

Editor's Notes

¶ DAVID BLITZ is Professor of Philosophy at Central Connecticut State University. He is chair of the department and, previously, director of the Honors Program. He has undertaken a volume of the *Collected Papers* concerned with the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament. RAY MONK is Professor of Philosophy at Southampton University and has commenced a biography of Robert Oppenheimer. YOUR EDITOR will soon be managing new input for the Bertrand Russell Archives Catalogue and Retrieval System (BRACERS). KEITH GREEN, Senior Lecturer in Linguistics, Sheffield Hallam University, has published widely in linguistics and critical theory. He is at work on a book, "Scimitars and Spectres: Bertrand Russell, Language and Linguistic Theory". GARY OSTERTAG is Adjunct Assistant Professor of Philosophy at New York University. He is the editor of *Definite Descriptions: a Reader* (MIT Press, 1998). MICHAEL SCANLAN, Associate Professor of Philosophy at Oregon State University, is interested in early twentieth-century logics and recently published on Henry Sheffer in *Transactions of the C. S. Peirce Society*. THOM WEIDLICH, author of *Appointment Denied: the Inquisition of Bertrand Russell*, is a freelance journalist and a director of the Bertrand Russell Society. GIOVANNI DE CARVALHO is an independent Russell scholar in Rio de Janeiro. SHEILA TURCON is working on a illustrated book version of her catalogue of "Bertrand Russell's Odyssey".

Opening of the BRRC ¶ The Bertrand Russell Research Centre had its official opening on 16 November 2000. McMaster's Dean of Humanities, Daniel Woolf, introduced the new Director, Nicholas Griffin, who spoke of his plans for the Centre. The plans include an online edition of all of Russell's letters. He in turn introduced Ray Monk, who gave the talk published in these pages. (One effect of Ray Monk's biography of Russell will be, I'm sure, to loosen restraints on the appreciation of Russell's political stands and the value of his non-technical writing. We have been through a long period in which it was bad academic form, and even uninteresting, to write favourably about Russell's good qualities.) The large audience then toured the remarkable "Bertrand Russell's Odyssey" in the Museum of Art.

Recent Acquisitions ¶ Carl Spadoni, Research Collections Librarian, has recently acquired a spate of new Russell letters for the Russell Archives. In particular, there are four to the Council of Democracy in 1941 with a four-leaf manuscript for a broadcast on Liberty (the letters record Russell's reluctance to be silent on anti-Semitism, and the ms. his

respect for Churchill's "steadfast refusal to paint a cheerful picture of the [war's] prospects"). A long 1942 letter to a young soldier, George Chatalian, on the causes of the war, why the war was worth fighting, and the consequences for the US of an Axis victory; and a paragraph about Russell in U Thant's hand, including: "His life and work have been a source of inspiration for millions of people in their fight for human rights, peace, freedom and justice."

¶In April 2001 Routledge released three more of Russell's titles with new introductions. They are: *Freedom and Organization, 1814-1914*, introduced by Conrad Russell; *The Scientific Outlook*, introduced by David Papineau; and *Common Sense and Nuclear Warfare*, introduced by Ken Coates. Due in May from Routledge is Volume 2 of *The Selected Letters: the Public Years, 1914-70*, edited by Nicholas Griffin. *Bertrand Russell: 1921-1970, the Ghost of Madness*, the second volume of Ray Monk's biography of Russell, had its American publication in March (Free Press). The Bertrand Russell Peace Foundation has reprinted Russell's *Nightmares of Eminent Persons* and *German Social Democracy*. Paul Strathern's *Bertrand Russell in 90 Minutes* is due from Ivan R. Dee of Chicago in June. Personal reminiscences of Russell in the 1940s are to be found in Doris Grumbach's *The Pleasure of Their Company* (Boston: Beacon P., 2000) and Daphne Phelps' *A House in Sicily* (New York: Carroll and Graf, 1999). A list of new books in Russell Studies is maintained at www.mcmaster.ca/russdocs/forthnew.htm.

Collected Papers ¶The Russell Research Centre's director has been awarded a Canada Research Chair in Philosophy from the Canadian Foundation for Innovation. Dr. Griffin has also won a grant from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada to edit Volume 17 of the *Collected Papers*, covering the years 1925-28.

Russell's Audio Books ¶Several of Russell's writings have recently been offered for sale on tape cassette. Derek Jacobi reads *The ABC of Relativity*, David Case reads *Religion and Science*, and Terrence Hardiman reads "What I Believe", "Why I Am Not a Christian" and "A Free Man's Worship". Perhaps there will be more audio tapes for those with visual disabilities or merely travelling time to optimize.

The Bertrand Russell Society ¶Plans for the 2001 annual meeting of the Bertrand Russell Society—the fifth to be held at McMaster—will be found at www.humanities.mcmaster.ca/~russell/brsmeeting.htm. BRRC is host for the meeting, to take place on 25-7 May. Abstracts of the papers scheduled for the meeting will be found at the website.

"Russell-1" & the Internet ¶Russell-1 is an electronic discussion, news and information service managed by BRRC's Andrew Bone for Russell Studies. Visit mailman.mcmaster.ca/mailman/listinfo/russell-1. The site has archived messages since Russell-1's launching in 1993.
