

Supplement

News from the Russell Editorial Project

by Louis Greenspan

AS I WRITE, the Project room is completely silent. Richard Rempel is pursuing the elusive tracks of Russell as ghost-writer, Research Associate Mark Lippincott is deciphering some manuscripts and our typesetter, Arlene Duncan, is keying in new texts for Volume 4. Albert Lewis vigilantly works daily on the computer, and over in the Russell Archives Ken Blackwell, with the assistance of Sheila Turcon, continues to sleuth out new Russell writings, which we accept eagerly and appreciatively. In the age of the wordprocessor, silence has replaced the clacking of typewriters and the din of machinery. Silence signifies that there are people hard at work.

Indeed we are! 1990 will be an important year. Volume 2, *Philosophical Papers, 1896-99* (edited by Nicholas Griffin and Albert Lewis) has reached the publisher; we plan to have the first volume of the *Bibliography* (by Kenneth Blackwell and Harry Ruja) and Volume 6, *Logical and Philosophical Papers, 1909-13* (edited by John Slater) there by the end of the year; and Volume 3, *Toward the "Principles", 1900-02* (edited by Gregory Moore), will not be far behind in 1991. Also in 1991 Volume 14, *Pacifism and Revolution, 1916-18* (edited by L. Greenspan and R.A. Rempel with M. Lippincott) will be ready, and Volume 4, *Foundations of Logic, 1902-05* (edited by Alasdair Urquhart) will be coming to the home stretch. We will soon be working as quickly as Russell did!

There are problems. In an age when even the Pentagon is suffering from cutbacks, so are we. The copy must be prepared by one typesetter who also acts as the Project secretary. That one person is handling a load that had previously been handled by three. Our university, like most others, is slashing budgets so that it has been forced to reduce its contributions to our funding. While we remain relatively fortunate in our level of university support, we in the Project have had to tighten our already taut belts even more. McMaster's budget cuts could mean that we cannot hire summer students for our research. This loss would be difficult but bearable. Next year some of the grants will run out. Then we will be even more dependent on a university, like others in Ontario, which is retrenching through a hiring

freeze and other mortifications. Fortunately our May 1989 grants from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada remain unchanged.

But the Russell Project has demonstrated that it is a hardy survivor. In the past we have endured cuts from S.S.H.R.C.C. and cutbacks from the university. But we have persevered and certainly accelerated our output significantly as our understanding of this massive enterprise has continued to develop.

We welcome the fact that, through McMaster's support, John Passmore will be back this summer to give guidance, support and wisdom.

The Bertrand Russell Editorial Project
McMaster University