

Editor's notes

Contributors. The 1953 discussion between Russell and Sidney Hook has never before been published. Russell had turned his attention to American civil liberties in various public writings, and Hook felt compelled to answer him. Shortly before the BBC discussion, Hook's *Heresy*, "Yes," *Conspiracy*, "No" had appeared. For more on Russell and Hook at this time, see Vol. II of *Bertrand Russell's America*, reviewed in this issue. STEPHEN NATHANSON is Associate Professor of Philosophy at Northeastern University. THOMAS A. WILSON obtained his doctorate in philosophy from Southern Illinois University at Carbondale. Professor Emeritus at the Centre for the Study of Social History, University of Warwick, ROYDEN HARRISON's current work is a biography of the Webbs. KENNETH HOPKINS is the proprietor of the Warren House Press. Its edition of the Russell-Powys debate, introduced by MARGARET MORAN, will be reviewed in a future issue. YOUR EDITOR's book, *The Spinozistic Ethics of Bertrand Russell*, is being published in June by George Allen & Unwin. His next work, in collaboration with HARRY RUJA and with the assistance of Bernd Frohmann and John G. Slater, is *A Bibliography of Bertrand Russell*, now the size of two volumes. NICHOLAS GRIFFIN teaches philosophy at McMaster, while ANDREW BRINK teaches English. BARBARA STRACHEY HALPERN is the generous owner of the Pearsall Smith archives. GREGORY H. MOORE teaches mathematics at Toronto.

Dr. Spadoni. I regret to announce the transfer to McMaster's Medical Centre Library of Carl Spadoni, whose work in the Russell Archives over several years significantly improved the collection and its access tools. Carl has joined the Board of Consultants. Sheila Turcon is our new Archives Cataloguer.

Volume 7 of *The Collected Papers of Bertrand Russell*. Two more reviews have appeared:

... [T]he editors offer good reason for their view that the missing early portion of the manuscript supplied the material for six articles ... in *The Monist*.... The authors of the introduction to this volume supply a detailed account of its provenance, but do not venture upon any serious appreciation of its philosophical content. (A. J. Ayer, *TLS*, 7 Dec. 1984)

The major virtues of this resurrected book ... [include] Elizabeth Eames's introduction which provides both an overview of Russell's epistemological development and an explanation of why he did not complete the manuscript.... This reviewer still thinks that the collection as a whole should prove to be a major editorial achievement. (Marvin Kohl, *Choice*, Jan. 1985)

Volume 1 of the *Collected Papers*. In addition to the comments quoted below, the new reviews continue to have fresh approaches to the contents. To my

mind, the major success of Volume 1 is to have captured the interest of a variety of scholars in Russell's pre-professional writings.

The subtlety of [Russell's] mind and the beauty of his style are already evident here. The project is to be completed in about 2000. Appropriate collections able to afford the set will welcome the venture. (Robert Hoffman, *Library Journal*, 1 Feb. 1984)

Evidently Russell is to be given the full treatment of a scholarly critical edition, the sort of thing the Germans used to lavish on Hegel and Kant.... [O]bviously a massive team effort.... These writings are situated by means of a helpful "Chronology".... [A] larger worry regarding the rationale of this whole enterprise[:] The point is not merely that this first volume has failed to reveal a young Russell comparable to the discoveries of the young Hegel and the young Marx—certainly no-one could expect or require that. Rather, the point is that in the case of thinkers like Hegel and Marx their various writings constitute a philosophical *oeuvre*, a distinctive and sustained philosophical project in which major works and incidental writings, mature publications and early experiments all mutually illuminate each other, thus repaying minute critical scrutiny.... But there is a danger that in simply adding these many volumes of his shorter writings, however assiduously annotated, to the large mass of his already published writings the present project may be exacerbating rather than alleviating the problems of getting Russell's *oeuvre* into proper focus. ... Russell the philosopher may have been much better served by an edition of his *Selected Papers and Correspondence* in conjunction with a critical edition of his major published *Works*. ... [M]agnificently produced.... (André du Toit, *Philosophical Papers*, Grahamstown, May 1984)

... [A]n exciting publishing project ... meticulously annotated ... accessible to the non-philosopher ... magnificent ... the excellent complement to Russell's longer published writings, his three-volume autobiography and the biographical work done on him. ([Jacob L. Chernofsky?], *AB Bookman's Weekly*, 9–16 July 1984)

The editors have surrounded Russell's papers with an impressive scholarly *apparat*, giving precise information about variations among textual sources, spelling inconsistencies, and so forth. They have also appended notes to each essay, identifying persons and texts referred to by Russell, and providing a modest philosophical commentary.... The commentary is useful, accurate, and appropriately uncritical; the reader is left to challenge Russell by himself.... [O]nly such an apparatus as this volume contains permits readers to relish such changes [as the suppression of a sentence about the Apostles caring about bodies].... The binding and paper are superb, and the typeface is eminently readable.... By including line counts in the margin, the entire apparatus of notes is linked to the text without a single footnote or disruption of the beauty of the page. The gold leaf page tips give the volume a faintly scriptural air that would have amused and delighted Russell. All in all, this is one of the handsomest physical objects

ever to roll off a modern printing press. (Douglas P. Lackey, *Metaphilosophy*, July/October 1984)

In my opinion, which differs from that of some critics in the weeklies, Russell is a sufficiently important philosopher to make it worth publishing his collected writings. But accepting this, one must also accept that a collection of twenty-eight volumes will have a Volume I which, since the collection is chronological, will be of less interest.... The most interest in this volume lies in the appendices and the critical apparatus.... The rather heavyweight scholarship looks silly in this volume, but if it is a token of what is to come, it will be valuable in the later ones.... The textual notes on the geometry papers ... contain a useful table comparing their various sections with the corresponding ones in the published dissertation. (C. W. Kilmister, *British Journal for the Philosophy of Science*, Dec. 1984)

As a whole, the twenty-four volumes will have a value not needing description. This particular volume, though it includes no philosophic work of lasting importance, contains much that is of value for understanding not only the genesis of Russell's philosophy, but the state of English philosophy at the time. The annotation and headnotes are appropriately full and quite helpful. (Timothy Sprigge, *Philosophical Books*, Jan. 1985)

There is much of interest in this [the "Locked Diary"] for Russell's development—as a person rather than a philosopher—though it seems permissible to regret the absence from the printed text of Alys' entries. The reader ... is likely ... to wish for the early publication of their correspondence.... Editing and production of this volume achieve a high standard. The editorial apparatus includes background information in the headnotes to each item or group of items, meticulous notes at the end identifying persons mentioned, explaining allusions, and discussing textual variants, and a chronology of Russell's life and writings to 1899. There is a commendable absence of misprints, something which deserves praise in days when too many works of scholarship are disfigured by sloppy proofreading. (A. E. B. Owen, *Archivaria*, Winter 1984–85)

Visitors and researchers. Our records show that the following recently visited the Russell Archives, usually to undertake research: Margaret Bottley, Rini Sarkar, Howell Daniels, Paolo Dau, David Dubinski, Neil Paul, George Johnson, Bryan Steinwagel, Karen Boil, Haydain Neale, Charles Chadwick, Anatol Rapaport, S. Gopal, David Papineau, Nino B. Cocchiarella, Reese P. Miller, Charles Haynes, Vincent De Pasquale, Sven Erlander, Mats Arwidson, Richard Landon, Sajahan Miah, C. Macneil-Reid, D. Carroll, A. T. Flack, Gregory Moore, T. D. Sauer, Christopher Bernhardt, Jill LeBlanc, S. I. Hurowitz, M. G. Johnson, K. Bethune, S. Christofolabo, D. B. Walker, D. E. Dala, J. G. Slater, P. J. S. Lisson, Peter Hylton, Linda Benthin, Beryl Haslam, M. Smith, M. Shadbolt, and H. Fullen.