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RUSSELL SOCIETY NEWS No. 31 August 1981

'81 Annual Meeting reported (6,53,54). Playboy interview (12).BR on Evolution (16), on History (17). '82 BRS Award nominations wanted (19). On Sakharov (20). On Nuclear Disarmament (21-23). About Humanism (24-28). Time (1) to vote (43). Membership list (51). An asterisk in the left column indicates a request.

(2)

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

Lest call for dues. Everyone's aues were due on July 1st (except new members who enrolled this year.) If your dues have not been received by September 1st, you become -- horrible thought 4- a non-person. Please mail your dues, if you haven't yet done so, to the Membership Committee, RD 1, Box 409, Coopersburg PA 18036. Dues: regular \$20, couple \$25, student \$10. Plus \$7.50 if outside the USA and Canada.

COMING EVENTS

(3) Tenth Interamerican Congress of Philosophy (October 18-23, 1981):

THE INTERAMERICAN SOCIETY OF PHILOSOPHY

AND THE AMERICAN PHILOSOPHICAL ASSOCIATION ANNOUNCE THE

TENTH INTERAMERICAN CONGRESS OF PHILOSOPHY

Theme:	HUMAN RIGHTS FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY
Host Institution: Place:	TALLAHASSEE, Capital of Florida
Dates:	18 - 23 OCTOBER 1981
Languages:	ENGLISH, PORTUGUESE, SPANISH, FRENCH

The organizing committee welcomes contributions on any philosophical topic, and will arrange sessions as appropriate for what is submitted.

The committee is inviting work on the topic of human rights, the theme of the congress, both in the form of individual papers and organized sym-posia. It especially welcomes contributions on this topic, either in the form of single papers or ideas for symposia, and suggests the following categories.

THEME: HUMAN RIGHTS

- PHILOSOPHIC FOUNDATIONS
- Alternative points of view on rights Α.
- Origins and development of rights Changing conceptions of rights B.
- С.
- HUMAN NATURE OR THE HUMAN CONDITION 2. Needs and rights
 - B. Rights and human differences (race, gender, sex,
 - age, etc.) Health care, research, and rights
 - D What are the human rights?
- RIGHTS OF INQUIRY AND EXPRESSION: PHILOSOPHICAL PROBLEMS A. Speech, publication, and broadcast 3.

 - The arts B.

1.

- C Religion
- D. Science
- E. Philosophy
- ETHICS AND RIGHTS 4
 - Moral and legal problems of human rights UN Declaration of Human Rights (especially R the study led by Klibansky for the
 - International Institute of Philosophy)
 - The work of the Interamerican Comission on Human Rights С.

 - D. Moral Education

- SOCIETY AND RIGHTS: PHILOSOPHICAL PROBLEMS А. Economic issues
 - Political representation B.
 - Civil rights C
 - D. Social change
 - Political institutions
- PRACTICE: Discussion of concrete problems of the limitation, defense, and extension of human rights from the perspective 6. of one or more participating countries.

Funds are available for a limited number of participants. In view of the limitations, we appeal to those wishing to attend to seek local funding where possible. In order to make the necessary arrangements, the committee requests that brief abstracts or summaries of proposed work be received in the congress office by April 30, 1981. While we will consider proposals received after that date, those received later will have a diminishing prospect

received after that date, those received later will have a diminishing prospect for financial assistance or optimum placement in the program. Individual contributed papers should be planned for a delivery time of about twenty minutes, so that ample discussion time will be available. Simi-lar considerations prevail for symposia. Where desirable, fuller written versions may be distributed in advance. We are now developing publication plans, and anticipate that the invited papers and a portion of the contri-buted papers will be published in the original language and in what trans-lations may be possible and appropriate, with abstracts in all four languages. Papers will be accepted without recard to the philosonbical point of

Papers will be accepted without regard to the philosophical point of view they express, and wherever possible the committee intends to put works with differing points of view close to each other on the program in order to maximize the opportunity for fruitful exchanges. In addition, cognizant of the relevance that fundamental and applied work have for each other in the area of human rights, the committee will attempt to arrange for constructive dialog.

A number of other organizations, for example the Society for Iberian and Latin American Thought, are planning meetings of their own in con-junction with the Tenth Congress. Further information on this will be

available later. The Tenth Congress has been designated a regional international meet-ing by UNESCO. Prospective participants from outside Canada and the United States will need a passport and a United States visa. Please advise

The 16-page pamphlet announcing the Congress, from which the above is taken is in Portuguese, Spanish and French as well as English. There are enrollment forms in the 4 languages. For more information, write Tenth Interamerican Congress of Philosophy, American Philosophical Association, University of Delaware, Newakr, DE 19711. Thank you, DAVID MAKINSTER.

(See Page 32 for addresses of newsletter and BRS Library)

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- (4) <u>Humanist Summit Conference</u> (October 29-30,1981), at College Park Maryland. BOB DAVIS and DON JACKANICZ will represent the BRS at the Conference. All BRS members are invited. For information, write Bob (2501 Lakeview Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90039).
- (5) <u>BRS at APA</u> (December 28, 1981). For the 8th consecutive year, the BRS will have a session at the annual meeting - this year in Philadelphia, December 26-30 - of the American Philosophical Association, Eastern Division. For the program see (11). The date of the BRS session is probably December 28th, but it should be verified.

ANNUAL MEETING '81

(6a) The 8th Annual Meeting of the ERS was held on the agreeable green campus of McMaster University, Hamilton, Ontario, home of The Bertrand Russell Archives, the weekend of June 26-28, 1981. Facilities were excellent, thanks to the good work of KEN BLACKWELL, CARL SPADONI, and CHERYL WALKER, of the Russell Archives. Ken is Archivist, Carl is Assistant Archivist, and Cheryl is Secretary.

28 BRS members attended: KEN BLACKWELL, ANDREW BRINK, BOB CANTERBURY, PETER CRANFORD, DENNIS DARLAND, BOB DAVIS, RON EDWARDS, LEE EISLER, PAUL GARWIG, NICK GRIFFIN, ALVIN HOFER, DON JACKANICZ, MARVIN KOHL*, HERB LANSDELL, JOHN LENZ, BOB LOMBARDI, STEVE MARAGIDES, CALVIN MCCAULAY, MICHAEL PARAYESKI, RAY PLANT, STEVE REINHARDT, CHERIE RUPPE, CARL SPADONI, KATE TAIT, ELEANOR VALENTINE, WILLIM VALENTINE, HERB & BETTY VOGT. (*rejoined the BRS at the meetig)

ll non-members attended: Joseph Capuana, Catherine Funnell, Paul Gallina, David Harley, Elaine Heller, Joan Link, Marilyn Mason, Margaret Moran, Richard Rempel, Roland Stromberg, Elizabeth Valentine.

The following officers were reelected for 1-year terms, starting immediately: Peter G. Cranford, Chairman; Robert K. Davis, President; Harry Ruja, Vice-President; Dennis J. Darland, Treasurer; Donald W. Jackanicz, Secretary.

(A Bylaw amendment, passed at the meeting, provides that officers elected at an Annual Meeting shall take office immediately upon election, and shall remain in office until the next election, at the following year's Annual Meeting. Formerly the term of office coincided with the calendar year.)

There were talks by Ken Blackwell, Bob Davis,Nick Griffin, David Harley, Don Jackanicz, and Bob Lombardi; a panel discussion, with Ken Blackwell,Andrew Brink, Nick Griffin, and Richard Rempel participating, and Carl Spadoni moderating; and a showing of 2 "Meeting of Minds" programs in which BR was one of the characters.

All talks were taped and you may borrow the tapes from the BRS Library (address on Page 1, bottom). It is not true that the tapes are completely unintelligible; you can often make out what people are saying.

The gastronomical and social highlight of the weekend was the Saturday night banquet at Ken and Kandriin Blackwell's splendid, spacious house in the country (about 4 miles from Mc^Master). We will not attempt to describe the many superb platters that were set out before us, all made by K. B. (plus excellent brown bread baked by the other --- or archiving --- K.B.) that set a standard for future banquets that we don't expect to see equalled. Banquetwise, it will be all downhill from now on.

* * * * * * * * *

Here are summaries of 2 of the talks:

(6b) Ken Blackwell's "How Russell Planned to Achieve Compossibility":

Bertrand Russell had certain difficulties in his personal life: the familial loneliness into which he was plunged as an orphan, the consequent lack of union with others (be they groups or individuals), and the lack of peace caused by the restless torment of his particular set of passions. Russell sought love because through love he felt the hard shell of his ego dissolve and experienced the mingling of personalities. He sought even sexual love for this reason, as is evidenced by the coinciding of his early asceticism of both the emotions and the body and later expansiveness of the emotions and welcoming of sexual love. In the realm of thought, Russell is well known for his insistence on certain standards of belief. Allowing yourself to believe without good evidence is to yield to paltry personal desires to which a largeness of vision would never succumb. And just as he wished to escape from the prison of purely personal desires, he wished man to escape from the anthropocentric viewpoint, the perspective that judges all in terms of man's desires. When, however, it became a question of man's existence being threatened by man himself, Russell's ability to think of the human race without distinctions, supported by an expansive generosity, led him into strife in his old age, to do battle not with other men but with age-old hostile forces in man himself. In private life he was a generous man whose impersonal intellect was tempered by caring for the persons involved in the issue at hand. The record of his life shows him (as he puts it in his advice on growing old) making his "interests gradually wider and more impersonal, until bit by bit the walls of the ego recede and [his] life becomes increasingly merged in the universal life."

The foregoing description uses language associated with what I identify as the Spinozistic ethic by which Russell lived and which underlies his normative writings.

[Following this opening paragraph, I examined some of Russell's writings -- especially The Conquest of Happiness - for the concept of self Spinoza bequesthed him and which is at the foundation of his ethic to promote generoisity and rationality.]

(53) ANNUAL MEETING '81 (CONTINUED) Secretary Don_Jackanicz reports on the events of the weekend, including the Business Meeting:

The eighth Annual Meeting of The Bertrand Russell Society, Inc. was held Friday, June 26 through Sunday, June 28, 1981 at McMaster University, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada. Except as noted, all events took place in Room 106 of Chester New Hall on the McMaster University campus.

Friday, June 26, 1981

Following afternoon registration in the Commons Building and in the Russell Archives in Mills Memorial Library, an informal dinner was held in the Vallance Memorial Dining Hall of the Commons Building.

At 7:08 p.m. Kenneth Blackwell, Russell Archivist, called the first session to order by welcoming all assembled and introducing Robert K. Davis, BRS President, who thereafter presided over the proceedings.

A general business meeting began as President Davis reported on a number of recent BRS business items and his own undertakings:

1. With the help of Peter Cadogan of London, plans for a 1982 BRS Annual Meeting in Oxford are progressing.

2. The President sent greetings from the BRS to Andrei Sakharov on his 60th birthday.

3. BRS members have been invited to attend the October 1981 American Humanist Association conference to be held in **College Park, Maryland.** 4. The President recommends Los Angeles as site of the 1983 BRS Annual Meeting.

5. The Huntington Library of San Marino, California has offered to house Lester E. Denonn's Russell Library, but \$100,000 for its purchase would have to be raised by 1983.

6. The President intends to work toward the creation of a sculpture of Will and Ariel Durant to be placed in a Los Angeles park near their home. Steve Allen has expressed interest in helping with this effort. 7. The 1981 BRS Award was presented to Steve Allen on May 28, 1981 by Jacqueline Berthon-Payon, Dan Wray, and the President "for using unique talents in the service of public enlightenment, by inviting ordinary citizens to meetings of many great minds." (Although Mr. Allen was unable to attend the Annual Meeting, a set of photographs of the Award presentation ceremony was on display.)

8. The absence of Vice President Harry Ruja was noted; he is devoting a year to scholarly work in Israel.

All members present unanimously agreed to dispense with the reading of the 1980 Annual Meeting Minutes. Treasurer Dennis J. Darland then reported the BRS's cash balance was approximately \$1,400.00. His detailed Treasury records are available for inspection. Next, the Co-Chairman of the Information and Membership Committees, Lee Eisler, briefly spoke on developments regarding <u>Russell Society News</u> and membership growth. Lee then distributed to all present a sheet of five proposed Bylaw amendments (see attached). The membership present unanimously adopted the first; discussion on the second was postponed; the third was defeated; and the fourth was unanimously adopted. Discussion followed on Lee's fifth proposed Bylaw amendment and one advanced by Alvin Hofer (see attached), both of which concerning member expulsions. Agreement was reached to discuss the expulsion question more fully at a later time, however, Steve Maragides requested the Minutes to include an official reference to the recent expulsion of John Sutcliffe.

With the conclusion of the general business meeting, Nicholas Griffin read "First Efforts", a part of the first chapter of a forthcoming book, <u>Russell's</u> <u>Idealist Apprenticeship</u>, authored by Carl Spadoni and himself. This presentation dealt with Russell's mathematical and philosophical thought during his pre-CamPage 30 Russell Society News, No. 31 August 1981

bridge years. After discussion and a brief refreshment interval, the first of two "Meeting of Minds" video tapes were shown, having been donated by Steve Allen. Engaged in this television conversation, moderated by Mr. Allen, were St. Augustine, Thomas Jefferson, the Empress Theodora, and Russell.

The first session was adjourned at 10:05 p.m. Shortly thereafter, the BRS Board of Directors met in Room 207 of Chester New Hall.

Saturday, June 27, 1981

Breakfast was taken in the Vallance Memorial Dining Hall. At 9:05 a.m. President Davis called the second session to order. After a few general announcements, the second "Meeting of Minds" video tape was presented. In this tape the four previously mentioned figures concluded their conversation. A brief refreshment interval followed. Don Jackanicz then spoke on "Russell and the House of Lords", outlining Russell's few House of Lords speeches and providing background on that institution and Russell's apparent contempt for it. The final morning session event was the presentation by Robert K. Davis of "Russell and Clio" in which he examined Russell's philosophy of history, particularly as stated in <u>Power: A New Social Analysis</u>. The session was adjourned at 12:20 p.m. The Vallance Memorial Dining Hall was the site for lunch. About one hour before the afternoon session began, the BRS Board of Directors held a second meeting outdoors on the plaza near Kenneth Taylor Hall.

The afternoon session was called to order by President Davis as 2:10 p.m. "H. G. Wells and Bertrand Russell: World Educators" was presented by David Harley who explored the intellectual relations between these two figures. After a refreshment interval, a panel discussion was held in which the McMaster University Russell papers editorial project was reviewed. Participants were Carl Spadoni, who chaired the discussion, Kenneth Blackwell, Andrew Brink, Nicholas Griffin, and Richard Rempel. The complexity and extent of the project, which will result in up to thirty printed volumes, were described, and questions from the audience served to clarify a number of points. At 3:48 p.m. the session was adjourned.

A Red Hackle Hour was held from 4:00 to 5:00 p.m. in the Reading Room adjoining the Russell Archives. The permanent collection and temporary exhibits of the Archives and the friendly atmosphere in the Reading Room were quite sufficient to insure a pleasant hour for all. Shortly before 7:00 p.m., members met in front of the Commons Building to arrange for rides to the Greensville, Ontario home of Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Blackwell at which a delightful garden banquet was held. The evening concluded as members returned to Hamilton somewhat after 11:00 p.m.

Sunday, June 28, 1981

Breakfast was again taken in the Vallance Memorial Dining Hall. The final session was called to order at 9:35 a.m. by President Davis. Robert Lombardi then presented "Nuclear Disarmament: A Plan for Peace" in which he expounded his own proposals for reducing American and Soviet armaments. This was followed by "Detours on the Road to Freedom: Russell and Today's English Left" given by David S. Hart who recently returned from an extended stay in Cambridge. Due to time limitations, a refreshment break was combined with discussions of these two papers. Lastly, Kenneth Blackwell spoke on "How Russell Planned to Achieve Compossibility" which replaced his previously announced paper, "Russell's Ethics--A New Look", and which included considerable material on Russell's admiration of Spinoza. Following a concluding discussion period, at 12:08 p.m. the session was adjourned. An informal lunch was then held in the cafeteria of the Health Sciences Center.

f of Directors of The Bertrand Russell Society, Inc. met in two sions on Friday, June 26 and Saturday, June 27, 1981 at McMaster Hamilton, Ontario, Canada.

June 26, 1981

The Chairman of the Board of Directors, Peter G. Cranford, called the first session to order at 10:08 p.m. in Room 207 of Chester New Hall. The following ten Board members were present: Peter G. Cranford, Kenneth Blackwell, Dennis J. Darland. Robert K. Davis, Lee Eisler, Don Jackanicz, Raymond Plant, Stephen J. Reinhardt, Cherie Ruppe, and Katharine Tait. The following twelve Board members were not present: Adam Paul Banner, Jack R. Cowles, Lester E. Denonn, Martin A. Garstens, Ali Ghaemi, Edwin E. Hopkins, J. B. Neilands, Harry Ruja, Gary M. Slezak, Beverly Smith, Warren Allen Smith, and P. K. Tucker.

Non-Board member Robert Lombardi raised the problem of John Sutcliffe by questioning whether an official BRS endorsement process exists for ideas and opinions put forth by individual members. The Board responded that each BRS member is free to speak for himself or herself and may bring up any issue at BRS meetings; however, the statements of individual members must not be represented as being endorsed by the BRS unless specific Board or general membership consent is given. Non-Board member Alvin Hofer, who had been recognized to speak by Chairman Cranford, then turned the Board's attention to his proposed Bylaw amendment regarding the expulsion of members. His "working document" (see attached) and his statement in its support stressed the need for absolute fairness for one whose expulsion is being considered. Chairman Cranford, Robert K. Davis, and Lee Eisler recounted the history leading to the expulsion of Mr. Sutcliffe with the latter two Board members agreeing that his expulsion had been scrupulously based on Bylaw procedures and was conducted with fairness. The Chairman. however, raised doubts as to the propriety of the procedures used. Raymond Plant then moved that Alvin Hofer's "working document" be officially received by the Chairman for Board study. This motion was unanimously accepted. Chairman Cranford named a committee consisting of himself as Chairman, Alvin Hofer as Corresponding Secretary, and Raymond Plant and Cherie Ruppe as members to review the expulsion provisions in the Bylaws. He also expressed his intention to write to Mr. Sutcliffe on the Board's discussion of the expulsion topic; his letter, the Chairman stated, would be circulated to all Board members before being mailed to Mr. Sutcliffe.

Turning to the subject of BRS funds, Treasurer Dennis J. Darland briefly reviewed his accounts and began a discussion on the possibility of investing Treasury money which is presently restricted in full to a checking account. Some Board members voiced their concern of possible legal problems which could result from such investments, while it was mentioned that the small amount now in the Treasury could not command particularly high returns in any investment. However, all agreed that it would be preferable to realize some small fund increase through formal" procedures which have been followed to good ends by officers should be placing some amount of Treasury funds in interest-bearing accounts in banks or other relatively secure financial institutions. Robert K. Davis finally moved that the Treasurer. with the cooperation of officers and knowledgeable BRS members, be allowed to invest BRS funds in a responsible manner. This motion was accepted by an eight to two yes vote; Kenneth Blackwell and Raymond Plant voted no.

Next discussed was the best procedure for Board members, officers, and members performing official BRS business to qualify for income tax deductions for their legitimate. non-reimbursed expenses. (The discussion was based on the United States income tax model and may or may not be applicable to those individuals liable for income tax payments in other countries.) Treasurer Dennis J. Darland and Don Jackanicz recounted the latter's late 1980 request that the Treasurer 1. accept his personal check, whose total represented his non-reim-

bursed 1980 BRS expenses plus a contribution to the BRS, and 2. send in return a BRS check in the amount of his non-reimbursed expenses total. Don had expended a considerable amount of his own funds in 1980 for BRS activities and wanted to make his income tax computations and forms as simple as possible; he therefore hoped to use the cancelled personal check as evidence of a contribution to the BRS for income tax purposes rather than to itemize all of his individual expenses as deductions. Dennis explained that he did not honor Don's request as he did not consider the arrangement proper. Don explained that he was following the example of Robert K. Davis who had sent a check under similar circumstances to a previous Treasurer. Discussion brought the Board to the conclusion that it would be preferable for each BRS member acting in an official capacity to be responsible on his own or her own for any income tax deduction and that, though used in the past, the contribution-reimbursement method outlined above should be avoided. Contributions are of course encouraged, and members are to be reimbursed upon request for authorized expenses. But the BRS's best interests require individuals to handle their tax deductions independently.

Board members Kenneth Blackwell and Katharine Tait left the meeting at 11:10 p.m.

The session's last order of business concerned Russell: The Journal of the Bertrand Russell Archives and its infrequency of publication which has disturbed many BRS members. Robert K. Davis stated that the BRS should take some position since a large number of <u>Russell</u> subscriptions are paid for through BRS membership dues. He suggested two possibilities: 1. discontinue subscriptions through the BRS, allowing each individual to subscribe on his or her own as desired; 2. the BRS should pay for Russell only when an issue is published. Discussion continued for a few minutes on this problem. But, owing to the late hour, the meeting was adjourned at 11:18 p.m. by Chairman Cranford with the understanding that a second Board meeting would be held the next day at a location to be announced.

Saturday, June 27, 1981

Chairman Peter G. Cranford called the second session to order at 1:18 p.m. outside in the plaza of Kenneth Taylor Hall. The following seven Board members were present: Peter G. Cranford, Dennis J. Darland, Robert K. Davis, Lee Eisler, Don Jackanicz, Cherie Ruppe, and Raymond Plant. The other fifteen Board members were absent.

Don Jackanicz suggested that, to save limited time and to streamline proceedings, only Board members should be allowed to speak during Board of Directors meetings unless a non-Board member is specifically authorized to speak by the Chairman. His suggestion was briefly discussed, but no formal motion was made.

Two points were then made by Chairman Cranford: 1. in his opinion the "inreplaced by formal ones; 2. regarding the possibility discussed from time to time of organizing a BRS publishing venture, he recommends refocusing on the audio tape medium. especially considering the chaotic structure of the publishing industry and the contemporary appeal of audio-visual materials.

Robert K. Davis reintroduced the question of Russell and what, if any, action the BRS should take regarding its infrequency of publication. He moved that effective January 1, 1982, the BRS is to make payment to McMaster University for the Russell journal at the time of publication. This motion was unanimously accepted. The Secretary was requested to inform McMaster University of the Board's decision via a formal letter.

Discussion turned to the election of officers. Chairman Cranford expressed his view that a change in officers would be beneficial for the BRS. Cherie Ruppe then put forth a blanket resolution for the complete reelection of all incumbent officers. Her motion was unanimously accepted.

The final matter discussed was the proposed 1982 Annual Meeting in Britain. Chairman Cranford voiced the opinion that such a meeting might not be successful because of the great distance involved, considering the majority of the BRS's membership resides in North America; he suggested planning would be difficult and probably few members would be able to make such a major trip. However, Robert K. Davis, who has been the principal advocate and organizer of a Britain meeting, optimistically outlined the successful liaison formed between the BRS and Peter Cadogan of the London South Place Ethical Society, who has offered to work with us in planning a 1982 Annual Meeting at Oxford. Bob also cited the possibility of working with the London-based William Wilberforce Society from which he has recently received encouraging communications. In any event, Bob stated, he will keep all Directors fully informed of his continuing work which, he feels assured, will result in a worthwhile 1982 Britain Annual Meeting.

As the afternoon session of the general BRS meeting was due to begin and as no further business remained to be discussed, Chairman Cranford adjourned the session at 2:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Donald W. Jackanicz Secretary of the Board of Directors The Bertrand Russell Society, Inc.

July 1, 1981

P.S. to the above: Alvin Hofer's "working document" is not included at this time, as it is a preliminary proposal. When the committee produces the final version (on expulsion procedures), it will appear in the newsletter.

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Russell Society News, a quarterly (Lee Eisler, editor): RD 1, Box 409, Coopersburg, J BRS Library: Jack Ragsdale, BRS Co-Librarian, PO Box 28200, Dallas, TX 75228

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