Editor's Notes

Harry Ruja, Professor of Philosophy Emeritus at San Diego State University, and Chairman Emeritus of the Bertrand Russell Society, is coauthor with Your Editor of the three-volume Bibliography of Bertrand Russell (1994). His encounter with Russell began in 1930 in his freshman year at college, when his professor of English literature assigned “The Free Man’s Worship” to his class. Then shortly thereafter, when he heard his philosophy professor deliver a radio talk entitled “Bertrand Russell: Love and Logic”, he became an instant fan and remained so through the years that followed. He was fortunate to have had an opportunity to sit in on a session of Russell’s graduate seminar at the University of Chicago early in 1939, and to interview him briefly in his office on the proofs of PM.

During his years teaching philosophy, Dr. Ruja had many occasions to refer to his views and to assign readings from Russell’s writings to his students. He began working on a Russell bibliography in 1962 and promptly accepted Your Editor’s invitation in 1967 to join him in producing the Russell bibliography. He has edited a series of American essays by Russell, published in 1975 by Allen and Unwin as Mortals and Others. He has contributed articles and reviews to Russell. The Bertrand Russell Society has honoured him with two awards, the Lifetime Service Award in 1984, and the Bertrand Russell Society Award in 1993. At the Society’s annual meeting in La Jolla, California, he delivered an illustrated slide lecture from which his article in this issue is derived.

Sheila Turcon has worked for the past year as a part-time Archivist in the Ready Division. She has just completed a finding-aid for the Cyrus Eaton collection. Bracers recently benefited from her checking a large number of catalogue entries. Her indexing will appear on a CD-ROM on Marshall McLuhan that is being released in July. She is assisting with a bibliography of Stephen Leacock.

Working on the 25-year index brought floods of memories of bygone days, of researchers, staff and technologies, of the ebb and flow of the Russell Archives’ fortunes here since 1968, when I noted in issue 1 that a Russell research centre had been established. An index is an extraordinary leveller. The 4,206 pages of Russell—edited under varying professional and personal conditions, in a journal whose character has changed in most respects but one (its information strives for currency and accuracy)—are handled as if they are all equal. The index shows that a great many topics have been treated, but still there are new ones or new ways developing of treating old ones. There is much left for the next 25 years of Russell Studies to contribute.
The surviving signatory to the Russell–Einstein manifesto, Professor Joseph Rotblat, has been awarded, in conjunction with the Pugwash Conferences on Science and World Affairs, the 1995 Nobel Peace Prize. As he pleasantly remarked to me at a reception for him in Toronto, the Bertrand Russell Society recognized him earlier (in 1983).


John G. Slater has about completed Volume 11, devoted to Russell's philosophical writings from 1944 to 1968. Gregory Moore is editing Volume 5, the logical and philosophical writings of 1906 to 1909.

The annual meeting of the Bertrand Russell Society took place in Madison, New Jersey, at Drew University. John Lenz, President of the Society, hosted the most intellectually stimulating BRS conference this member can recall attending. I hope a paper or two from it will appear in a future issue. (Already forthcoming are papers on academic freedom, Alys Russell's memoirs, Frank Russell's divorce, and the writing of *PoM*.)

Russell-I is a world-wide electronic discussion and information forum for Russell Studies. It has 350 members from eighteen countries. To subscribe, send this message on electronic mail to *listproc@mcmaster.ca* stating "subscribe russell-I" and followed by your name on the same line. The Bertrand Russell Archives' home page on the Web has links to many activities in Russell studies. The URL is http://www.mcmaster.ca/russdocs/russell.htm. A good deal of information is stockpiled there for unattended consultation.

The *Bracers* inventory of correspondence continues. The total number of records has reached 60,786. Dave Ouellette's input lately has been mainly of corrections, but now he is back on new entries. The mainframe will continue to host *Bracers* for the present.

Howard Woodhouse, Lesley Hall, Beryl Haslam, Adam Norman, Astrid Friedrich, Darryl Jung, Nick Griffin, Alison Miculian, Richard Rempel, Ivor Grattan-Guinness and Stefan Andersson all recently visited or researched in the Russell Archives.