

Editor's Notes

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Back Issues

McMaster University Bookstore, Hamilton, ON, Canada L8S 4L8, has a website with a complete list of contents of Russell's back issues. Original prices still apply. Visit the site at http://bookstore.services.mcmaster.ca/mupress/journals/russell/journal.htm.

BRACERS

The total number of records in the BRACERS inventory of correspondence reached 64,212 by the end of August 1997, when Dave Ouellette's resignation as Preservationist took effect. Thus input has ceased. About two thirds' complete after ten years' input and revision, BRACERS has become an indispensable resource in the "bibliographic control" of .1 million documents. Dave's interest and dedication were much appreciated; let's hope that the same spirit will lead to a resumption of input. I have myself written new queries for reports, provided the reading room and website with a complete list of catalogued correspondents showing their number of letters, and written up a request for global corrections (now done). BRACERS has had its own "year 2000" problem, which, I am pleased to report, has now been dealt with.
Films on Russell

With Ray Monk as consultant, Blakeway Productions completed its documentary films on Russell’s life for the BBC’s "Reputations" series. They were broadcast in spring 1997 and contained new film footage and valuable interviews with people who knew Russell. They also contain an outrageous allegation summarized in a preview of the second film: see Stephen McGlany, "Russell Had Affair with Son's Wife", The Sunday Times, 25 May 1997. I remain entirely unpersuaded by the level of evidence presented. Part of it is the unsigned essay, "Lasting Impressions of Bertie Russell", in this issue. Another part is an inference by Russell’s granddaughter Felicity, who was about five at the time. The remaining part is a statement of a friend of the son’s ex-wife, interpreting a vague remark he recalls her making. Viewers say that the footage of Russell is excellent; also that of the English countryside, so favoured by him. Copies of the tapes will be in the BRA.


Forthcoming from Routledge in 1998 is Volume 15, Uncertain Paths to Freedom: Russia and China, 1919–22. The Russell Project’s new Director, R. A. Rempel, is in charge of editing it. A new pamphlet for Russell’s 1922 parliamentary campaign in Chelsea has been purchased for the RA, titled Why Thinking People Vote Labour.

Major Acquisitions include a rejected draft manuscript for “Is a Permanent Peace Possible?” (B&R Cr5:06) and some 15 letters to Elizabeth Perkins, 1914–19; Russell's letter of resignation from the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament and several photos; a 1915 manuscript contribution to Svenska Dagbladet; a 1927 letter on how to develop writing style. The responsibility for acquisitions is Dr. Carl Spadoni’s.

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