

Editor's notes

For Collectors. Russell's first copy of Galileo's *Mathematical Discourses*, T. Weston, trans. (London, 1730) is for sale by Heffer's of Cambridge for £325 (\$757). The Archives can't afford such a sum, and besides, after disposing of this copy, Russell obtained another: Ludwig Wittgenstein's, which was to remain in his library. The earlier copy went first to G.H. Hardy and then to J.E. Littlewood. It is described as a "crisp generally clean copy", with Russell's 1898 inscription and his and Alys's bookplate. Better write now if you want it for a Christmas gift.

Gift Subscriptions. Our 304 paying subscribers may wish to give their friends something a little less pretentious than a 1730 Galileo. A bonus is available for those so inclined. See the back page.

Letters to the Editor. Starting next issue there will be a new regular feature in Russell: a correspondence column. We hope to include your answers to Dr. Grattan-Guinness's competition (p. 12), and comments on the articles which appear in Russell.

New Acquisition. Mr. Hallam Tennyson and his father, Sir Charles Tennyson, have generously given McMaster copies of Russell's letters to Ivy G. Pretious Tennyson, Hallam's mother and Sir Charles' wife. Dated 1905-1908, the letters are valuable for the light they throw on Russell's first marriage and the writing of *Principia*. (In 1908 Russell tells her he has written 2,000 pages, with 4,000 to 6,000 to go - the first indication I have seen of the actual length of the MS.) In a note accompanying Mr. Tennyson's letter, Mrs. Mary Moorman, the daughter of G.M. Trevelyan, describes the relationship and tells of her parents' part in persuading Russell, in 1904, to suppress his rapidly growing affection for Miss Pretious. Included with the letters is a 16-page untitled and unpublished MS by Russell on the rights of women, which will appear, we hope, in our next issue.

New Record. A piece of philosophical writing by Russell in his nineties has recently been the subject of discussion in a philosophy journal. Under the title "Russell, Searle, and Hamlet", in the *Journal of the History of Philosophy* (11: July 1973, 392-3), Arthur Sard and Avrum Stroll discuss Russell's handwritten retort, in his autobiography, to the quatrain addressed to him by Ronald Searle. Lady Russell tells me the retort was written between 1964 and 1966, when Russell was 91-94. I wonder if anything written by any other philosopher at a later age has ever been the subject of professional comment. Guinness Book of Records, take note!

Russell in Review. Galley proofs are now being read.

The Christmas card on our back cover dates from World War I.