FOOTNOTE: St. Petersburg is situated on the river Neva, near the Gulf of Finland, and is built partly upon some islands in the mouth of that river, and partly upon the continent. The ground on which Petersburg stands was only a vast morass, occupied by a few fishermen’s huts, when Peter the Great first began this city in 1703. He built a small hut himself, and some wretched wooden hovels. In 1710 the first house of brick was built, and next year the emperor, with his own hands, laid the foundation of a house of the same material. From these small beginnings rose the imperial city of Petersburg; and, in less than nine years after the wooden hovels were erected, the seat of the Russian Empire was transferred from Moscow to this place. The streets, in general are broad and spacious; and three of the principal ones, which meet in a point at the admiralty, are at least two miles in length. The mansions of the nobles are vast piles of building, furnished with great cost, in the same elegant style as at Paris or London, and situated chiefly on the South side of the Neva. The views upon the banks of the Neva exhibit the grandest and most lively scenes imaginable. That river is in many places as broad as the Thames at London; it is also deep, rapid, and as transparent as crystal; its banks are lined on each side with a continued range of grand buildings. On the North the fortress, the academy of sciences, and the academy of arts, are the most striking objects. On the opposite side are the imperial palace, the admiralty, the mansions of many Russian nobles, and the English line, so called because it is mostly occupied by English merchants. In the front of those buildings, on the South side, is the quay, which extends three miles, except where it is interrupted by the admiralty; and the Neva, during the whole of that space, has been embanked by a wall, parapet, and pavement of hewn granite. The number of inhabitants is supposed to be about 300,000. (c. 1839). Universal Gazette, Phila., 1839.
1850 ΠΑ - 10 KOPEK - OBVERSE

RUSSIAS, EMPIRE of all the
ST.PETERSBURG MINT

10 KOPEK 17MM .868 FINE 2.07 GRAMS

1846  810,008
1847  3,180,001
1849  3,110,001
1850  2,450,001
1851  1,500,001
1852  1,350,006

ΟV: Crown / Double Headed Imperial Eagle (St. George to right on central shield, with six shields) / ΠΑ

RV: Crown / 10 / ΚΟΠΕΚ (Kopeks) / -.- / DATE / С.Π.Β. (mintmark) within wreath of laurel and oak tied with ribbon below.

EDGE: Incised /////

MINT: С.П.Б. = ST.PETERSBURG

MONEYER: ΠΑ = Paul Alexeev

REFERENCE: C-164

FOOTNOTE: Russia is the largest, and one of the most level countries in Europe, and is distinguished for its vast plains and majestic rivers. The commerce of Russia is very extensive, and by means of its numerous rivers and canals, an internal communications is opened throughout all parts of the interior, reaching from the Black and Caspian Seas, to the Baltic and Arctic Ocean. The principal articles of export are tallow, flax, hemp, wheat, iron, timber and tar. Furs, gold, silver, iron, copper, of great amount and value, are brought, from Siberia. At Kiatka, the Chinese merchants meet the Russians, and numerous caravans proceed into the interior of Tartary, while Persia is visited across the Caspian. Agriculture and manufactures, though yet in a rude state, are improving. The seal and sturgeon fisheries of the Caspian and Black Seas, and of the River Volga are very extensive and productive. The raising of cattle is the chief business of the husbandman. There are valuable mines of silver, copper and especially iron; also gold and platinum. The military force of Russia is great, and is the subject of anxiety and terror to Europe. The regular army amounts to nearly a million men, besides a considerable navy, both on the Baltic and Black Seas. The real strength of the Russian Army, however consists not so much in its numbers, as in the passive and iron valor of its infantry, the rapid and skillful movement of its cavalry, the Cossacks, Baskirs, and other tribes of Tartars. The Russians are, in general, a well formed and courageous race of men, with tolerable fair complexions. They are divided into four classes; 1st, the nobility; 2nd, the clergy; 3d, the common people; and 4th, the peasants, or as they are more usually called, the serfs or boors. The latter are generally in a state of abject poverty and ignorance, and are the property of the Crown, or of individual nobles. St. Petersburg was founded in 1704, by Peter the Great. It is situated on both sides of the River Neva, at its entrance into the Gulf of Finland. It is a magnificent city, and surpasses all others of Europe in splendor of its streets and edifices. Olney's Geography, 1849.

FOOTNOTE: St. Petersburg was founded by Peter the Great, who, having in 1702 taken the Swedish Forts on the Neva, in the following year laid the foundations of a fort which he called Petersburg (Fort Peter), on an island in the Neva, the nucleus and now the most densely populated portion of the city.
1853 included with Paul Alexiev 1,350,005

1854 1,000,003

1848 1,350,005

1843 included with Paul Alexiev 1,350,005

REFERENCE: C-164

MONEYER: Nicholai Iossa

MINT: ST.PETERSBURG

EDGE: Incised \///

1855 10 KOPEK - OBVERSE

MINT MW = ST.PETERSBURG

REFERENCE: C-164

EDGE Inscribed \///

1854 10 KOPEK 17.8MM .868 FINE 2.0956 GRAMS

RV: Crown / 10 KOPEK (Kopeks) / -.- / DATE / MW = WARSAW

OV: Crown / Double Headed Imperial Eagle St. George to right on central shield, with six shields / MW (mintmark) within wreath of laurel and oak tied with ribbon below.

FOOTNOTE: Arms - Empire of all the Russias - An Imperially Crowned Double Headed Eagle displayed. St. George in left talon, MUND in right upon the breast a shield bearing St. George killing the Dragon. On his wings are Escutcheons bearing the devices of the various Provinces.

FOOTNOTE: The Warsaw mint functioned from 1816 to 1854

FOOTNOTE: Poland was formerly a large, powerful and independent kingdom, but for many centuries past, it contained 254,000 square miles and about 15,000,000 inhabitants. In 1772 it became divided into independent Russian, Austrian, and Prussian Provinces. Although Poland has been partitioned, the name is still the name of the country, and divided it between them was a gross violation of the rights of Poland. The country is distinctly separated from those which surround it, by national character, language and manners. It is still the land of the Poles, although its detached fragments have been divided into two classes, the nobles and peasants. Poland is one of the most wealthy countries in Europe and possesses an extensive inland trade. It produces annually appearances exhibiting a singular contrast of wealth and poverty, of luxury and want, which pervade every part of this unhappy country. Olney's Geography, 1842.
1855  H1 - 10 KOPEK - REVERSE

RUSSIAS, EMPIRE of all the
ST.PETERSBURG MINT

10 KOPEK  17MM  .868 FINE  2.07 GRAMS

1855  3,201,101

‡ OV: Crown / Double Headed Imperial Eagle (St. George to right on central shield, with six shields) / H1
‡ RV: Crown / 10 / КОПѢКѢ (Kopeks) / -.- / 1855 / С.Ѣ.Ѣ. (mintmark) within wreath of laurel and oak tied with ribbon below.

EDGE: Incised /////
MINT: С.Ѣ.Ѣ. = ST.PETERSBURG
MONEYER: H1 = Nicholai Issaia, 1848-77
REFERENCE: Y-14, H-389

FOOTNOTE: Nicholas I, Tsar of Russia, the third son of Paul I, born at St. Petersburg 1796. On the death of Tsar Alexander I and the resignation of his elder brother Constantine, he succeeded to the throne of Russia in 1825. He died in 1854 during the reverses of the Crimean War, leaving to his son, Alexander II, the responsibility of concluding the war and if possible improving Russia by reducing the disgraceful political corruption and bribery, poverty and degradation of the people. Nearly half of the Tsar’s subjects were serfs, whose bondage and wretched lives seemed to present insurmountable barriers to progress.

FOOTNOTE: Poland, which had a Constitution of its own from 1815 to 1830 and a separate government till 1864, was deprived at the latter date of the last remnant of its administrative independence. Finally, by ukase (In imperial Russia, a published proclamation or order having the force of law) by the Emperor, dated Feb. 23, 1868, the government of Poland was absolutely incorporated with that of Russia, and the use of Polish language in public places and for public purposes was prohibited. The Statesman’s Year-Book, London, 1916.

1855  MW - 10 KOPEK - OBVERSE

RUSSIAS, EMPIRE of all the
WARSAW MINT

10 KOPEK  17MM  .868 FINE  2.07 GRAMS

1855  102,600 rare

‡ OV: Crown / Double Headed Imperial Eagle (St. George to right on central shield, with six shields) / MW (mintmark)
‡ RV: Crown / 10 / КОПѢКѢ (Kopeks) / -.- / 1855 / within wreath of laurel and oak tied with ribbon below.

EDGE: Incised ooooo
MINT: MW = WARSAW
MONEYER: none
REFERENCE: Y-14

POPULATION: Poland part of Russian Empire - 1882 - 7,245,419 with Warsaw the capital with 283,933 inhabitants.

FOOTNOTE: This issue is one of only two minted at the Warsaw Mint in this series. Both the 1954 and 1855 are rare.

FOOTNOTE: Warsaw, the metropolis of the Kingdom of Poland. It is built partly in a plain, and partly on a gentle rise from the River Vistula; extending with the suburbs of Kraha and Praga, over a vast extent of ground, and containing above 100,000 inhabitants. The streets are spacious, but ill paved; the public buildings large and magnificent; the palaces of the nobility numerous and splendid; but the greatest part of the houses, particularly in the suburbs, are mean and ill-constructed wooden hovels. The manufactures comprise woolen stuffs, carpeting, gold and silver wire, soap, tobacco, &c. Here are several wholesale mercantile houses, employed in the import of articles for the supply of the interior, and the export of Polish produce. Universal Gazetteer, Phila., 1839.
FOOTNOTE: Warsaw, capital of Russian Poland, is on the left bank of the Vistula and extends for over 5 miles along that river. Its water communications have long made it one of the most important commercial centers of Eastern Europe. It was exceptionally rich in literature and art treasures; most of these were confiscated and transferred to St. Petersburg. Leather, boots and shoes, woolen and linen stuffs and beer are some of the most important products. Warsaw came under Russian rule in 1813.

FOOTNOTE: In 1860 the average size of a Russian peasant landholding was 13 acres; in 1900 it had sunk to about 8 acres because population had increased despite economic conditions. The “Land Hunger” of the peasants became an element to reckon with after they had been shaken out of their village isolation through army service and had become somewhat more prosperous through the labor of peasant sons and daughters in the newly arising factories, and the prohibition of vodka or Russian whiskey. Comptons Pictured Encyclopedia, Chicago, 1922
1859 ФБ - 10 KOPEK - OBVERSE

RUSSIA, EMPIRE of all the
ST.PETERSBURG MINT

10 KOPEK     17MM     .868 FINE     2.07 GRAMS

1859 included with Y-14
1860 2,810,003

**OV:** Crown / Double Headed Imperial Eagle (St. George to right on central shield, with eight shields) / ФБ

**RV:** Crown / 10 / КОПЕКЪ (Kopeks) / -:- / DATE / СПБ (mintmark) within wreath of laurel and oak tied with ribbon below.

EDGE: Reeded

MINT: СПБ = ST.PETERSBURG

MONEYER: ФБ = Fedor Blum, 1856-61

TYPE: II - Eight Shields

REFERENCE: Y-20

FOOTNOTE: The St. Petersburg mint in the St.Peter's and Paul's Fortress opened in 1724 and except for ten years; 1728-38 and a few years; 1800-1804 struck Russian Imperial coins until 1917. They also produced matrices for the Russian mint at Helsingforse, Grande Duchy of Finland, and the coins Russia ordered from foreign mints; Paris, Strasbourg and Osaka in this series. From 1921 Soviet coinage was produced at the mint know known as the Leningrad mint. Russian and Soviet Coins Catalogue 1700-1993, I.V.Sobolin, Moscow, 1994.

FOOTNOTE: Each Eagle in the Russian Coat of Arms holds a Scepter in one talon and an Orb in the other. The center shield with St.George slaying the Dragon represents ancient Moscovy.

1859 Arms of Russian Empire

FOOTNOTE: The Double Headed Imperial Eagle of Russia - From 1832 to 1858 the Russian Eagle contained six shields with St. George slaying the Dragon, facing right on the central shield on the breast. Each wing contained three shields (Coat of Arms) representing;

From top left: Khanate of Kazan, on Volga River
Khanate of Astrakhan, on Caspian Sea
Volga River delta, part of Russia since 1670
Siberia, Eastern Russia

From top right: Poland, to Russia in 1815
Khanate of Tauride, the Crimea from the the Ottoman Empire in 1783
Grande Duchy of Finland, from Sweden in 1808

From 1859 to 1917 the Russian Eagle contained on the wings eight shields arranged as follows;

Kazan, Poland, Tauride and the new shield with the combined Arms of Kiev, Vladimir and Novgorod.

Astrakhan, Siberia, the new shield of Georgia (part of Russia since 1801) and Finland.
1861 - 10 KOPEK - OBVERSE

RUSSIAS, EMPIRE of all the
PARIS MINT/STRASBURG MINT

10 KOPEK 17MM .750 FINE 2.07 GRAMS

1861 19,300,000

 Isl: Crown / Double Headed Imperial Eagle (St. George to right on central shield, with eight shields) / (no moneyer)

 RV: Crown / 10 Kopeks (mark of St.Petersburg) within wreath of laurel and oak tied with ribbon below.

EDGE: Incised ////

MINT: (no mintmark) = PARIS and STRASBURG

REFERENCE: Y-20

POPULATION - Strasburg - 1890 - 123,545

FOOTNOTE: The edge markings distinguishes this issue as minted by either of the French mints of Paris or Strasburg.

Paris and Strasburg

FOOTNOTE: Strasburg, a town and fortress of France, in Alsace, capital of the Territory of Alsace-Lorraine, on the Ill, about 2 miles west of the Rhine, 250 miles east by south of Paris, and about 370 miles south-west of Berlin. Cabinet Cyclopaedia, 1896

1861 - PARIS and STRASBURG REVERSE

FOOTNOTE: Alexander II, Emperor of Russia, was born April 29, 1818, and succeeded his father Nicholas i in 1855, before the end of the Crimean War. After peace was concluded the new Emperor set about effecting reforms in the Empire, the greatest of all being the emancipation of the serfs in 1861, a measure which gave freedom, on certain conditions, to 22,000,000 of human beings who were previously in a state little removed from that of slavery. Under him, too, representative assemblies in the provinces were introduced, and he also did much to improve education, and to reorganize the judicial system. During his reign the Russian dominions in Central Asia were extended and a piece of territory south of the Caucuses, formerly belonging to Turkey, was acquired, and a part of Bessarabia, belonging since the Crimean War to Turkey in Europe, but previously to Russia, was restored to the latter power. The latter additions resulted from the Russo-Turkish War of 1877-78. Alexander II, was killed by an explosive missile flung at him by a Nihilist, in the streets of St. Petersburg, March 13, 1881. He was succeeded by his second son, Alexander III. Cabinet Cyclopaedia, 1896.

View of Moscow 1880
1861 РБ - 10 KOPEK - OBVERSE

RUSSIAS, EMPIRE of all the
ST.PETERSBURG MINT

10 KOPEK 17MM .750 FINE 2.07 GRAMS

1861 5,660,000

*OV: Crown / Double Headed Imperial Eagle (St. George to right on central shield, with eight shields) / РБ

*RV: Crown / 10 / КОПѢѢКЪ (Kopeks) / 1861 / С.П.Б. (mintmark) within wreath of laurel and oak tied with ribbon below.

EDGE: Incised ooooo

MINT: С.П.Б. = ST.PETERSBURG

MONEYER: РБ = Fedor Blum

REFERENCE: Y-20

FOOTNOTE: At the end of the disastrous Crimean War in 1856 a financial crisis began to creep across Russia, combining with the plans to free the serfs, which took place in 1861. The debasement of subsidiary Silver coinage proved an irresistible lure for a source of government financing. As a result in 1860 the fineness of the coins was reduced from .868 to .750 fine. The new issues dated 1861 all had different edges. The mint at St. Petersburg changed to incised (ooooo), while the coins struck at Paris and Strasburg were struck with edge incised at an angle (/////). The change of Mintmasters allowed for initials changed from РБ (Fedor Blum) to МII (Mikhail Ivanov) with a new edge of incised zig zag (zzzzz) minted at St. Petersburg.

FOOTNOTE: The majority of the population of Russia are devoted to agricultural pursuits, and dwell in villages spread thinly over the vast area of the empire. The only articles of manufacture of which Russia can successfully compete with other countries are iron, leather, soap, sail-cloth, cordage and tar. Gerography, William Swinton, New York, 1880.
1861 МИ - 10 KOPEK - OBVERSE

RUSSIAS, EMPIRE of all the ST.PETERSBURG MINT

10 KOPEK 17MM .750 FINE 2.07 GRAMS

- 1861 included with Fedor Blum
- 1862 5,800,000

▲ OV: Crown / Double Headed Imperial Eagle (St. George to right on central shield, with eight shields) / МИ

▲ RV: Crown / ★ 10 ★ / КОПѢЕКѢ (Kopeks) / 1861 / С.П.Б. (mintmark) within wreath of laurel and oak tied with ribbon below.

EDGE: Incised zzzzz

MINT: С.П.Б. = ST.PETERSBURG

MONEYER: МИ = Mikhail Ivanou, 1861-63

REFERENCE: Y-20

1861 МИ - 10 KOPEK - REVERSE

RUSSIAS, EMPIRE of all the ST.PETERSBURG

10 KOPEK 17MM .750 FINE 2.07 GRAMS

- 1863 5,750,000

▲ OV: Crown / Double Headed Imperial Eagle (St. George to right on central shield, with eight shields) / λБ

▲ RV: Crown / ★ 10 ★ / КОПѢЕКѢ (Kopeks) / 1863 / С.П.Б. (mintmark) within wreath of laurel and oak tied with ribbon below.

EDGE: Reeded

MINT: С.П.Б. = ST.PETERSBURG

MONEYER: λБ = Alexander Belezerov

REFERENCE: Y-20

Russian carrage

Kremlin in Moscow, Russia
FOOTNOTE: The 10 kopeks with Moneyer ИФ were minted between 1864-66 with a fineness of .750 and starting with 1877 through 1882 debased to .500 fine.

FOOTNOTE: Russian distinctive rank of classes - The Nobility occupy the highest place in the social scale, enjoy many special privileges, such as freedom from poll-tax, and form in every province a separate body, headed by a marshal, chosen by and from themselves. Till 1871 they were also free from the conscription. Functionaires, officials, artists, and clergy possess almost as many privileges as the nobility. In 1868, a most important measure was passed, by which clerical character was declared to be no longer hereditary, and the sons of the secular clergy, hitherto bound to some ecclesiastic or monastic service, were set free to choose their own career. The next class is that of the merchants. The burghers and peasants constitute the lowest class, and are subject to claims of service and personal taxation. Each class enjoys, to a certain extent, the right of self-administration in its own affairs. Each apportions its taxes, and chooses some of its functionaries. The recent emancipation gave freedom to 20,000,000 peasants or serfs, who prior to year 1861, being governed exclusively by their owners, enjoyed very limited civil rights. Communal government is the fundamental principal of all the rights of the peasant class. In general, the lands allotted to the peasants are not their individual property, but belong to the commune, and are shared among all its members. *Library of Universal Knowledge.*, 1880.
1878 ṄФ - 10 KOPEK - OBVERSE

RUSSIA, EMPIRE of all the
ST.PETERSBURG MINT

10 KOPEK 17MM .500 FINE 1.80 GRAMS

1877 included with Nicholai Iossa
1878 6,920,000
1880 6,740,000
1881 2,950,000
1882 920,007

┬OV: Crown / Double Headed Imperial Eagle (St. George to right on central shield, with eight shields) / ṄФ

┬RV: Crown / 10 / КОПѯЕКѯ (Kopeks) / -:- / DATE / С.П.Б. (mintmark) within wreath of laurel and oak tied with ribbon below.

EDGE: Reeded
MINT: С.П.Б. = ST.PETERSBURG
MONEYER: ṄФ = Nicholai Follendorf, 1864-82
REFERENCE: Y-20

Peter The Great

FOOTNOTE: Krasnovodsk was established in 1870 as a deep water port on the Caspian Sea. It is a starting point from which Russian commerce is penetrating into Central Asia, Persia, Afghanistan and India. The rail line is carried to Merv, Bokhara and Samercand in one direction and to Sarakhs, Herat, Candahar and the frontier of India in the other.
Finland numbers 129,211,114 souls of whom; first Russian census may be summed up very briefly as follows: inhabiting an empire which occupies one-sixth of the globe... The 150,000 individuals left their homes to count the number of people... FOOTNOTE: On January 28, 1897...at break of day an army of 1880. officials appointed by the Czar. The Russian Empire has seventy-nine states, each of which has cabinet ministers and state council representing the provinces. almost as much power as Peter the Great. He rules largely through prisons were made to toil under the guns of guards to build the city, and criminals from all the peasants near by were ordered to help. Forty thousand the Baltic had to bring a load of stones to aid in building the city, and mountains. Every vessel on the Russian rivers and every ship on the land was swampy and covered with woods. Peter's command went forth that a great stone city spring into being. Piles by the millions were driven down to make the foundation, the river Neva held back by walls of granite, and every Russian subject was called to build the new capital. Every Noble in the Empire was ordered to build a house in St. Petersburg, and every Russian who owned five hundred serfs had to put up a two-story house, no matter whether he... The Russian Empire has seventy-nine states, each of which has officials appointed by the Czar. Carpenter's Geographical Reader, 1880.

FOOTNOTE: The great city of St. Petersburg, the capital of the Russian Empire situated on the Neva River, not far from the Baltic, at the mouth of the river is the fortifications of Kronstadt, on the Gulf of Finland. Homes on Nobles dot the islands near the city. The country about is composed of swamps and morasses, green woods and fields. The city is a vast plain of two, three, and four story houses, built of brick or stone, plastered with yellow stucco, and roofed with iron plates painted dark brown, many with while chimneys. St. Petersburg is covered with ice and snow throughout the winter. Heat is required from November until May. It is so cold that the houses have double windows, and every room has its enormous porcelain stove. The Great Palace, that red structure on the banks of the Neva, at the end of the Nevsky Prospect, the chief street of the city, is the Winter Palace where the Emperor holds his receptions. The rooms are larger than a good-size house, and its halls are so wide that a team of four-horses and wagon load of hay could turn inside them without touching the walls. It has so many rooms that the Emperor does not know what is going on in all of them; once the servants rented some of them as a stable, and when a great fire occurred, a cow and goat were dragged out with the furniture. The Nevsky Prospect is the widest avenue of St. Petersburg, and its chief business street, with palaces, stores and great bazaars. On the opposite side of the Neva are immense wholesale houses extending for miles along the quays with the river and its canals filled with shipping. St. Petersburg is built on a swamp, formed at the command of Peter the Great, by a people who lived far away from it, in the interior, and who had no reason for building a great city except the command of the Emperor. Determined that his country must have both a seaport and a great navy, shut off by Turkey, which still holds the Bosporus, the only passage from the Black Sea to the Mediterranean, he chose this place on the Gulf of Finland, at the mouth of the Neva. The land was swampy and covered with woods. Peter's command went forth that a great stone city spring into being. Piles by the millions were driven down to make the foundation, the river Neva held back by walls of granite, and every Russian subject was called to build the new capital. Every Noble in the Empire was ordered to build a house in St. Petersburg, and every Russian who owned five hundred serfs had to put up a two-story house, no matter whether he lived on the edge of the Caspian Sea or on the border of the Ural Mountains. Every vessel on the Russian rivers and every ship on the Baltic had to bring a load of stones to aid in building the city, and all the peasants near by were ordered to help. Forty thousand men were drafted every year to aid in the work. Criminals from prisons were made to toil under the guns of guards to build the city, and less than two hundred years ago. Today, the Emperor has still almost as much power as Peter the Great. He rules largely through cabinet ministers and state council representing the provinces. The Russian Empire has seventy-nine states, each of which has officials appointed by the Czar. Carpenter's Geographical Reader, 1880.

FOOTNOTE: On January 28, 1897...at break of day an army of 150,000 individuals left their homes to count the number of people inhabiting an empire which occupies one-sixth of the globe... The first Russian census may be summed up very briefly as follows: The Russian Empire is composed of swamps and morasses, green woods and fields. The city is a vast plain of two, three, and four story houses, built of brick or stone, plastered with yellow stucco, and roofed with iron plates painted dark brown, many with while chimneys. St. Petersburg is covered with ice and snow throughout the winter. Heat is required from November until May. It is so cold that the houses have double windows, and every room has its enormous porcelain stove. The Great Palace, that red structure on the banks of the Neva, at the end of the Nevsky Prospect, the chief street of the city, is the Winter Palace where the Emperor holds his receptions. The rooms are larger than a good-size house, and its halls are so wide that a team of four-horses and wagon load of hay could turn inside them without touching the walls. It has so many rooms that the Emperor does not know what is going on in all of them; once the servants rented some of them as a stable, and when a great fire occurred, a cow and goat were dragged out with the furniture. The Nevsky Prospect is the widest avenue of St. Petersburg, and its chief business street, with palaces, stores and great bazaars. On the opposite side of the Neva are immense wholesale houses extending for miles along the quays with the river and its canals filled with shipping. St. Petersburg is built on a swamp, formed at the command of Peter the Great, by a people who lived far away from it, in the interior, and who had no reason for building a great city except the command of the Emperor. Determined that his country must have both a seaport and a great navy, shut off by Turkey, which still holds the Bosporus, the only passage from the Black Sea to the Mediterranean, he chose this place on the Gulf of Finland, at the mouth of the Neva. The land was swampy and covered with woods. Peter's command went forth that a great stone city spring into being. Piles by the millions were driven down to make the foundation, the river Neva held back by walls of granite, and every Russian subject was called to build the new capital. Every Noble in the Empire was ordered to build a house in St. Petersburg, and every Russian who owned five hundred serfs had to put up a two-story house, no matter whether he lived on the edge of the Caspian Sea or on the border of the Ural Mountains. Every vessel on the Russian rivers and every ship on the Baltic had to bring a load of stones to aid in building the city, and all the peasants near by were ordered to help. Forty thousand men were drafted every year to aid in the work. Criminals from prisons were made to toil under the guns of guards to build the city, and less than two hundred years ago. Today, the Emperor has still almost as much power as Peter the Great. He rules largely through cabinet ministers and state council representing the provinces. The Russian Empire has seventy-nine states, each of which has officials appointed by the Czar. Carpenter's Geographical Reader, 1880.
FOOTNOTE: The revolutionary movement culminated in the assassination of Alexander II in 1881 by a nitroglycerin bomb hurled at his carriage. He was succeeded by his son Alexander III who simply continued his father’s policies. *Comptons Pictured Encyclopedia*, Chicago, 1922.

---

**1877**

HI - 10 KOPEK - REVERSE

---

RUSSIAS, EMPIRE of all the
ST.PETERSBURG MINT

---

10 KOPEK 17MM .500 FINE 1.80 GRAMS

---

1883 1,520,008

*OV: Crown / Double Headed Imperial Eagle (St. George to right on central shield, with eight shields) / ДС

*RV: Crown / * 10 * / КОПѢКЪ (Kopeks) / -: / DATE / С.П.Б. (mintmark) within wreath of laurel and oak tied with ribbon below.

EDGE: Reeded

MINT: С.П.Б. = ST.PETERSBURG

MONEYER: ДС = Dmitri Sabanieu 1882-83

REFERENCE: Y-20

---

FOOTNOTE: A fearful famine in eastern Russia, within and beyond the valley of the Volga, was caused in 1899 by an almost unprecedented failure of crops. With the famine came typhus fever, and the tale of suffering and death was one of the most heart-rending of the century.

---

**1889**

ΑГ - 10 KOPEK - OBVERSE

RUSSIAS, EMPIRE of all the
ST.PETERSBURG MINT

---

10 KOPEK 17MM .500 FINE 1.80 GRAMS

---

1883 included with Dmitri Sabanieu
1884 1,710,004
1885 1,300,011
1886 2,000,107
1887 4,000,004
1888 2,000,007
1889 5,000,002
1890 3,750,006
1891 3,240,008
1893 4,250,008
1894 4,000,007
1895 1,000,006
1896 2,010,005
1897 3,150,009
1898 6,610,009
1899 14,000,022

*OV: Crown / Double Headed Imperial Eagle (St. George to right on central shield, with eight shields) / ΑГ

*RV: Crown / * 10 * / КОПѢКЪ (Kopeks) / -: / DATE / С.П.Б. (mintmark) within wreath of laurel and oak tied with ribbon below.

EDGE: Reeded

MINT: С.П.Б. = ST.PETERSBURG

MONEYER: ΑГ = Appolon Grasgov, 1883-99

REFERENCE: Y-20

POPULATION: Russia - 1890 - 100,372,560 with St.Petersburg with 936,225 inhabitants.
FOOTNOTE: Nicholas II succeeded Alexander III on November 1, 1894 as Emperor of all the Russias. He was born at St. Petersburg on May 18, 1868, his mother was Princess Dagmar, a daughter of King Christian IX of Denmark. As Czarevitch he held several military commands in his own country - in the famous Preobrajensky Regiment among others - and in England he had conferred upon him, in 1893, the Order of the Garter. He married the Princess Alix of Hesse-Darmstadt in 1894. Four daughters came first, but a son was born on August 12, 1904, and was named Alexis. The Coronation of the Czar took place with impressive ceremonial at Moscow in May of 1896. And in August of the same year he commenced a tour which included visits to the Emperors of Austria and Germany, to the King of Denmark, to Queen Victoria and to the President of France. He was gifted with linguistic facility of most of his countrymen, and fluently in French, German, Italian and especially English. Neither by upbringing nor by temperament was he fitted for the tasks of Emperor. Alexandria his wife, however had the strength of character he lacked and her influence was great. She sought advice from spiritualists and faith healers including the mystical Rasputin who eventually acquired great power over the Imperial Family. Serious problems at home and impending World War I faced him. He considered all who opposed him, regardless of their views as malicious conspirators. The revolutionary movement grew. Competent ministers and officials were dismissed and replaced by worthless nominees of Rasputin and even after his murder, Nicholas failed to see the ominous warnings. Riots broke out in Petrograd in 1917. The government resigned and the Duma called for the Emperor to abdicate. On March 15th he renounced the throne in favor of his brother Michael who refused the Crown. Nicholas was detained and with his family were moved to Western Siberia. In April of 1918 they were taken to Ekaterinburg in the Urals and in the night of July 30th the last Emperor of Russia and all his family were slaughtered in the cellar of the house where they had been held prisoners. This was the end of the Romanoff Dynasty.

FOOTNOTE: Few of the Russian peasants own land themselves, but usually a group of them forms a village community, or Mir, which owns or rents the land and divides it among the villagers, for their temporary use. Geography, H.Justin Roddy, New York, 1902.
1900 ₴ - 10 KOPEK - REVERSE

The Trans-Siberian railway

1903 ₩ - 10 KOPEK - OBVERSE

RUSSIAS, EMPIRE of all the
ST.PETERSBURGMINT

10 KOPEK 17MM .500 FINE 1.80 GRAMS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Included with Felix Zaleman</th>
<th>Mintage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1901</td>
<td>included with Felix Zaleman</td>
<td>17,000,009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1902</td>
<td>17,000,009</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1903</td>
<td>28,500,005</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1904</td>
<td>20,000,010</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1905</td>
<td>25,000,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* OV: Crown / Double Headed Imperial Eagle (St. George to right on central shield, with eight shields) / ₩

* RV: Crown / ₩ / KOPЕKЪ (Kopeks) / ₩ / DATE / С.П.Б. (mintmark) within wreath of laurel and oak tied with ribbon below.

EDGE: Reeded

MINT: С.П.Б. = ST.PETERSBURG

MONEYER: ₩ = Alexander Redko

REFERENCE: Y-20

Peasant thatch hut

Remote Siberian village
FOOTNOTE: The Trans-Siberian Railway - On November 3, 1901, the section of the Trans-Siberian Railway built westward along the Amur from Khabarovsk, north of Vladivostok, was connected with the branch built eastward from Sryetensk, and complete rail connection between St. Petersburg and Vladivostok was thus established, except for the branch road around the end of Lake Bakal. A transfer ferry carries the Express train across the lake at present. The Trans-Siberian Line was begun in the spring of 1891 and was completed as far east as Irkutsk in 1898. The eastern section, however, was much the most difficult part of the work, and construction has been slow. The completed line is 5,545 miles in length, over thirty miles of the distance consisting of bridges. The trip from London to Shanghai may be made over this overland route in 21 days at a cost of about $160. The present service provides two express trains a week from Moscow, a through ticket to Vladivostok costing about $50, first class. International Yearbook, N.Y. 1901.

REFERENCE: Y-20

POPULATION: 1912 - 168,000,000 with capital St.Petersburg with 1,500,000 inhabitants.
FOOTNOTE: At Siedlce, a town of Russian Poland about fifty-five miles southeast of Warsaw, on September 8 and 9, 1906, there occurred a pogrom, or massacre of Jews, which for atrocity and destruction of life surpassed even the slaughters of Kishinev and Bialystok. As in all cases of attack on civilians by the military in Russia, the police and troops charged the terrorists and Jews with first attacking them, and assert that they simply defended themselves. It remains true, however, according to all reports, that there was a concerted massacre by the soldiers and police of Jews and all Christians who refused or neglected to hang out icons from their windows. Governor-General Skallon refused to put a stop to the slaughter unless the leaders of the Bund, or Jewish Revolutionary Order, were delivered up to him. He even telegraphed to St. Petersburg for permission to use artillery. A cordon of troops was put around the city, and the Jews and Poles endeavoring to escape were driven back and shot down without mercy. More than two hundred Jews were killed and thousands flogged, wounded, and imprisoned. The troops then looted the liquor shops and plundered right and left. The city became a scene of wild disorder, which afterward spread to Warsaw. Wahre Jacob, Stuttgart, 1906.
FOOTNOTE: In October of 1906 a decree was issued permitting the peasants to leave their village community and seek employment elsewhere. On November 25th the common ownership of village communities was abolished allowing the peasants to become owners of their allotment, which was finally achieved by Law of June 27, 1910.

FOOTNOTE: St. Petersburg the name of the Imperial capital city was changed to Petrograd on September 1, 1914. Its population - 1915 - 2,318,645.

FOOTNOTE: This large one year issue dated 1916 was struck at the Japanese Imperial Mint, Osaka, without mintmark.

FOOTNOTE: There is an interesting story about the 1917 - 10 kopeks - During the 1967 Canadian EXPO in Montreal the Soviet Exhibit displayed and offered for sale certain Russian silver coins from the period before the Revolution under the Czars. It seems that in 1917 all the silver coins held by the Russian people were called in to the central bank. In recent years some of these coins had been put up for sale and export by a Soviet Trading Company. As the story continues, this Russian Exhibit was selling these coins at a very high price and ungraded as related to the numismatic market. However a knowledgeable coin dealer noticed that the coins offered for sale contained the rare 1917- 10 and 20 kopecks. So as a result they ‘cherry-picked’ these dates without the Russians noticing. This may be referred to as the Expo Hoard. Most of the 1917 10 kopecks showing up on the market since 1967 have come from Canada. There is another speculation regarding this long noted rare date, i.e. that there are millions still in the vaults at the Kremlin.
1916 - 10 KOPEK - OBVERSE

RUSSIA, EMPIRE of all the
PETROGRAD MINT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Mintage</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1915</td>
<td>82,500,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1916</td>
<td>121,500,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1917</td>
<td>17,580,000</td>
<td>scarce</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* OV: Crown / Double Headed Imperial Eagle (St. George to right on central shield, with eight shields) / ВС

* RV: Crown / 10 / КОПЬЕКЪ (Kopeks) / -:- / DATE , within wreath of laurel and oak tied with ribbon below.

EDGE: Reeded

MINT: (no mintmark) = PETROGRAD

MONEYER: ВС = Victor Smirnov, 1913-17

REFERENCE: Y-20

FOOTNOTE: Bread riots broke out in Petrograd (the Slavic name given to St. Petersburg at the opening of World War I) in March 1917 as there was a scarcity of food in Russian cities. The Czar hastening back to Petrograd from the front was forced to sign his and his son's abdication in favor of his brother, Grand Duke Michael. Michael refused with the authorization of a Constitutional Assembly and thus the Romanoff who had ruled Russia for three centuries came to an end. With the change of the name from St. Petersburg to Petrograd the С.П.Б. mintmark was eliminated.

FOOTNOTE: In 1917 Russia possessed only a little more than 45,000 miles of railroad - less than one-fifth the mileage of the United States. Comptoms Pictured Encyclopedia, Chicago, 1922.
1917 -10 KOPEK - REVERSE

FOOTNOTE: The name of St. Petersburg was changed in late 1914 at the outbreak of the First World War to a non-teutonic name Petrograd because St. Petersburg was too “Germanic” sounding. This name was retained after the fall of the Empire and until the death of Lenin in March 1924, at which time it was changed in his honor to Leningrad. The mintmark was dropped from the coinage, for the last three years of World War I. The last coins struck under the authority of the Imperial Russian Government were dated 1917 were struck in late 1916 but not released, the Soviet Government which recalled all silver coinage has exported to the west Imperial coinage including an occasional 1917 dated coin. With the recent breakup of the Soviet Union, the name of the city has again reverted to St. Petersburg.

FOOTNOTE: The Nevsky Prospekt is one of the world's famous streets. Its name means “view of the Neva” in Petrograd, U.S.S.R.
1921 - 10 KOPEK - OBVERSE

RUSSIAN SOVIET FEDERATED SOCIALIST REPUBLIC
PETROGRAD MINT

10 KOPEK  18MM  .500 FINE  1.80 GRAMS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1921</td>
<td>950,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1922</td>
<td>18,640,138</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1923</td>
<td>33,424,279</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

OV: Soviet emblems (Hammer and Sickle over Sunburst, within wreath of wheat within inner circle, on panel below P.C.Ф.C.P. Russian for Р С Ф С Р = RUSSIAN SOVIET FEDERATED SOCIALIST REPUBLIC, inscription (ПРОЛЕТАРИИ ВСЕХ СТРАН, СОЕДИНЯЙТЕСЬ! = Proletarians of All Countries coming together!) around.

RV: Starburst at top, 10 / КОПЕЕК (Kopeks) / DATE, within inner circle of pearls, within wreath of laurel and oak, within outer circle of pearls.

EDGE: Reeded

MINT: (no mintmark) = PETROGRAD

REFERENCE: Y-80, H-501

POPULATION: Russian Republic - 1921 - 113,508,707

1921 - 10 KOPEK - REVERSE

FOOTNOTE: Soviet emblems: The hammer and sickle are symbols of the two labor groups; industrial workers and agricultural workers. The sunburst symbolize the New Golden Era breaking forth and the spreading of Communistic ideology through the World, Red Star above.

FOOTNOTE: Following the signing of a peace treaty with Poland on October 12, 1920, the Soviet government continued in control in spite of various attempts at counter revolutions. The degree to which communistic principles, including nationalization and the prohibition of private capital was enforced, was materially modified however by a decree issued in March 1921. This was found necessary on account of the absolute collapse of the economic system of the country under Bolshevik rule. In 1921-2 a great famine prevailed throughout the wheat growing portions of the country.

FOOTNOTE: By 1922 paper money had depreciated to a point where it was practically valueless. The circulation on July 1, 1922 totaled the almost unimaginable sum of 271,236,000,000,000 rubles. New Universities Encyclopedia, N.Y. 1924.

FOOTNOTE: The Fifth Congress of the Third International opened in Moscow June 18, 1924. Zinoviev, President of the International, pointed out in his opening address that in every country except Russia, Communism was losing ground. He stated that in the United States of America the number of Communists had dropped from 20,000 to 5,000, in England from 10,000 to 3,000, in France from 130,000 to 100,000 and in Germany from 300,000 to 250,000. Russia alone showed a gain, an increase from 430,000 to 600,000 due chiefly to a special drive for membership among workmen and peasants. The Union of Socialist Soviet Republics has four main constituent units; the Russian Socialist Federative Soviet Republic, Ukrainia, Transcaucasia and White Russia. The first unit includes the greater part of European Russia and all Siberia and has a population of over 100,000,000. It includes ten Autonomous Affiliated Republics and eleven Autonomous Regions. The Republics are Bashkir, Tartar, Kirgiz, Gorsk, Dagestan, Turkestian, Crimea, Yakut, Karelian and Burial-Mongolian.
1924 - 10 KOPEK - OBVERSE

UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS
LENINGRAD MINT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEAR</th>
<th>MINTAGE</th>
<th>DESCRIPTION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1924</td>
<td>67,350,886</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1925</td>
<td>101,013,313</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1926</td>
<td>u/m</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1927</td>
<td>u/m</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1928</td>
<td>u/m</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1929</td>
<td>64,900,000</td>
<td>rare</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1930</td>
<td>163,424,218</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1931</td>
<td>8,790,765</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\* OV: Soviet emblems (Star / Hammer and Sickle over World / Sunburst, within wreath of wheat with ribbon around lower part) within inner circle open above СССР (Union of Soviet Socialist Republic) below. Inscription (ПРОИТАРН ВСЕХ СТРАН, СОЕДИНЕЙТЕСЬ! = Workers from all over the World coming together) around.

\* RV: Large 10 / КОПЕЭК (Kopeks) / DATE / . (dot) within wreath of wheat.

EDGE: Reeded

MINT: (no mintmark) = LENINGRAD

REFERENCE: Y-86, H-502, Guide Book of Russian Coins by Robert Harris, Santa Cruz, 1971

Russian silver Coinage 1796-1917, R.W.Julian, Logansport, Indiana, 1993

Russian Coins 1700-1917, V.V.Uzdenikov, Moscow, 1992

POPULATION: Soviet Union - 1930 - 157,611,300

Plaza of the Martyrs of the Revolution

1924 - 10 KOPEK - REVERSE

The Communist party in Russia was in reality an extra-constitutional government. Although it included less than seven million members out of Russia’s one hundred and sixty millions of people, it controlled practically all offices. It was rigorously organized, from local cell to central committee, and included only active workers with a definite goal. More far-reaching than the changes in the political system was the revolution in Russian economics effected by the Bolshevists during the early years of the regime. Prevention of capitalist exploitation of the workers, and state ownership of all lands, forests, and minerals, as well as all means of production and distribution, were fundamental concepts. The government immediately after the November Revolution, took over all land. The peasants thought that land nationalization meant that they themselves would take over the great estates of the crown, church, and nobility. They resisted the Bolshevist attempt to deliver to the state all grain over and above a minimum for family use and seed. Although they used armed force at times, the peasants’ most effective weapon was the passive policy of reducing crops. The Communists were faced with famine and discontent spread over the land, so the Bolshevists, under their leader, Lenin, instituted changes in the original economic system. University of Knowledge.

LENINGRAD, U.S.S.R.