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ANNUAL REPORT 2002-2003

The most important event of the year

Grand opening of the New Building of the National Library of Russia, on which the President of Russian Federation V.V.Putin was present, took place on April 12, 2003.

Statistics

Collections (by January 1, 2003) 33,465.9 items Staff (by January 1, 2003) 1,736 persons

Legislation

In 2002-2003, the introduction of Government Regulation on «Changes in State Legal Deposit System» was realized.

Management

In 2002, the new structure of Strategic Development Management, the task of which is to elaborate the strategic plans of library development for 10-15 years, was created in the NLR.

Buildings

1. Juvenile Reading Room was opened on January 15, 2003.
2. Microform Room was opened on January 14, 2003.
3. «Centre on Study of European Culture of the 18th Century (Voltaire's Room)» is planned to be opened on May 30, 2003.

Reader servicing

Opening of the Room of the display of recent acquisitions took place in the New Building on May 5, 2003. The Room is equipped with individual carrels for readers' work. Specialized reading room providing access to scanned General Alphabetical Catalogue was opened in 2002.

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Statistics by January 1, 2003:

Registered quantity of new readers:	123,000 persons
Visits:	1,254,000 persons
Books delivered:	12,050,600 items

Bibliographical references fulfilled: 308,000 references Services delivered to users of the Information Service Center include: information search (in NLR databases and remote

databases), providing access to full text sources, providing access to Internet resources, scanning documents from the Library collections for users, etc. Also Book shop was opened where the visitors may purchase both editions published by the Library and by other publishers.

NLR provides access to full-text electronic journals. More than 6,000 titles of full-text electronic journals are available to users.

NLR web-site

In 2002, NLR web site was visited by 7,221,000 persons. User quantity is 583,000 persons.

In 2002-2003, continuous work on the renovation of information on the web-site, where online resources of the library are presented along with current information, was carried out.

Since May 2002, the section «School of novice subject-cataloguer» illustrating the technique of subject-cataloguing in electronic catalogue is introduced on NLR web page. Methodical section «Cataloguer's Pages» (English and Russian versions) enjoys wide popularity.

In 2003, NLR Internet-Shop (English and Russian versions) is created together with company SPAERO.

Digitization

Work on joint project with the U.S. Library of Congress «Meetings on the Borders» on the digitization (9,000 images) is going on.

The database of electronic copies of documents from the NLR collections, which numbers 5,170 documents, is created.

Digitalization of two volumes from Library of Voltaire's collection (loaned by the National Library of Russia) is carried out by the National Library of France. These editions are presented and available for Russian and French specialists in digitized form with comments in both languages at the site "Gallica" - <http://gallica.bnf.fr/>.

Manuscript Division is carrying out the project «Ensuring the safety of Polish documents from Dubrovsky's collection» on the digitization of Polish autographs.

Acquisition

In 2002 acquired	449,706 items (37,593 items in foreign languages)
including books:	6,794 items in foreign languages
International book lending:	5,160 books
	155,000 periodicals
	1,576 serials
Subscription for periodicals for 2003	542 titles
Partners	1,047 organizations

As in previous years, the Federal Document Conservation Center, which is one of NLR departments, worked on ensuring conservation of collections. Much work was done because of moving of part of NLR collection to the new building - more than 16,000,000 documents were processed (disinfected and dust-removed).

In April 2002 4-th National workshop «Problems of security of libraries and library collections» was held in NLR.

Conservation and restoration

In 2002, binding restoration and reconstruction was 2,273 items.

Work on the reequipment of restoration sector commenced, modern workplaces for the restoration of documents and bindings are equipped.

International activity

In 2002-2003, the following foreign delegations visited the National Library of Russia:

1. The delegation of U.S. Congress Senators headed by James Billington, Director of the Library of Congress, May 2002.
2. The delegation of Spain headed by Mrs. Pilar del Castilio, Minister of Culture of Spain, and Mr. Luis Alberto Rodrigues Blanco, Consul General of Spain.
3. James Billington, Director of the Library of Congress, and Mr. Stevens, Senator of Alaska State. The joint project on map digitization was discussed.

Within the framework of project of the Consortium of European Libraries, the National Library of Russia continues its participation in the creation of database of «Early Printed Books». At present, NLR file numbers 13,340 entries.

Manuscript Division continues its cooperation with Publishing House ADEVA in the publication of three manuscripts, with Publishing House Lucern in the publication of Mary Stewart's Prayer Book, and with ARS Magna in the project of the publication of four manuscripts.

Library cooperation NLR works in cooperation with Russian and foreign libraries in the Germany, USA, United Kingdom, France, Poland, etc.

NLR is the Headquarters of the Russian Library Association, and Vladimir Zaitsev, General Director of NLR, is the President of the Association.

NLR continued its activities in the framework of the Agreement on collaboration of the national libraries of Russia. Regular session of the Council of cooperation of the National Library of Russia and the Russian State Library which was held in Moscow resulted in the draft national program of development of the retrospective national bibliography up to 2010. NLR is a member of international organizations: IFLA, CDNL, CENL, CERL, LIBER, «Biblioteka Baltica», etc. In March, 2002 NLR hosted annual meeting of IFLA Permanent UNIMARC Committee.

In 2002-2003, NLR was carrying out cooperation with the National Library of Czechina, the National Library of Hungary, and the National Library of Estonia within the framework of close cooperation agreements. In framework of the joint projects, NLR cooperated with the Library of Duke August, the Library of Duchess Anna Amalia, and the University Library of Helsinki.

Celebration of the 300th Anniversary of Saint Petersburg and library cooperation.

In the Year of the City's Anniversary there were great program of cultural measures, in which the National Library of Russia took part. Great number of unique materials about history of St. Petersburg and Russia from the Library funds were present. For example:

On-line exhibition. Saint Petersburg on Russian Postcards (1895-1915).

The Print Department of the NLR holds hundreds of postcards with images of Saint Petersburg. They show world-famous masterpieces of architecture, celebrated city ensembles, and everyday life of the big city. The first postcards with photographs of Saint Petersburg, the capital of the Russian Empire at that time, went for sale in 1895. Since then, beauties of the magnificent city became the pet subject of postcard images. Over the period of the next twenty years various publishers printed thousands of postcards with views of St. Petersburg which opened the third century of its history.

On-line collection. Images of Saint Petersburg (1900-1941).

The Library is pleased to present the distinguished Churakov collection. It is the largest single collection of views of world towns in the post-cards section of the Print

Department's holdings. The Churakov collection holds over 55,000 post-cards, dated between the late 1890s and 1941. The Churakov collection is particularly strong in the material relating to our city. About 900 images of Saint Petersburg (Petrograd-Leningrad) are available online and can be viewed via the web.

The collection of maps of St. Petersburg.

The collection of printed maps and atlases in the Library is one of the largest in the country and includes over 180,000 items. The NLR is especially fortunate in possessing Russian cartographic materials of the 18th-20th centuries. It includes the first Russian maps of the period of Peter the Great, publications of the Russian Academy of Sciences, topographical maps drawn by military departments, and many others. The collection of Russian and foreign maps of the city of St. Petersburg has no equal in Russia. It contains more than 1400 items ranging from the early years of the 18th century to the present.

The series of expositions and actions devoted to St. Petersburg was organized in the Library's apartments. Some of them: «Peter the Great and Saint Petersburg», «Palace necklace of St. Petersburg» (the book exhibition), «Autographs and gifts from Romanovs in the Imperial Public Library funds» (on the material of Manuscript Department collections), «Petersburg and the Orient», the concert «Italian composers of XVIII century in Saint Petersburg» (the NLR collection of rare scores and notes) and others.

Various program of foreign actions was answer the range of the NLR international relations: together with New York Public Library (in USA), with Gettingen University (in Germany); French cultural institutions show the great interest to Anniversary (in particular, the project of renewal «Voltaire's Library» was prepared in cooperation with the NLR).