Recent additions to the bibliography

by Kenneth Blackwell

A research trip to Britain last fall resulted in a flock of additions to the bibliography of Russell's periodical publications. Here they are, with a few other discoveries of recent vintage. The list stops with 1950, as discoveries after this time are less rare. The reference number denotes the year and sequence within the year of the C section, which will appear in the same format as below in A Bibliography of Bertrand Russell, Vol. 2: Serial Publications (Allen & Unwin, forthcoming 1989?).

Eleven of the additions provide new texts for Russell studies in the areas of pacifism and conscientious objection, China, Beacon Hill School, progress, use of his title, how to stay out of World War II, anti-Semitism, and the problem of punishment. Two give earlier dates of first publication. And nine provide publication data for archival manuscripts whose publication until now was in doubt. It is important to dispel such doubts because Russell may have decided not to proceed to publication with the set of opinions concerned, or the item may have failed to find editorial acceptance.

C38.11 is important for the additional information it gives us on Russell's detestation of the Nazis' persecution of the Jews. He writes that "the [German] government ... encourages unofficial sadistic outrages on the par: of its criminal partisans." With hindsight, however, we ascribe much more culpability to Hitler's government. C39.05 has the distinction of being the only known article that Russell wrote for exclusive British publication while he was resident in the U.S. during 1938-44.

The boldface references in the item notes are to other sections of the Bibliography. The B section describes books with original contributions (not reprints), and the H section describes books quoting from Russell's letters, manuscripts and conversation for the first time. (Together with section G, blurbs on dust-jackets, we have 550 titles in these sections.) A special feature of this Bibliography is the provision of notes on prepublication documents, complete with file numbers. This latter information is useful to Russell editors as well as to the Russell Archives' staff in our control of hundreds of manuscripts whose titles changed on the way to publication and whose location in the Archives is not always straightforward.
Copies of all items are available in the Russell Archives. Thanks are due to Katharine Tait, who gave me access to Dora Russell’s papers where several of the items and leads to others were found, to Graham R. Hill, University Librarian, and R.A. Rempel and SSHRC, who funded my trip, to Fred Keay and Sheila Turcon who helped me find some of them, to John G. Slater who passed on a bookeller’s lead, and to the British Library’s Newspaper Library at Colindale and the BBC Written Archives.

The Bertrand Russell Archives


Not a report of Russell’s courtroom speech on 5 June, but a lengthy abridgement of his draft speech, with some account of the actual proceedings interspersed. The quotations are usually verbatim from Russell’s draft.—Ms., ts. carbon and ts. mimeo, the last (B196.1a) perhaps being the abridgement’s main source (RA 220.011570).—Reprinted, with omissions, in “Syllabi of Lecture Courses,” Current Opinion, 61 (Oct. 1916): 257–8; in Collected Papers 13.—For a verbatim report of the actual proceedings, see Rex v. Bertrand Russell (B196.2a); see also C16.16.

C17.33 CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTORS. The New Statesman, 14 (9 June 1917): 229.
Letter to the editor, signed by Margaret Hobhouse.—Identified as Russell’s composition on internal and external evidence. The prose style is Russell’s, and the topic, the treatment of the absolutists among the C.O’s., is one on which he was writing at the time (see Vellacott, Bertrand Russell and the Pacifists in the First World War, Chap. 14, and C17.32, first paragraph). At this time Russell was drafting Mrs. Hobhouse’s “I Appeal unto Caesar” (27), which is a detailed discussion of the absolutists; his authorship of this pamphlet is accepted (see Vellacott, pp. 210–11.) The first chapter is concerned to explain the absolutists’ position and Lord Derby’s recent “pronouncement” (the term used in both C17.32 and this letter to describe Derby’s speech) in very similar concepts and terminology. The external evidence is that on 11 June 1917 Russell wrote Catherine E. Marshall with the leading question, “Did you see Mrs. Hobhouse in the New Statesman? Perhaps you will recognize the source of her views on Mohammedans and Hindus.” Marshall replied, perhaps obtusely: “Yes, I had seen Mrs. H’s letter in N.S. and guessed its source of inspiration; also G. B. S. letter [Laurence, S. H. R., C3130] and the leading article in the M.G. yesterday—L. T. Hobhouse I imagine?” (Marshall papers, Carlisle County Record Office; RA REC. ACQ. 85a). The notion that Russell was leading Marshall on to think of L. T. Hobhouse as the author of Mrs. Hobhouse’s letter must be rejected, and Marshall’s response may not even bear this interpretation.—One short paragraph in the letter may have been added by Mrs. Hobhouse. It concerns prison reform. On 6 June Russell, after telling her that he has “the pamphlet well in hand”;” tries to steer her away from combining agitation for prison reform with that for freeing the C.O’s. (RA 710.051107).


[Cannot verify this citation as yet; at the top of the clipping Russell kept he wrote “Labour News” and the date.]

Syllabi for “The Problems of Philosophy” and “Mind and Matter”, courses offered by The British Institute of Philosophical Studies.—See B60.

C27.11 TO MODERN PARENTS. The Nation, 124 (16 March 1927): 302.
Advertisement for Beacon Hill School. Unsigned; but last line is: “For terms and prospectus, write to Bertrand or Dora Russell...”—No British ad has been found, although The Nation and Athenaeum and The New Statesman were searched for February–April 1927.

C27.12 FROM THE STONE AGE TO 1927. MAN’S NEW-FOUND POWERS OF HAPPINESS. The Sunday Chronicle, Manchester, 20 March 1927, p. 3.

C31.03 EARL AND COUNTESS RUSSELL. Glasgow Herald, 24 March 1931, p. ?
Statement issued by Bertrand and Dora Russell on the use of their titles, follow­ing Frank Russell’s death on 3 March and Bertrand’s accession to the earldom.—Edith Russell, commenting on Clark (HOOO), p. 436, states that “B said that Dora issued the statement as from them both but that he had no strong feelings vs. using the title” (RA).—Also as “Earl and Countess to be Mr and Mrs”, The Bulletin and Scots Pictorial, Glasgow, 24 March 1931, p. ? Abridged or summarized in many other newspapers (see RA scrapbooks).

C34.04 THE SPHERE OF LIBERTY IN THE MODERN WORLD. Berwick Mercury, 20 Jan. 1934, p. [3].
Ms. (RA 220.013840).—As “The Sphere of Liberty”, Esquire, 2, no. 2 (July 1934): 29.

C36.03 PEACE IN THE WORLD. The Sunday Sun, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, 12 Jan. 1936, p. 10.
Ts. carbon is titled “Peace and the World” (RA 220.016650).

Re the Dionne quintuplets.—Ms. (RA 220.016630).


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PERSONAL VIEW. "This Week's Commentary". Ms. is titled "Is Brutality Increasing?" (RA 220.016620).

YOUR FREEDOM IS IN DANGER. "Your Liberty is in Danger" (RA 220.016590).

PRESCRIPTION FOR PEACE. III. "NO CONTINENTAL ENTANGLEMENTS". (RA 220.016760).

WHAT 1937 WILL BRING. (RA 220.016780).

LAW AND CONSCIENCE. (RA 220.016740).

LIVES OF THE GREAT MATHEMATICIANS. THEIR ROLES ON THE POLITICAL STAGE. (RA 220.016720).

THE PERSECUTION OF THE JEWS/WHAT WE CAN DO. (RA 220.016730).

INDIVIDUAL FREEDOM IN ENGLAND AND AMERICA. (RA 220.016720).

THE PROBLEM OF PUNISHMENT. (RA 220.016710).