Editor’s Notes

STEVEN MUMFORD is Professor of Metaphysics at the University of Nottingham. He is author of David Armstrong (Acumen, 2007) and Laws in Nature (2004) and editor of Russell on Metaphysics (2003). SYLVIA NICKERSON is studying for a Ph.D. in the history of nineteenth-century British mathematics, philosophy of geometry and foundations of mathematics at the Institute for the History and Philosophy of Science and Technology at the University of Toronto. She is a published illustrator and an artist (http://www.sylvianickerson.ca). NICHOLAS GRIFFIN is Director of the Bertrand Russell Research Centre and General Editor of the Collected Papers. He has co-edited for Routledge, with Dale Jacquette, Russell vs. Meinong: the Legacy of “On Denoting”. BRETT LINTOTT obtained an M.A. in History from McMaster and is a Ph.D. student in History at the University of Toronto. YOUR EDITOR continues to edit away at Russell’s non-technical writings of 1944–50 for the Collected Papers and to hurry bracers along. RUSSELL WAHL is Professor of Philosophy at Idaho State University and has published various articles on the history of analytic philosophy. MICHAEL D. STEVENSON is a volunteer researcher with the Russell Research Centre and co-editor of How to Keep the Peace: the Pacifist Dilemma, 1935–38. LOUIS GREENSPAN is Professor Emeritus of Religious Studies at McMaster. He continues to teach. CHAD TRAINER chairs the board of directors of the Bertrand Russell Society. His new article, “In Further Praise of Idleness”, appears in Russell Revisited: Critical Reflections on the Thought of Bertrand Russell (2008). GRAHAM STEVENS is Senior Lecturer in Philosophy at Manchester University and author of a forthcoming book on Russell’s philosophy of language, The Theory of Descriptions (Palgrave Macmillan), and of The Russellian Origins of Analytic Philosophy (2005). K. E. GARAY teaches in McMaster’s Arts and Science Programme and is affiliated with Women’s Studies and History. Her latest book is The Distaff Gospels (2006, with Madeleine Jeay).

For years the earliest known footage was of Russell accepting the Nobel Prize in 1950. Now that date has been pushed back to c.1929. There is footage about then of his portion of a debate on marriage, possibly a rehearsal or reprise. We now have a film of him giving a farewell message at the conclusion of his 1931 lecture tour of the U.S. The latest discovery is of Russell the laughing philosopher (with a glimpse of his daughter, Kate) relaxing outside at the Malibu Beach home of Arnold...
Schoenberg. The year is probably 1939. This film is in colour. There’s no sound, and so it isn’t known what Russell found so amusing—for he laughs a great deal in it. Some of these films are available to the BRS on its library website.

 Several websites allow searching of multiple texts by Bertrand Russell: Google Books, Amazon, Questia, and Open Library. As yet, to my knowledge, there is no federated searching possible. In addition to these sites there are searchable scanned copies of individual works; many are available for downloading from the web. The Russell Research Centre has various in-house files and indexes for locating passages. Russell’s Collected Letters are another category on which progress is being made at the Centre. In the meantime, BRACERS can search its quotas from over 100,000 items of correspondence. Could one of Russell’s major publishers offer searchability of his entire corpus?

 All these titles are expected in 2008 or 2009: Omar W. Nasim, Bertrand Russell and the Edwardian Philosophers: Constructing the World (Palgrave Macmillan); Rosalind Carey and John Ongley, Historical Dictionary of Bertrand Russell’s Philosophy (Scarecrow); Griffin and Jacquette, eds., Russell vs. Meinong: the Legacy of “On Denoting” (Routledge); Graham Stevens, The Theory of Descriptions (Palgrave Macmillan).

 Francis Boyle’s Bertrand Russell Peace Lectures have been published as Breaking All the Rules: Palestine, Iraq, Iran and the Case for Impeachment (Atlanta: Clarity P., 2008). They were McMaster’s Centre for Peace Studies’ 18th set of annual lectures.


 Except for the latest three volumes, Russell may now be consulted freely on the Internet. The entire run of the old series (1971–80) and the new series (1981 to date) are searchable on the site and from search engines like Google. Go to the Library’s site, http://digitalcommons.mcmaster.ca/russelljournal/. For separate and dual online and print subscriptions, see the back cover of this issue.

 The catalogue of correspondence in the Russell Archives has reached a total of 114,129 records. They’re publicly searchable at http://bracers.mcmaster.ca.

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