Zemstvo Post of Orlov Uyezd (County), Vyatka Province

by Sergey Ivanov and Andrey Garbaruk Appendices for Part 1

Translated by Steve Volis

Appendix 1. Rules of the Zemstvo Mail of the 1868 edition.

- 1) The Zemstvo mail leaves the town of Orlov with 3 special messengers (postmen). The messengers must be literate and sober. To receive and record correspondence in a book, a special clerk is needed in the administration.
- 2) Only ordinary correspondence is accepted for mailing by the zemstvo post: official packets, private letters, P.O. announcements about money and parcels, as well as newspapers and magazines.
- 3) The postal service is free of charge.
- 4) The places for receiving correspondence are: in the city of Orlov the zemstvo county board, in the county zemstvo post stations and bailiffs' apartments. There should be special clerks at the stations both to keep track of travel from zemstvo stations and to receive correspondence.
- 5) Reception of correspondence is carried out by the administration daily from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., except for Sundays and State holidays, but also on these days, if the zemstvo mail leaves then. At the stations the reception is made daily, not excluding Sundays and State holidays.
- 6) Official packets, private letters, advertisements, newspapers and magazines are received by the administration from the post office.
- 7) Correspondence going to another county or province must be received in stamped envelopes, for which purpose it is necessary to buy scales at the reception centers and also to buy stamped envelopes to sell them at the reception centers.
- 8) The received correspondence shall be immediately recorded in a ledger, which will be established at each station, then sorted by points, put into special bags post-packets and handed over to the postman, who shall hand them over to the destination stations against a signature.
- 9) The mail received in the town is sent to the addresses through postmen, and at the stations the addressees either come themselves or send for the mail.
- 10) The postman rides a pair of horses, which will be stipulated in contracts with station keepers. The riding speed is 8 verst (5.3 miles) per hour.
- 11) Horses must be ready for the arrival of the mail at each station. Those guilty of violating this rule should be penalized.

The chairman of the meeting found it more convenient that private and state correspondence should be received only in the volost boards and, thus, instead of 35 designated stations for receiving correspondence, to appoint 23, according to the number of volost boards. The duties of receiving and sending postal correspondence were to be entrusted to the volost clerks. With these amendments the rules were adopted.

Appendix 2. Accident that occurred on the road with the Zemstvo letter carrier Filimonov.

On May 9, 1905, Filimonov left Orlov on two pairs of horses. During the ride to Berezov station Filimonov was very tired because of the cramped conditions in the carriage, and on the way from Berezov to Verkhodvorye he fell asleep. A coachman, the son of the keeper of the Berezov station, took advantage of this opportunity and took out of the side pocket of the postman's jacket a wallet containing the money to be sent, stole some of it and put the wallet back into Filimonov's pocket. When Filimonov arrived at the Verkhodvorye volost board and without suspecting anything, he handed in the mail and went on his way. At the Verkhodvorye board Filimonov did not pay attention to the rest of the money in his wallet, which he should have had over 600 rubles, because he had forgotten the receipt of 321 rubles and 94 kopeks from the manager of the Velikoretsky pawnshop. It is true that in the village of Verkhodvorye one fact put Filimonov on the occurring disadvantage, but he did not attach any importance to it at that time. The coachman who had stolen the money, probably wishing to disguise his deed, asked Filimonov for 50 kopeks for vodka, which he returned at the same time, saying that the shop was locked. And then, when Filimonov was getting into the carriage, he heard some words from the dispatch watchman at the Verkhodvorye volost office, who said that poor Tima (that was the name of the coachman from the Berezov station who brought Filimonov) had almost lost his way by dropping two three-ruble papers at the porch.

While moving from Verkhodvorye to Verkhovino Filimonov remembered that he had received in Velikoretsky from the head of the pawnshop 321 rubles and 94 kopeks and only then he realized that there was little money left in his wallet after the mail was handed in at the Verkhodvorye board. At the Verkhodvorye volost board he checked the rest of the money in his wallet and calculated the amount of money he should have according to the documents and found a shortage of over 500 rubles. Comparing the previous circumstances, Filimonov suspected Timofey Ichetkin, a coachman of the Berezov station, of stealing the money. Filimonov immediately took the horses and returned to the village of Berezovsky, where he reported the incident to the local officer Laptev. After a search of Timofey Ichetkin, who was found in his pocket 8 rubles and 60 kopeks and long exhortations Ichetkin confessed to the theft and immediately took 75 rubles out of the crack above the door in the hut, and about the rest of the money said that he had hidden them in several places in the forest on the road from Berezov to Verkhodvorye. In the forest Ichetkin found 95 rubles in one place, and in spite of his intensified search he could not find more: apparently, he had forgotten where he had hidden it. The money taken away from Ichetkin was delivered in a bag by the ranger and Filimonov to the bailiff of the 2nd camp, who lived in the village of Verkhovsky. The bailiff, having calculated exactly according to the documents how much money Filimonov should have in cash, and having compared it with his cash, determined the amount of the stolen money to be 518 rubles, in addition to which 96 rubles were later found in the woods, in total 274 rubles and 60 kopeks were found. Thus, the amount of lost and not replenished money is determined as 244 rubles and 5 kopeks.

Appendix 3. Rules of the Zemstvo Mail of the 1907 edition.

- (1) The Zemstvo Post may forward correspondence of all kinds by government and public institutions, officials and private persons free of charge, and parcels of private persons for a fee, except:
- a) parcels weighing more than a pood, as well as bulky and inconvenient for transportation.
- b) taxes and other levies to be deposited in the treasury.
- <u>Note 1.</u> Zemstvo parcels may be of any weight, as the Zemstvo mail is used to send books and educational and writing materials to Zemstvo schools.

- <u>Note 2.</u> Parcels weighing up to a pood addressed to students and on behalf of students in educational institutions in the town of Orlov are transported by Zemstvo Post free of charge.
- 2) In the town, mail is accepted in the post office from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on all days, except for state holidays days and days of mail departure (Mondays and Thursdays); on days of mail departure, mail is accepted from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. In the county the mail is received by volost boards, and in the village of Velikoretsky at the Zemstvo school.
- 3) Money and other insurance correspondence and parcels coming from the State mail are recorded in the ledgers of postmen and handed in at the volost boards under the signature of members of the volost boards or persons authorized by them. Money and parcels coming to the town from State (except for the post office) and public institutions and private persons are recorded in the receipt book and a receipt signed by the head of the postmaster is issued for their receipt, in the county in the receipt books of the volost boards and receipts are issued signed by the members of the volost boards. In addition, parcels of private persons deposited in the town are recorded in a prescribed ledger by the sender, indicating the subject of the parcel. Money and parcels shall be handed in at the township boards in the same manner as described at the beginning of this paragraph.
- 4) A fee of 10 kopeks per parcel weighing up to 20 pounds and 25 kopeks per parcel weighing from 20 pounds to a pood is charged for the forwarding of parcels; in addition, an insurance fee of 5 kopeks per ruble is charged for valuable parcels.
- 5) Periodicals and private correspondence coming from the State mail and correspondence handed in by private persons are not recorded in the books and are handed in at the volost boards without receipts.
- 6) Money in sealed letters shall not be accepted at the Zemstvo P. O., except for money packages coming from the State P.O.
- 7) The Zemstvo is materially responsible only for money and valuable parcels accepted under receipt, as well as for money, valuable parcels and registered letters coming from the State P.O. The zemstvo does not assume any material responsibility beyond this.
- 8) If the correspondence or money to be received from the State P. O. or receipts for money or registered correspondence are not delivered within two weeks, the person who sends the summons or money and registered correspondence to the P. O. is obliged to inform the Zemstvo about it within the first month from the time of delivery to the letter carrier.
- 9) The Zemstvo shall have a one-month period from the time of application to inquire about undelivered correspondence, after which, if the correspondence is lost at the Zemstvo P.O. and through the fault of the Zemstvo P.O., the Zemstvo shall pay the cost thereof in accordance with the rules established by the State P.O.
- 10) Powers of attorney for receiving correspondence from the state post office shall be written in the name of the zemstvo. If the powers of attorney are written in the name of letter carriers or other persons, the Zemstvo is not responsible for the loss of such correspondence and does not give references.
- 11) When the mail arrives at the township boards, one of the township chiefs or persons authorized by them must be present at the township boards to receive the mail, and the material responsibility remains with the members of the township boards.
- 12) Correspondence in the town, except for parcels of private persons, shall be delivered by zemstvo letter carriers. Parcels of private persons shall be issued at the P. O., of which the recipient shall be notified by a summons.

- 13) The order of issuing and receiving correspondence is established by the volost boards themselves and the authority subject to them. In the village of Velikoretsky all correspondence is issued at the school and not distributed to the houses.
- 14) The forms of books for recording and handing in correspondence are established by the zemstvo and are prepared for the volost boards at the expense of the district zemstvo.

Appendix 4. Changes to the Zemstvo Mail regulations 1911 edition.

Paragraph 4 of the rules should read as follows:

For the forwarding of simple parcels of private individuals from the county, town and from the state post, a fee is charged from each individual parcel weighing: up to 10 lbs. - 10 k., from 10 to 20 lbs. - 15 k., from 20 lbs. to 1 pood - 25 k. Supplement this paragraph with notes:

- 1) Parcels weighing more than a pood, as well as bulky and inconvenient for transportation are not accepted.
- 2) For the forwarding of valuable parcels of private individuals from the district, town and from the state post is charged in addition to weight insurance fee of 1 kopek from the estimated ruble.
- 3) For the forwarding of private money from the district to the town and from the town to the district from the state post office a fee of 1/2 kopek per ruble is charged.
- 4) No fee is charged for sending money and parcels in the name of students to the town of Orlov and when sent by the students themselves.
- 5) Valuable parcels are accepted only those valued at not more than 50 rubles, and the sending of money for all (private persons, state and public institutions and officials) is limited to 200 rubles, more than this from one person or one institution with one post cannot be sent, except for the mailing of salaries to students in public schools, the inspection of the Orlov County and the Orlov branch of the diocesan school board.

To paragraph 1, paragraph a) and Note2 should be deleted from the rules, and paragraph b) should be moved to paragraph 4.

To supplement the rules with the paragraph:

Books and periodicals from the Orlov public library are forwarded by regular Zemstvo mail free of charge.

Appendix 5. Statistics on zemstvo mail.

| Period | Type of mail | Quantity (to county/ |
|-----------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| | | from county / between |
| | | localities) |
| Aug. 01,1869 | Packets | 9,644 (6,906/2,738/0) |
| - Sep. 01 1869 | Ordinary letters | 267 (205/62/0) |
| July 01, 1873 – | Packets | - (14,586/-/-) |
| July 01, 1874 | Letters | - (5,083/-/-) |
| | Subpoenas and announcements | 3,117 (3117/0/0) |
| | Newspapers and magazines | 14,032 (14,032/0/0) |
| July 01,1879 - | Packets | 23,670 (14,579/9,091/-) |
| July 01,1880 | Letters | 5,636 (5,185/451/-) |
| | Subpoenas and announcements | 3,212 (3,212/0/0) |
| | Newspapers and magazines | 12,916 (12,916/0/0) |

| | | 20.070 (20.700 (40.444)) |
|-----------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| July 01,1883 - | Packets | 39,973 (20,532/19,441/-) |
| July 01, 1884 | Letters | 6,926 (6,339/587/-) |
| | Subpoenas and announcements | 44,79 (4,479/0/0) |
| | Newspapers and magazines | 13,250 (13,250/0/0) |
| July 01, 1890 – | Packets | 63,846 |
| July 01, 1891 | Private letters | 24,255 |
| | Parcels | 1,715 |
| | Subpoenas | 8,611 |
| | Newspapers and magazines | 37,144 |
| July 01, 1894 – | State Valuable Packets | (1/-/-) |
| July 01, 1895 | State Money Packets | (198/198/140) |
| | Private Valuable and Money Packets | (2402/-/196 |
| | Private Registered Packets | (2956/-/-) |
| | State Ordinary Packets | (36,438/-/10,873) |
| | Private Ordinary Packets | (22,400/-/22,400) |
| | State Parcels | (618/42/16) |
| | Private Valuable Parcels | (197/19/6) |
| | Postpackets | (235/209/0) |
| | Wrappers | (2,800/0/0) |
| | Subpoenas | (8,607/0/0) |
| | Periodicals | (58,434/0/0) |
| July 01, 1900 – | State Money Packets | 1,445 at 20,525.27 r. |
| July 01, 1901 | Private Money Packets | 7,772 at 72,525.35 r. |
| | State Ordinary Packets | 88,629 |
| | Registered Packets | 10,679 |
| | State Parcels | 1,074 |
| | Private Valuable Parcels | 624 |
| | Private Postage Free Parcels | 5,332 |
| | Private Ordinary Letters | 34,883 |
| | Postpackets | 3,100 |
| | Wrappers | 2,542 |
| | Subpoenas | 5,575 |
| | Periodicals | 52,485 |
| | Telegrams | 315 |
| July 01, 1904 – | Zemstvo Post monetary sum | at 139,120.59 r. |
| July 01, 1905 | State Money Packets | 1,871 at 23,860.23 r. |
| | Private Money Packets | 7,679 at 87,942.33 r. |
| | State Ordinary Packets | 8,718 ¹ |
| | Registered Packets | 10,215 |
| | State Parcels | 1,078 |
| | Private Parcels | 5,121 |
| | Private Ordinary Letters | 34,983 |
| | Postpackets | 2,997 |
| | Wrappers | 3,018 |
| | Subpoenas | 5,172 |
| | Periodicals | 52,715 |
| | | 0-,, 10 |

Apparently, there is a typographical error in the Journal of Assembly, one figure is missing, because in the previous and subsequent periods simple government packets were sent about an order of magnitude more.

| | Telegrams | 202 |
|-----------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| July 01, 1909 – | State Money Packets | (916/779/-) |
| July 01, 1910 | Private Money Packets | (5531/5210/-) |
| | Sum in State and Private packets | (127,274.12 r./76,217.21 r./-) |
| | State and Private Ordinary Packets | (61725/46740/-) |
| | Registered Letters and Wrappers | (9846/7207/-) |
| | Ordinary State Parcels | (1048/472/-) |
| | State Parcels | (2829/134/-) |
| | Private Letters | (91647/21645/-) |
| | Postal subpoenas/postal orders | (19817/5849/-) |
| | Ordinary Wrappers and Periodicals | (124645/0/-) |
| July 01, 1913 – | State Money Packets | (1109/925/-) |
| July 01, 1914 | Private Money Packets | (6080/5280/-) |
| | Sum in State and Private packets | (226981.50 r./84275 r./-) |
| | State and Private Ordinary Packets | (61748/45720/-) |
| | Registered Letters and Wrappers | (10618/7985/-) |
| | Ordinary State Parcels | (1018/448/-) |
| | State Parcels | (6682/5312/-) |
| | Private Letters | (96270/23670/-) |
| | Ordinary Wrappers and Periodicals | (127420/0/-) |

Appendix 6. Additional Sources on the Zemstvo Post of Vyatka Province.

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- 8. P. Sakhautdinov. "History of Postal Communication in Sarapul." Sarapul. 2008. https://mirmarok.ru/prim/view_article/344/
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- 12. D. Kuznetsov. "Zemstvo Post of Sarapul Uyezd." Filateliya USSR No. 11, 1979: 42-43.
- 13. D. Kuznetsov. "Forgeries of Zemstvo Stamps. Nolinsk Uyezd of Vyatka Province." *Filateliya USSR* No.11, 1982: 49-50.
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- 16. E. Hurt. "Russia A Note of the Counterfoil Stamps of Kotelnich." *Record of Philately*, 1935: 105-106.
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- 18. B. Grodetsky, Y. Gurevich. "Proofs and Specimen for Zemstvo Post Offices of Vyatka Province." *Filateliya* No. 3, 2010: 43-44.
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- 20. O. Greis. "Forgeries of the fist Zemstvo stamp of Nolinsk, issue 1871." JCRP (ZKRP) No. 11, 2011: 18-21
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