M. V. Rats, “On the question of the composition and structure of book studies,” *The Book: Studies and Materials*, Coll. 91 / I–II (Moscow: Science, 2009): 32.

3 Rats, “On the question of the composition,” 35. Рац М.В. К вопросу о составе и структуре науки о книге // Книга: Исследования и материалы. Сб. 91/ I-II. Москва: Наука, 2009, с. 32.

works and practical activities of B. S. Bodnarskii, a prominent public figure, made an important contribution to the development of book studies. During this same period, the Russian Bibliographic Society (A. M. Lovyagin) was active in St. Petersburg. A special place in the history of book studies is occupied by N. A. Rubakin, who studied the interaction between books and readers. In the first decade after the October Revolution of 1917, book studies entered a period of “intensive development.”⁴ However, in 1933, after the closure of the Academic Research Institute for Book Studies, as well as all other academic research organizations and bibliophile societies, it was declared to be a bourgeois science and practically ceased to exist with the exception of a small number of studies devoted to book history topics such as manuscript books and the early history of book printing. The revival of the science during the Khrushchev “thaw,” was, according to I. A. Shomrakova, to a large extent connected with the “global information explosion”: the increase in book publishing, the expansion of book markets, the growing interest in reading, and scientific achievements.⁵ At the same time, the American researcher

4 Sikorsky, “Knigovedenie”; see also N. K. Lelikova, *Formation and development of Book Studies and Bibliography in Russia in the nineteenth – first third of the twentieth century*, (St Petersburg: RNL, 2004); Сикорский Н.М. и др. Указ. соч.; Леликова, Н.К. *Становление и развитие книговедческой и библиографической наук в России в XIX - первой трети XX века*. СПб: РНБ, 2004; N. K. Lelikova, “The Development of the Science Book in Russia in the Nineteenth Century and First Third of the Twentieth Century,” *Solanus, New Series*, vol. 15 (2001), 116–26; A. A. Belovitskaya, *General Book Studies*, Knigovedenie (Book Studies), 2006; A. A., Govorov and T. G. Kupriyanova, *History of the book*, 2001; A. A. Grechikhin, *General bibliography*, 2000; A.V. Sokolov, *Metatheory of social communication*, 2001; Yu. N. Stolyarov, *Library Science, Bibliography, and Book Studies as a Unified Academic Discipline: A Full Course of Lectures for Post-Graduate Students*, 2007 and others. Беловицкая А.А. Общее книговедение. Книговедение. 2006; Говоров А.А., Куприянова Т.Г. История книги. 2001; Гречихин А.А. Общая библиография. 2000; Соколов А.В. Метатеория социальной коммуникации. 2001; Столяров, Ю. Н. Библиотековедение, библиографоведение и книговедение как единая научная дисциплина: полный курс лекций для аспирантов и соискателей. 2007 и др.

5 I. A. Shomrakova, “A fount of book knowledge: the publication of the jubilee hundredth issue of The Book: Studies and Materials: an analytical review,” *Bulletin of Saint Petersburg State University of Culture and Art* 20.3 (September, 2014): 68; see also G. I Kovalchuk., “Ukrainian publications” in the collection *Book: Studies and Materials: 50th anniversary of the publication. Libraries of national academies of sciences: problems of functioning, development tendencies*, 7 (2009): 347–61. Шомракова И.А. Кладезь книжного знания: к выходу в свет юбилейного сотого выпуска

Miranda Remnek has noted that despite the difficulties of the post-revolutionary period, publishers continued their activities. Over the long term they increased their output, even to a greater extent than Western publishing houses, since books were regarded as tools for propaganda. At the present time, after the fall of the communist regime, Remnek considers that Russian book business has acquired real freedom. It has not only undergone changes in its infrastructure overall, but also in terms of the content of the revived publishing houses.⁶ According to data from the periodical press, while books produced by non-state and non-institutional publishing houses in 1991 amounted to 8% of all books with Russian titles and 21% of the total circulation, by 1996, this figure had reached 43% in terms of titles, and 68% in terms of circulation and by 2002, the figures were 66% and 87% respectively.⁷

Publications and specialists

In order to illustrate Russia's rich literature on matters of book culture, it is perhaps sufficient to give as an example one particular long-running academic publication, *The Book: Studies and Materials* ("Книга: исследования и материалы"). The hundredth

сборника "Книга: Исследования и материалы": аналитический обзор. *Вестник СПбГУКИ* · № 3 (20) сентябрь, 2014, с. 68; см. также Ковальчук Г.И. Украинские публикации в сборнике "Книга: Исследования и материалы": к 50-летию издания. // Библиотеки национальных академий наук: проблемы функционирования, тенденции развития. 2009. Вып. 7. С. 347-361.

6 Miranda B. Remnek, "Introduction," in *The Space of the Book: Print Culture in the Russian Imagination*, ed. Miranda B. Remnek (Toronto: Toronto University Press, 2011), 5–6.

7 Polygraphist and publisher (August 1998), 45; Book review, C (March 11, 2003) 16; quoted from Boris Dubin, "Between the canon and the reality, scandal and fashion: literature and publishing in Russia in a changed social space," *The Inviolable Reserve* 4, no. 30 (2003). Полиграфист и издатель. 1998. Август. С. 45; Книжное обозрение. 2003. 11 марта. С. 16.; цит. по Дубин Б. Между каноном и актуальностью, скандалом и модой: литература и издательское дело в России в изменившемся социальном пространстве // Неприкосновенный запас. 2003, 4(30).

issue of this journal was published in April 2014.⁸ The task of such journals is to “revitalize and strengthen” book studies, to attract the attention of academic researchers, editors, book artists, and all those working in book publishing and the retail book trade, including bibliographers, historians, literary critics, library workers, collectors, and so on “to this most interesting area of knowledge.”⁹ The journal's program remains entirely relevant to this day. Despite a fall in circulation (initially between three and five thousand), *Book: Studies and Materials* retains its importance in the country and is known beyond Russia. Of the 2,111 articles and other materials published to date, the majority are works on book history and book culture, as well as bibliophilia (approximately 460–510 references) and general questions of methodology and the theory of *knigovedenie* (more than 150 references). Some 500 articles are devoted to the history of the book in Russia and the USSR and elsewhere and to the book trade in the Russian nations and the USSR. *Book: Studies and Materials* is regarded as an encyclopedia of knowledge on book business and *knigovedenie*, as well as library studies, bibliography studies, and the history of Russian and foreign culture.

According to the prominent translator and sociologist of literature Boris Dubin, Soviet library studies and book studies mainly focused on the “mass direction of reading” and remained “two tedious and gray branches of ideological work.” For Dubin, this prevented the emergence of fundamental publications such as “German book and library studies research journals” and “works by English and French researchers on the history of

⁸ Shomrakova, “A fount of book knowledge.”

⁹ *Book: Studies and Materials*, 1959, Coll. 01, 7, quoted from Shomrakova, “A fount of book knowledge,” 68. Книга: исслед. и материалы. 1959. Сб. 1. С. 7. цит. по Шомракова. Указ. соч., с. 68.

books and libraries, the role of these institutions in the formation of modern society, in mass religious education, and the development of a new type of University, etc.”¹⁰ In recent times, a number of interesting works have been published, notably by Dubin himself (including in co-authorship with L. D. Gudkov) in the sociology of literature and reading, including “The Library as a Social Institution” (“Библиотека как социальный институт”), which analyses the changes which continue to take place in the sphere of literary culture, book publishing, translation, and furnishing of libraries, and “Publishing, literary culture, and printed communications in today’s Russia” (“Издательское дело, литературная культура и печатные коммуникации в современной России”)¹¹. Based on an analysis of statistics and sociological research data, the authors came to conclusions about a sharp decline in readership and the breakdown of communication between various strata of readers, as well as a decline in and de-professionalization of the elite. They also concluded that there has been a breakdown in the mechanism for transferring cultural examples from one group to another and a slowing down of social change.¹²

10 B. Dubin, “Russian libraries in the system of reproductive institutions: context and perspectives,” *New Literary Review*, no. 74 (2005); see also “In Memoriam Boris Vladimirovich Dubin,” *New Literary Review* 2, no. 232 (2014). Дубин Б. Российские библиотеки в системе репродуктивных институтов: контекст и перспективы. НЛО, 2005, №74; см. также In Memoriam Борис Владимирович Дубин // НЛО. 2014, 2 (232).

11 Respectively in *Methodological Problems of Theoretical and Applied Research into Culture: Collection of Academic Works* (Moscow: Research Institute of Culture, 1988), 287–300, and *Liberal Reforms and Culture* (Moscow: OGI, 2003) 13–89. Методологические проблемы теоретико-прикладных исследований культуры: Сб. науч. тр. / НИИ культуры. М., 1988. С.287-300; Либеральные реформы и культура М., ОГИ, 2003. С.13-89.

12 Modern problems of reading and librarianship: sociological aspect (bibliography)”, <http://www.library.ru/1/sociolog/bibliography/list02.php>; see also the bibliography in A. I. Reitbat, “History of the book and literary cultures: Review of speeches at the international symposium,” *New Literary Review* 73 (2005) 346–54. Современные проблемы чтения и библиотечного дела: социологический аспект (библиография) <http://www.library.ru/1/sociolog/bibliography/list02.php>; см. также библиографию в публикации Рейтבלата А.И. История книги и литературных культур: (Обзор выступлений на международном симпозиуме) // НЛО. 2005. № 73. С. 346-354.

V. D. Stelmakh has an interesting point of view of the current state of librarianship based on her vast experience working at the country's main library.¹³ The edited collection of articles *Moscow Public in Support of Libraries in the Nineteenth to Twentieth Centuries* (Moscow: Econ-Inform, 2010)¹⁴ covers this issue both from the historical point of view and through the prism of more contemporary events, as expressed by those involved. Of particular interest are the memoirs of the librarian who spent more than twenty-five years in charge of the Department of Manuscripts at the Lenin State Library of the USSR, as recounted in S. V. Zhitomirsaya, *A Just Life* (Moscow: ROSSPEN, 2006).¹⁵

In the field of historical sociology, the works of A. I. Reitblat are interesting, with titles including *How Pushkin became a genius: Historical and sociological essays on the book culture of the Pushkin era* (Moscow, 2001), *From Bova to Balmont and other works on the historical sociology of Russian literature* (Moscow, 2009), *Faddey Venediktovich Bulgarin: ideologist, journalist, secret police informant: Articles and materials* (Moscow, 2016).¹⁶ They can usefully be read in conjunction with A. L. Zorin, *The appearance of the hero: From the history of the Russian emotional culture of the late eighteenth – early*

13 "The Reader and the Modern Literary Community: the Possibility of Dialogue," in *Reading the World and the World of Reading* (Moscow: Rudomino, 2003), 145–56, and "The modern library and its users" (<http://polit.ru/article/2004/03/30/library/>). "Читатель и современное литературное сообщество: возможность диалога" // *Читающий мир и мир чтения*. М., Рудомино, 2003. С.145-156; "Современная библиотека и ее пользователи" (<http://polit.ru/article/2004/03/30/library/>).

14 *Московская общественность в поддержку библиотек в XIX-XX вв.* (М.: Экон-Информ, 2010).

15 *Житомирская С.В. Просто жизнь.* М.: РОССПЭН, 2006.

16 *Рейтблат А.И. "Как Пушкин вышел в гении: Историко-социологические очерки о книжной культуре Пушкинской эпохи".* М., 2001; "От Бовы к Бальмонту и другие работы по исторической социологии русской литературы". М., 2009; "Фаддей Венедиктович Булгарин: идеолог, журналист, консультант секретной полиции: Статьи и материалы". М., 2016.

nineteenth century (Moscow, 2016),¹⁷ all published by the New Literary Review (NLR) ("Новое литературное обозрение" - НЛО).

Beyond Russia, there has also been interest in the field of Russian book culture. Remnek notes: “Recently, a new generation of Russian scholarship has made major contributions to the field. These include the prolific A. V. Blium, who has studied Imperial as well as Soviet Russia, and also A. I. Reitblat. On the earlier periods scholars include T. G. Kupriianova (on Petrine print culture), A. Yu. Samarin (on eighteenth-century readership), and N. Iu. Bubnov (on the Old Believers). [...] There is much recent work on Soviet Russia and the ensuing years”; Remnek lists scholars such as E. Ia. Zazerskii, E. A. Dobrenko, T. M. Gorjaeva, and the Siberian *knigoved* S. A. Paichadze.¹⁸

In the main, these are the names of leading experts from the metropolitan regions. Distinguished among these is the Siberian book scholar S. A. Paichadze. He is known for his academic school of Russian Far Eastern book researchers who have studied various aspects of the history of the book trade in the Russian Far East. Based on a study of archival materials and library holdings, S. A. Paichadze and his students compiled an image of book publishing and distribution in the region. Paichadze's first monograph *Books in the Far East: A Brief History*¹⁹ was published in 1983, followed by *The Book Business in the pre-revolutionary Russian Far East*²⁰ in 1991 and *The Russian Book in the Asia-Pacific Region: Essays on the history of the second half of the nineteenth and*

17 Зорин А.Л. "Появление героя: Из истории русской эмоциональной культуры конца XVIII - начала XIX века". М., 2016.

18 Remnek, "Introduction," in *The Space of the Book*, 7.

19 Пайчадзе С.А. "Книга Дальнего Востока: очерк истории".

20 Пайчадзе С.А. "Книжное дело на Дальнем Востоке (дооктябрьский период)".

*beginning of the twentieth century*²¹ and the edited volume *Essays on the History of Book Culture of Siberia and the Russian Far East, 2000–2005*.²² Paichadze also developed the course on the History of Book Culture in the Russian Far East at the Khabarovsk Institute of Arts and Culture.

Leading academic centers and academic forums

The country's main libraries have kept up with evolving research trends and remain leading academic and publishing centers. The Russian State Library is the largest public library in the world with a unique collection of domestic and foreign documents in 367 languages. Its holdings exceed 45.5 million items, including specialized collections of maps, music, sound recordings, rare books, dissertations, newspapers, and other types of publications. The library is also home to the permanent exhibition of the Russian State Library Museum of Books, which hosts unique exhibits of foreign and domestic publications from the fifteenth to twenty-first centuries, with samples of printed and original graphics, printing materials and tools, memorabilia from eminent figures in the area of book studies and the book trade, and over one thousand books and items related to reading and writing. It also houses treasures from the country's largest library and original documents illustrating key stages in the history of printing. The book is presented as the most important medium of information, as an object of material culture and a work of art (<http://www.rsl.ru/>).

21 Пайчадзе С.А. "Русская книга в странах Азиатско-Тихоокеанского региона (очерки истории второй половины XIX - начала XX столетия)".

22 "Очерки по истории книжной культуры Сибири и Дальнего Востока", 2000-2005); See V. L. Danilov, "In memory of Sergei Antonovich Paichadze," *The Bulletin of Omsk University*, no. 1 (2008): 132–34. Данилов В.Л. Памяти Сергея Антоновича Пайчадзе. Вестник Омского университета, 2008 (1), с.132-134.

January 14, 2014 marked the 200th anniversary of the Russian National Library, the oldest public and first national library in Russia. The library, now one of the world's largest and second largest in terms of holdings in the Russian Federation, has not only served Russian culture and science for two centuries, but safeguards the national heritage and contributes to the education of people living in Russia and the dissemination of humanist ideas (<http://www.nlr.ru/nlr/today.htm>). The library's academic, scientific, and production departments cover information and bibliography, archive documents, local history and bibliography, the history of librarianship, and other topics (<http://www.nlr.ru/nlr/div/>).

The main functions of the National Library of the Moscow State University are library, information, and bibliographic support for teaching and research at Moscow State University, the acquisition and storage of literature, dissertations defended at Moscow State University, rare books and manuscripts, archives, personal collections, oral history and other materials, catalogs, academic research on the study and description of holdings, and digitization of the information and bibliographic processes. The most valuable aspect of the holdings, which begins with eleventh-century manuscripts, is its collection of some 400,000 rare books and manuscripts (<http://nbmgu.ru/about/>).

The Maxim Gorky academic library at St. Petersburg State University possesses collections of more than 6.9 million printed books and manuscripts and provides access to more than 60 million electronic sources, including academic journals, monographs, dissertations, reference books, etc. It is one of the finest university libraries in Russia in terms of holdings. The library's main goal is to provide a complete and efficient library

and bibliographic service for St. Petersburg State University in all fields of academic and educational endeavour (<http://www.library.spbu.ru/about/>).

The leading specialized higher education institutions have long been outstanding educational, academic, scientific, and publishing centers. These include Ivan Fedorov Moscow State University,²³ a teaching and research center for Russia and all the CIS countries specializing in the media industries. It is the only Russian institution of higher education which provides complete training for the entire range of professions in this field. The Higher School of Printing and Media Industry includes the Institutes of Print Media and Information Technology, Publishing and Journalism, offering MA programs relating to modern publishing and the antique book trade, Communications and the Media with an MA program on advertising and public relations in the media industry, and Graphics and Book Art, which offers an MA in graphic design. The Moscow State University of Culture and Art (MSUCA) includes the Social Humanities Faculty (formerly the Moscow Library Institute), the leading training institute in the field of library and information science, applied information science, records management, and archive studies. It offers masters programs in the theory and methodology of library information management, the sociology and psychology of library information services, libraries and teaching, and library information technologies.

The St. Petersburg State University of Culture's Library Information Faculty occupies a leading position in higher educational institutions in Russia. The Faculty of Documentation Management and Information Analysis has established a number of

²³ Here and hereafter materials from the official sites of the listed universities were used.

academic areas in the library and information sphere, including book studies, information analysis, and bibliographical studies. The Faculty of Library Studies and the Theory of Reading offers programs for managers of library and information services and reading promotion schemes. The Faculty of Literature and Children's Reading offers courses for librarianship and information management MA students as philologists and bibliographers of children's literature. The St. Petersburg State University of Industrial Technology and Design's Graduate School of Printing and Media Technologies and Institute of Media Technologies trains specialists in the humanities. The Institute offers teaching on the publishing business and retail book trade covering the literary, economic, and technical aspects of publishing, including editing and distributing books and periodicals. To support these special subjects, in-depth study courses have been introduced focusing on the history and current status of domestic and foreign books, the history of domestic and foreign literature, sociology and psychology, and the culture of speech and rhetoric.

It is useful to note the opinion of A. V. Sokolov with regard to significant transformations of library faculties. Sokolov examines the history of information courses at the Faculty of Library and Information Science at the St. Petersburg University of Culture and Arts and concludes that "there is a prevalence of computer information science, corresponding to the technocratic views of the bureaucratic elite and interests of information business corporations," which will lead to the "degeneration" of library

education. Libraries will be deprived of a source of human resources and, consequently, the system of national librarians is, in his view “doomed.”²⁴

Interestingly, readers are increasingly attracted to electronic libraries, including the National Electronic Library (NEL) at the Russian State Library, which consists first and foremost of the most recent academic and educational books published in Russian, the Academic Electronic Library at the State National Public Library for Science and Technology, and periodical electronic publications, such as “Open Text” (Otkritii Tekst), a website created with the financial support of the Russian Federation's Federal Agency for Press and Mass Communications.²⁵

An important development in book studies and academic book publication in the post-Soviet era is the advent of international academic conferences presenting the results of research in book history and book culture and the current status of book studies to scholars and specialists from across Russia and elsewhere. At such events the practical activities of publishers and distributors of books and magazines are discussed. Russia has held dozens of academic conferences, both international and regional, devoted to general book studies and the history of books and book culture as a whole. The largest of these in

24 A. V. Sokolov, “The Adventures of Information at the Library Faculty,” *Bulletin of SPbSUAC* 12, no. 3 (September 2012): 63–68. Соколов А.В. Приключения Информации на библиотечном факультете. Вестник СПбГУКИ № 3 (12), сентябрь 2012, с. 63-68.

25 See <http://www.rsl.ru/ru/s7/s335/2016/rumchtenia2016/>; The Russian National Public Library for Science and Technology (SPSTL) <http://ellib.gpntb.ru/>; “Open Text,” Nizhny Novgorod branch of the Russian Society of Historians-Archivists, <http://www.opentextnn.ru/censorship/russia/avtory/?id=82>; see also A. Reitblat. “Electronic libraries: compilers and readers (based on sociological research),” libconfs.narod.ru>2004/s2/s2_p14.htm. См.: официальный сайт Российской государственной библиотеки. <http://www.rsl.ru/ru/s7/s335/2016/rumchtenia2016/>; Государственная публичная научно-техническая библиотека (ГПНТБ) России <http://ellib.gpntb.ru/>; “Открытый текст” Нижегородское отделение Российского общества историков архивистов) <http://www.opentextnn.ru/censorship/russia/avtory/?id=82>; см. также Рейтблат А.И. Электронные библиотеки: комплектаторы и читатели (по материалам социологического исследования) libconfs.narod.ru>2004/s2/s2_p14.htm.

terms of thematic coverage, number of participants, and level of representation is the International Academic (formerly All-Union) Conference on Book Studies.²⁶ One of the most recent was “The Book and World Civilization” in 2004, with 414 papers presented leading to the publication of four edited volumes.²⁷ Every two years the “Smirdinskie Chteniya”, a conference named for the nineteenth-century publisher Alexander Smirdin, is held by the St. Petersburg State University of Culture and Arts Department of Bibliography and Book Studies, with the fifteenth taking place in 2009.²⁸ On April 12–13, 2016, the international “Rumyantsevskie Chteniya” conference, named for the nineteenth-century scholar and bibliophile Nikolay Rumyantsev, was held at the Russian State Library. More than three hundred specialists from twelve countries took part in the conference.²⁹

Even such a cursory overview of the current situation of Russian book studies shows that the academic area as a whole has proven its viability, thanks to new and interesting publications, which, of course, could only develop thanks to the foundation

26 VI Vasiliev, A. Yu. Samarin, “Scientific forums of book experts as a factor in the development of academic relations and book publishing in the post-Soviet space,” *The Academic Book* 1 (2007): 218–220; see, for example, “Book culture in the writings of academics of the CIS countries”, Collection of articles. Based on the materials of the international academic conference / ed. prof. V. I. Vasilyev, M.: *Science*, 2006. Васильев В.И., Самарин А.Ю. Научные форумы книговедов как фактор развития научных связей и книгоиздания на постсоветском пространстве. Научная книга, 2007 (1), с. 218–220; см., например, Книжная культура в трудах ученых стран СНГ: сб. статей. По материалам междунар. науч. конф. /под ред. проф. В.И. Васильева.- М.: Наука, 2006.

27 Yu. P. Melentieva, “International book studies conference on the book and world civilization,” *Scientific and Technical Libraries*, 9 (2004), 84–87. Мелентьева Ю.П. Международная книговедческая конференция “Книга и мировая цивилизация” // Научные и технические библиотеки. 2004 (9), с.84-87.

28 Book Producers: Mikhail Nikolaevich Kufaev (1888–1948): collection of academic works based on the materials of the 15th Smirdinskie Chteniya, ed. I.A. Shomrakova. SPb: SPbSUAC, 2010. Деятели книги: Михаил Николаевич Куфаев (1888-1948) : сб. науч. тр. по материалам 15-х Смирдинских чтений / под ред. И.А.Шомраковой. СПб: СПбГУКИ, 2010.

29 Official site of the Russian State Library. <http://www.rsl.ru/en/s7/s335/2016/rumchtenia2016>.

laid in previous eras. It is to be hoped that vital research on book history in both the Russian and foreign contexts will continue to develop and flourish.

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