

Editor's Notes

Contributors ¶KIRK WILLIS, Associate Professor of History at the University of Georgia, is working on a book manuscript on British nuclear culture since 1945 and has written on Russell and modern Britain for *Russell*. He introduced the current Routledge reprints of *Authority and the Individual* and *Unpopular Essays*. URMAS SURTROP is Director of the Institute of the Estonian Language in Tallinn, and Professor of Anthropological and Ethno-Linguistics at the University of Tartu. He has written on the *Tractatus* and Russell's paradox and is the author of *The Vocabulary of Sense Perception in Estonian: Structure and History*; he has also translated "On Denoting" into Estonian. CHRISTOPHER PINCOCK is Assistant Professor in Philosophy at Purdue University. His essay "Carnap, Russell and the External World" will appear in *The Cambridge Companion to Carnap*. His research project in Russell studies is to better understand how Russell changed his philosophical views in response to scientific developments. STEFAN ANDERSSON is researching the history of the Stockholm session of the International War Crimes Tribunal and is contemplating a work on Russell's philosophy of life.

Acquisitions ¶Acquired are a July 1964 photo of Russell with Indira Gandhi, future Indian PM, when Russell was in London for the Commonwealth PMs' Conference, and three other photos and two new recordings. They will be catalogued in the Russell Audio-Visual Project.

Ray Bradbury on Russell ¶*Fahrenheit 451* has a passage in which it's one booklover's job to memorize "the essays of Bertrand Russell". Russell read and praised the book, had himself photographed with it, and invited the author, Ray Bradbury, for a visit. This was a time when Russell still very interested in writing fiction and the Bikini H-bomb test was but a month old. Hitherto Bradbury had only disclosed that the meeting had taken place. Now he has published an account, "Bertrand Russell and the Pipsqueak", in *Bradbury Speaks* (Morrow, 2005). He was "stunned" by the invitation and the enclosed photo (now the frontispiece to *Papers* 28). Then 33, Bradbury was a fan of *A History of Western Philosophy* and Russell's short stories (of which *Satan* had been published, with *Nightmares* to follow the next month). Bradbury considered himself one of the few in the US who had bought Russell's stories and was now "the rare expert". Despite his nervousness, he discussed the art of writing with Russell. He obtained Russell's agreement that his fiction was in the "fantastic and science-fictional manner of H. G. Wells", a

“scientifically philosophical mode”. But he refrained from disclosing his final literary verdict: “They were works from the mind of an idea visionary, each idea vividly conceived but moderately executed. His genius was in the essay, grand and minute, not in character portrayal or the delineation of master scenes. Bertrand Russell was, in sum, a bright amateur seeking but rarely finding the dramatic effect, accomplished only in jump-starting brilliant fancies but failing to breathe them into satisfactory lives.” Much of their talk centred on Bradbury’s screen-play of Melville’s *Moby Dick* for John Huston. Russell was interested in “the mysteries of film creation”. When it was time to leave, Bradbury asked Russell to sign an unspecified book of his essays, which he did, thus: “To Ray Bradbury, Russell, April 11, 1954”. The book still resides in his library, “along with his two books of scientific and fantastic tales, which have never been reprinted or remembered. His solemn smile crosses the years....” Bradbury did not think he had done well at his only meeting with Russell: “On the train rushing back to London, I cursed everything I had dared to say”, just as he had often backed off, “wordless and miserable”, from young women whom he had dated. (Note: Russell’s stories were all reprinted in his *Collected Stories* in 1972.)

¶Sajahan Miah’s *Russell’s Theory of Perception* is to be published
Forthcoming 15 June 2006 by Thoemmes Continuum. John Shosky and Rom
Books Harré’s *Russell–Wittgenstein: Logical Form and the Project of Philosophy* (Prague: Filosofia) is imminent.

¶The October 2005 *Mind* (published in March 2006) is devoted
New to denoting. A new book provides evidence that Russell per-
Books sonally knew Alan Turing. M. H. A. Newman’s son William
writes that Turing came with Newman on a spring holiday to
Criccieth, N. Wales, in the late 1940s. “There were lively discussions in our sea-
front living room between him [Turing], my father, Bertrand Russell, Rupert
Crawshay-Williams, and others.” See *Colossus: the Secrets of Bletchley Park’s
Codebreaking Computers*, ed. B. Jack Copeland (OUP, 2006). A list of new
books in Russell Studies is at <http://www.mcmaster.ca/russdocs/forthnew.htm>.

¶The electronic catalogue of Russell’s correspondence continues
BRACERS its slow approach to initial completion through the addition of
draft entries. The total is 107,977. However, thousands of entries
remain uncorrected, unedited and incomplete. Humanities dean Nasrin Ra-
himieh has said that the letters are “one of McMaster’s unmined gems that
could benefit both the University and the global online community”
(dailynews.mcmaster.ca/story.cfm?id=3879). BRACERS is also the cornerstone
for bibliographic control of the Russell Archives and the *Collected Letters*.

¶Russell-l is a discussion forum managed by Andrew Bone for
“Russell-l” the benefit of Russell Studies. Visit <http://mailman.mcmaster.ca/mailman/listinfo/russell-l>. All the messages are searchable.
