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FROM THE PRESIDENT

Michael J. Rockler, President, The Bertrand Russell Society

As a teacher educator, I often focus on ways to help teachers understand that the behavioral paradigm--an idea popularly known as "behavior modification"--is a limited one for understanding the process of teaching and learning. This model is widely accepted in American teacher education; it was also one embraced by Russell in his first book--Education and the Good Life. When Russell published this volume he was deeply involved in the early childhood education of his first two children, John and Katherine. He apparently had become enamored with behaviorism after reading the works of John B. Watson who was an early proponent of stimulus-response psychology.

Russell ultimately abandoned behaviorism as an educational system. This occurred, in part, because of his experience at the Beacon Hill School and, in part, because of his discovery of Freudian psychology. This change in outlook is reflected in his second book on education--Education and the Social Order. Russell's changed perspective can also be seen in the myriad of other writings on education which BR included in most of his books written for popular consumption (books he called "potboilers").

Russell's views on education were debated by Marvin Kohl and me at the recent annual meeting in San Diego. Those who attended had an enjoyable time. The participants found it pleasant to share long walks for food, great ideas and wonderful company. Harry Ruja presented over sixty slides as he illustrated Bertrand Russell's life in photos at the annual banquet. Two of his daughters were in attendance to see Harry receive the BRS Award. Hal and Joanne Walberg did a marvelous presentation of a reader's theater based on Russell's autobiography. If you weren't in San Diego, you missed an excellent ~~meeting~~ ^{meeting}.

Plan now to attend the 1994 BRS meeting. It will be a joint conference with Free Inquiry and Canadian and International Humanists. The meeting will be held in July 1994 in Toronto. Exact dates and place will be announced later. I hope to see everyone at this special meeting of the Bertrand Russell Society. It is not too early to begin making plans for next summer. Members of the Society who would like to present papers at this meeting should contact me at my new home address: 14213 Chesterfield Road; Rockville, MD 20853. I look forward to hearing from you and to seeing you in Toronto.

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THE 1993 AND THE 1994 ANNUAL MEETINGS

The Russell Society held its 1993 Annual Meeting on the campus of the University of California at San Diego, Friday, June 18-Sunday, June 20. A variety of presentations and activities provided a memorable weekend

experience for those members and guests who attended. The fine San Diego weather, a pleasant campus atmosphere, and the opportunity to interact with others interested in Russell added further to the meeting's success. Our thanks are extended to President Michael Rockler who planned the meeting.

Among the Annual Meeting highlights were:

Paper presentations by Timothy Madigan, "The Will to Believe vs. the Will to Doubt"; Nicholas Griffin, "Lady Ottoline"; Tyler Roberts, "Russell, the Individual, and Society"; Stefan Andersson, "Bertrand Russell's Search for Certainty in Mathematics and Religion"; John Shosky, "Russell and the Contemplation of Philosophy"; Dennis Darland, "What Is Mathematics About?". (Paper abstracts appear elsewhere in this issue.)

A discussion-debate between Marvin Kohl and Michael Rockler on Russell's philosophy of education and other concerns.

A "readers' theater" presentation titled Bertrand Russell Speaks His Mind by Hal and Joanne Walberg. (For more information, refer to the abstracts elsewhere in this issue.)

Presentation of three awards: (1) The BRS Service Award to Marvin Kohl; (2) the BRS Book Award to Nicholas Griffin for The Selected Letters of Bertrand Russell, Volume 1, The Private Years, 1884-1914; (3) the BRS Award to Harry Ruja followed by his "Russell's Life in Photos" presentation.

The Society Business Meeting and the Board of Directors meeting.

Group meals; somewhat lengthy (though pleasant) walks between lodgings, the meeting room, and the dining facility; the Red Hackle Hour at a Mexican restaurant; and the festive Banquet.

More information about the Annual Meeting will be found in the following pages. But now is the time to start thinking about our next Annual Meeting to be held July 8-10, 1994 in Toronto, Canada (exact site to be announced later). The 1994 Annual Meeting will differ from most previous ones by (1) occurring in July rather than June and (2) being held in conjunction with the meetings of two other organizations, i.e. the Humanist Association of Canada and the International Humanist and Ethical Union.

Planning for the 1994 BRS Annual Meeting (and the HAC and IHAEU meetings) is in its early stages. However, if you are interested in submitting an Annual Meeting presentation proposal (a formal paper, a discussion session, a workshop, or whatever), please contact President Michael Rockler (14213 Chesterfield Road; Rockville, MD 20853; U.S.A.). He will be very happy to hear from you.

Toronto is only about 50 miles from Hamilton, home of the Bertrand Russell Archives at McMaster University. A group visit to the Russell Archives is a possibility. An individual trip to the Russell Archives may be in order for those working on Russell research. In any event, being so close to Hamilton is an added reason for coming to the BRS Toronto meeting next year. November's RSN will have more preliminary information on the BRS 1994 Annual Meeting.

(3) MINUTES OF THE 1993 BERTRAND RUSSELL SOCIETY ANNUAL MEETING

Donald W. Jackanicz, Secretary

The 1993 Annual Meeting of The Bertrand Russell Society was held on the campus of the University of California at San Diego, Friday, June 18-Sunday, June 20. Except as noted, events took place in Room 150 of the University Extension Campus building complex.

Friday, June 18

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by President Michael Rockler. Following general announcements, President Rockler presented the BRS Service Award to Marvin Kohl. Timothy J. Madigan then read his paper, "The Will to Believe vs. the Will to Doubt." Gladys Leithauser, head of the Book Award Committee, then presented the 1993 BRS Book Award to Nicholas Griffin for The Selected Letters of Bertrand Russell, Volume 1, The Private Years, 1884-1914, after which Prof. Griffin read his paper, "Lady Ottoline." The session was recessed at 9:45 p.m. The Board of Directors meeting was then held outside the Muir College Apartments.

Saturday, June 19

President Rockler reconvened the meeting at 8:30 a.m. Presentations were made by the winners of the first Prizes for Papers competition: Tyler W. Roberts, "Russell, the Individual, and Society" and Stefan Andersson, "Bertrand Russell's Search for Certainty in Mathematics and Religion." The next paper, "Russell and the Contemplation of Philosophy," was read by John Shosky.

With President Rockler in the chair, the Society Business Meeting began at 11:15 a.m. Vice President John Lenz summarized the events of the previous night's Board of Directors meeting. Treasurer Dennis Darland reported a Treasury balance of \$5,308.96. President Rockler provided information about the July 8-10, 1994 BRS Annual Meeting to be held in Toronto in conjunction with meetings of the Humanist Association of Canada and the International Humanist and Ethical Union. Mention was made that Russell Society News editor Donald Jackanicz would like to step down from that position and that a new editor is therefore needed. Vice President Lenz spoke about the Prizes for Papers program and encouraged members to publicize this annual competition. A general discussion ensued concerning how to increase the BRS membership. The Society Business Meeting was adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

The meeting was reconvened by President Rockler at 2:00 p.m., when Hal Walberg and Joanne Walberg presented a "readers' theater" version of the monodrama Bertrand Russell Speaks His Mind. Marvin Kohl and Michael Rockler then read separate papers, respectively "Russell and the Elimination of Fear" and an unnamed paper, that in part related to Russell's educational theories. The session was adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

The Red Hackle Hour took place at Los Torritos Restaurant, about one mile from the University Extension Campus, beginning at 5:30 p.m. Attendees then reassembled for the Banquet at 7:00 p.m. at the University's Third College Restaurant at La Casa. Following the meal, Marvin Kohl presented the 1993 BRS Award to Harry Ruja, who afterward gave an intriguing slide lecture titled "Russell's Life in Photos." The Banquet ended at 9:15 p.m.

Sunday, June 20

President Rockler reconvened the meeting at 9:00 a.m., and Dennis Darland presented his paper, "What Is Mathematics About?" Donald Jackanicz then led a workshop discussion of Russell's essay "A Philosophy for Our Time," which appears in Portraits from Memory. (Another scheduled speaker, Gonzalo Garcia, who was to have read a paper titled "Did Bertrand Russell Think of Himself as a Pacifist?," was unable to be present.) In the absence of President Rockler, the meeting was adjourned by Board of Directors Chairman Marvin Kohl at 12:10 p.m.

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MINUTES OF THE 1993 BERTRAND RUSSELL SOCIETY BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING

John Lenz, Acting Secretary

The Board of Directors convened, together with other interested members, al fresco on the campus of the University of California, San Diego, at 10:15 p.m. on Friday, June 18, 1993. Chairman Marvin Kohl chaired the meeting. John Lenz took the minutes as Donald Jackanicz attended to some of our cars which were the unfortunante victims of vandalism.

The reading of minutes from the previous meeting was waived.

President Michael Rockler expressed concern that the Society's membership had dropped to 230 or 240 members. We agreed to conduct a review of our advertising policy in cooperation with Lee Eisler. Tim Madigan suggested The Humanist of Canada as a possible new journal to advertise in.

On the motion of Treasurer Dennis Darland, the Board voted to move the Society's checking account to Lincoln, Nebraska, where Dennis will soon be moving. This entails closing the existing account near Dennis' current residence.

Marvin Kohl reported that a professor in India (about whom not enough was known at present) was nominated for the BRS Award. It was agreed to refer this to the Award Committee.

There was a desire to continue the "Prize for Papers" program. Nicholas Griffin suggested that students would benefit from a later deadline.

In discussion, a deadline of April 1 was agreed upon. A possible name-change, such as the "Younger Scholars Program," was considered but left to the discretion of the committee.

The current slate of officers was re-elected: Board Chairman, Marvin Kohl; President, Michael Rockler; Vice President, John Lenz; Vice President/Information, Lee Eisler; Secretary, Donald Jackanicz; Treasurer, Dennis Darland.

The Board decided to hold the 1994 Annual Meeting in Toronto in conjunction with the meetings of the Humanist Association of Canada and the International Humanist and Ethical Union. Austin, Texas was proposed for 1995 provided that John Lenz is still living in that area to make the arrangements.

Michael Rockler introduced the proposal of the CIGNA Company to sell insurance through the BRS, with the Society to receive a percentage of all premiums sold. He stressed the Society's need to promote its financial health. Several Board members voiced their reservations, and the consensus was to not pursue this matter.

Marvin Kohl reported on Thom Weidlich's proposal to organize a mock trial of the City College case for a future annual meeting. This will be considered further.

Michael Rockler proposed raising dues in two categories, "Student" and "Limited Income," to \$20. Both are currently \$12.50 and have not been raised in some time, and a high percentage of members claims one of these two categories. The current rate hardly meets our costs for the newsletter and Russell subscriptions. Dennis Darland seconded this motion, and it passed unanimously. It was also decided to request a copy of a student ID for membership in the "Student" category, in accordance with common practice.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:55 p.m.

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PRIZES FOR PAPERS COMPETITION

A sheet titled "Announcing Prizes for Papers" accompanies this RSN issue. As the sheet indicates, this is the second year for the Prize for Papers competition, which replaced the former BRS doctoral and masters grants program.

We congratulate the two 1993 Prize winners, Tyler Roberts and Stefan Andersson, who presented their papers at the June Annual Meeting in San Diego. Congratulations, too, go to Alex Lo and Santosh Makkuni, who received Honorable Mentions in the competition.

The Prizes for Papers announcement will be mailed to a number of universities, colleges, and organizations in Canada and the United States. The high cost of mailing prevents us from sending announcements to institutions in other countries, but this is indeed intended to be an international competition.

All BRS members are encouraged to publicize the Prizes for Papers competition at universities, colleges, and other appropriate institutions in their area.

If you have questions about this program, please contact BRS Vice President John Lenz (Department of Modern and Classical Languages; Texas A & M University; College Station, TX 77843-4238; U.S.A.).

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NEWS ABOUT THE NEWSLETTER

1. Contributions Sought. All members and interested non-members are invited to submit materials to Russell Society News editor Donald Jackanicz (3802 North Kenneth Avenue; Chicago, IL 60641-2814; U.S.A.) for possible newsletter use. If in doubt as to their appropriateness, nevertheless please send in your materials. Of particular interest are your original Russell-related book reviews, short essays, letters, questions for the membership, etc. Thanks.

2. How to Help the BRS Save on Postage Expenses. As the majority of BRS members have U.S. addresses and since the newsletter is prepared in Chicago, we are fortunate to be able to use inexpensive U.S. third class non-profit organization mailing rates for most of our mailings. If you are moving, we would very much appreciate receiving early word of your new address. This will insure getting your newsletter to you without unnecessary delays and in some instances without costing the BRS additional postage. When a newsletter sent to a U.S. address is returned to Chicago because of an address change, we must pay both the first class postage due on the return and, as a courtesy to the member that will speed things up, first class postage on the replacement mailing. This procedure ends up costing the BRS considerably more postage money than would otherwise be the case if members who have or who are about to move would promptly let us know their new address. Thanks to thoughtful members who have helped with this in the past and who will do so in the future.

3. A NEW NEWSLETTER EDITOR IS NEEDED. Donald Jackanicz, who succeeded Lee Eisler as Russell Society News editor, would like to step down from this position. Don, who has edited eight BRS newsletters over two years, hopes to be able to devote more time to other pursuits, including some relating to Russell and the BRS. Until his successor is found, Don will continue as editor, but he would strongly prefer for his successor to be decided on by early 1994. If you are interested in assuming this role of considerable importance in maintaining the BRS's identity in the period between annual meetings, please contact Don (address above) or President Michael Rockler (14213 Chesterfield Road; Rockville, MD 20853; U.S.A.). It is quite a task to produce RSN every three months, but it is work well worth doing.

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ANNUAL MEETING PRESENTATION ABSTRACTS

Six of the persons making presentations at the June 18-20, 1993 BRS Annual Meeting in San Diego provided these presentation abstracts. (There are only five abstracts as two of the six presenters made a joint presentation.)

1. Marvin Kohl, "Russell and the Elimination of Fear"

Russell's claim is that all fear is bad; that fear is the primary emotional-attitudinal evil because it produces the most detrimental kind of helplessness and unhappiness; and that all fear (both conscious and unconscious) can be eliminated. This paper agrees that fear is often a great enemy against which we must do primary battle. But it presents evidence which suggests that fear may be much more intractable than Russell would have us believe.

2. Tim Madigan, "The Will to Believe vs. The Will to Doubt"

Bertrand Russell was concerned that William James' doctrine of "the will to believe," which held that people have a right to believe what satisfies them provided there is no evidence against this, could lead to unsatisfactory consequences for both the individual and for society as a whole. While Russell's caveats are themselves difficult to prove empirically (many people seem to function very well adhering to beliefs they cannot prove), one can still admire his defense of honesty and the virtue of seeking the truth.

3. Harry Ruja, "Russell's Life in Photos"

The illustrated lecture by Harry Ruja presented photos of Russell at various significant moments in his life. There was first a portrait of him at two years of age when he had already lost (or was about to lose--there is some uncertainty as to the exact date of the photograph) his mother, followed two years later by the death of his father, and two years after that by the death of his grandfather, at age 86. This experience at an impressionable age of the successive deaths of members of his immediate family may well have produced in his temperament a lifelong propensity to anticipate disaster, indeed even the end of life on this planet. This tendency was reinforced by the spectacle of civilized nations during the years 1914-1918 sacrificing their youth to national pride and ambition.

Counteracting this dark element in Russell's temperament was the love and care he received from his grandmother, a woman of remarkable intellectual accomplishments and liberal views.

Photos were shown of Russell standing in front of the Bow Street Court where he was tried twice for obstructing the government's military goals. We saw him with his wives on different occasions soon after his first marriage, in China with the woman who was to become his second wife, with his third wife during the difficult days when his moral fitness to teach at CCNY was challenged, and with his fourth wife trying together to arouse public opposition to nuclear weapons and nuclear war. Samples were exhibited of the work of various political cartoonists and photographers who were fascinated by his unconventional political roles, his profile, and his attachment to his pipe.

Russell angry, Russell anxious and apprehensive, Russell energetic and upbeat, Russell affectionate, Russell happy--the gamut of his emotions was exhibited in the illustrations.

4. John Shosky, "Russell and the Contemplation of Philosophy"

Students always ask, with great justification, "How does one do philosophy?" Perhaps because the methodology is so highly personal to many philosophers, educators ask them to study the history of philosophy and then hope that these students will uncover a set of common approaches, usually in terms of themes and results. But reading about how others do philosophy has only a limited application, and the history of philosophy is sometimes a diversionary tactic, offered up to substitute for a real answer to this simple, straightforward question. Students are asking for a methodology in order to learn how to do philosophy, and instead we often train them to be philosophical historians or critics, opening the door for Foucault, de Man, and Derrida to turn criticism into philosophy. Russell, so often accused of inconsistency, was rather most consistent in following a productive methodology. I argue that there are seven common methodological themes. Based on his constant premise that knowledge is possible, and that the truth can be known, Russell asks us to 1) assume a posture of dispassionate inquisition, 2) formulate testable beliefs, 3) utilize a process of philosophical analysis (putting problems under a "logical microscope," and shaving problems and solutions down to their most elementary, necessary constituents with Occam's razor), 4) use the techniques of logic whenever appropriate ("logic is the essence of philosophy"), 5) redirect the emotions to embrace a love of mankind and a love of wisdom, 6) exercise reasonable tolerance (opening the door to new ideas without embracing philosophical rubbish), and 7) set aside ample time for philosophical contemplation, remembering that there is no substitute for hard work. If this paper is successful and accurately reflects his methodology, it could be offered as Russell's answer to the

student's perennial question -- How does somebody do philosophy?", and it could help that student to become a philosopher instead of only a historian or a critic.

5. Hal and Joanne Walberg, Bertrand Russell Speaks His Mind

The Walbergs presented an hour long 'readers' theater' version of a script for a monodrama, Bertrand Russell Speaks His Mind, constructed from the Russell corpus. The final version of the script is intended for a fully staged theatrical production to be performed by a graduate student in Theater Arts at Mankato State University at some future time. In the 'BRS-San Diego' version, Russell addressed the themes of mysticism and logic, war and peace, doubt and faith, and youth and old age. Russell was characteristically profound in his remarks about men, women, sex, love, the quest for certainty, burglars, officers-of-the-court, religious prophets, philosophers, and other essentially comic subjects.

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BRS AWARD PRESENTATION TO HARRY RUJA

At the June 1993 Annual Meeting, BRS Board of Directors Chairman Marvin Kohl presented the 1993 BRS Award to Harry Ruja. We would again like to salute Harry for his years of Russell scholarship. Here is the text of Marvin's presentation ceremony remarks:

We have all felt, and benefited from, Harry Ruja's presence. He has been a robust member of The Bertrand Russell Society since 1974; a board member, board chairman, Life Service Award recipient, program participant, and frequent contributor to the Russell Society News.

Harry has had a distinguished academic career: BA with honors in philosophy, UCLA, 1933; MA, University of Chicago, 1934; Ph.D., Princeton University in 1936. In 1955, he published Psychology for Life, one of the best psychology textbooks of its time; edited Mortals and Others, Bertrand Russell's American Essays in 1975; and is co-author, with Kenneth Blackwell, of two forthcoming volumes entitled A Bibliography of Bertrand Russell. He is the author of many reviews, letters, and articles. My own work was influenced by his paper "Russell on the Meaning of 'Good'," one of the four works cited by Paul Edwards in his Encyclopedia of Ethics article on Bertrand Russell.

Few men more naturally abhor cognitive exaggeration. Like Russell, he passionately advocates going by the evidence and foregoing belief where adequate evidence is lacking.

Most important, Harry is a living example of a highest kind of courage. The kind of courage described by Russell as the ability to

control the impulse of panic fear, and to continue working calmly and rationally in the face of danger and great physical adversity.

It is with admiration and much affection that I present this plaque on behalf of the Society. The inscription reads

The Bertrand Russell Society Award to Harry Ruja
In recognition of
His distinguished contributions to Russell scholarship,
Devotion to the ideal of rationality,
And his inspirational fortitude.

June 1993

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GORDON HALL ASKS FOR HELP

We received this June 10, 1993 letter from Gordon I. Hall (P.O. Box 4193; Sevierville, TN 37864; USA). If you can be of help, please write to him.

As a new member of the BRS I have had occasion in my readings and in those of AHA which I have also joined to come across the name of Prometheus on several occasions. Do you know of any other contrarian publishers who might be persuaded to accept an unsolicited manuscript with a distinct humanistic bent?

If you are unable to suggest someone, could you put me in touch with someone who could? Your help in this matter is very much appreciated.

Sincerely,

GORDON I. HALL

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WHO WAS IAN DRYDEN?

Bob Davis located this Ian Dryden obituary in a June 1993 Los Angeles area newspaper. Note the statement that Dryden was once BR's private secretary.

■ **Ian Dryden; International Photojournalist**

Ian Dryden, 48, international photojournalist whose work was exhibited in the United States, Mexico, England and Scotland. Born in London and brought up in Wales, Dryden studied engineering and architecture in Edinburgh. After a year as private secretary to Bertrand Russell, he delved into photography. Moving to the United States, he worked as a staff photographer for the San Diego Union and then the Los Angeles Times, leaving in 1985 to become a free-lancer. He worked as company photographer for many theater groups including the LA Actors Theater Center, San Quentin Drama Workshop and the San Diego Dance Theater. On May 30 in Cambridgeshire, England, of lung cancer.

The obituary does tell us who Dryden was, but what more is known of his BR connection? No Dryden index references appear in BR studies we checked. Does anyone have more information on Ian Dryden?