

NEWSLETTER #9
January 1976

- (1) The BRS will have a session at the psychologists' meeting (2). The Philosophers' Committee calls for papers, for December 1976 (15). The Neilands article, "Science and the Biosphere," is published (12,47). The index is at the end (50). An asterisk in the left column indicates a request or an offer to lend.
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COMING EVENTS

- (2) BRS at the American Psychological Association. MARY ENGEL plans to set up a BRS session at this APA meeting in Washington, D.C., September 3-7, 1976. BRS psychologists who would like to be kept informed or who might possibly participate in the session should write Dr. Mary Engel, Apt. 12G, 4455 Douglas Avenue, Riverdale, N.Y. 10471.
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REPORTS FROM OFFICERS

- (3) President Peter G. Cranford reports:

"During the second year of our existence we have roughly doubled our membership.

"A moment of truth, for the BRS, comes when a member's first year is up. Will he or she renew, or not? Has the BRS given him what he wanted, so that he now wants to renew membership? People join the BRS with all kinds of expectations -- for which we are not responsible. Some are bound to be disappointed; they do not renew. But the great majority do renew, and that is a source of intense satisfaction.

"We continue to attract highly intelligent liberals with a high degree of common sense. Many have considerable academic training. We are beginning, too, to become an international society in fact, and within the next two years the time will come about when we will feel ready to begin taking stands consonant with our purposes. We are now represented in Canada (our mecca), Denmark, West Germany, Nigeria, Colombia, Japan, and England. John Sutcliffe is actively working to found a BRS in Britain and his progress, spirit, and dedication give us reason to believe that his effort will not be a weak one.

"Although we continue to operate with limited funds and without a finance chairman (we are seeking one), our finances are adequate for our present needs and purposes. The existence of the Newsletter is assured. I am happy about this, since correspondence from the membership about this activity is almost completely laudatory and appreciative.

"I am no longer anxious about the survival and growth of the Society. It is a strong baby. But I am anxious about the fact that we do not have an even stronger degree of compossibility between the Society and its individual members. I may be premature in my anxiety since I strongly believe in large margins of safety, and our present compossibility via the Newsletter, friendly communications between members, and opportunities to serve, may be enough -- as it is for many organizations. But my subconscious tells me that this is not enough when the principles (to which we all seem to be committed) are of the highest magnitude. I solicit the membership for ideas in this connection. Without a higher degree of compossibility, fast growth is unlikely.

"I am not particularly concerned about fast growth at this time. What is needed is a very "hard-core" group of committed Russellites (perhaps Red Hackle-ites) who will give the Society the direction that Russell would approve of if he were alive. Perhaps this can best be done by expanding the Board of Directors to 24, with requirements of permanent commitment, attendance at Directors' meetings, heading a productive committee, and such other requirements as might be suggested by the members."

(4) Secretary Jack Pitt reports:

"I am preparing a revision of the by-laws, taking into account the many helpful comments and suggestions I have received, for presentation for action at the meeting in December(1975)."

(5) Treasurer Katharine Tait reports, as of November 15, 1975:

Balance on hand (August 1, 1975).....	1573.89	
Income: Pledges and contributions.....	386.99	
Dues (new and renewals).....	<u>549.00</u>	935.99
		<u>2509.88</u>
Expenditures: Information Committee.....	1024.04	
McMaster (42 subs).....	126.00	
Georgia corporation fee, 1976.....	<u>5.00</u>	1155.04
		<u>1155.04</u>
Balance on hand.....		1354.84

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

(6) Applied Philosophy Committee (Martin A. Garstens, Chairperson):

"I have become very interested in BR's views on ethics, and we will probably go through his book, "Human Society in Ethics and Politics," and his earlier essay on ethics. I have been reading widely in ethics and have been in touch with other groups deeply concerned with ethical problems, i.e., the Humanists and the Ethical Culture Society. We have a lot to

learn from them in practical matters, but the strength gained from presenting a central philosophy of the caliber of Russell's is considerable, I think. It provides a coherence which these groups perhaps lack."

Information Committee (Lee Eisler, Chairperson):

- (7) New Co-Chairperson, Membership Committee. "I am very glad to report that, in response to the memo of 11/10/75, CAROL MULL has offered to handle inquiries and enrollments, as Co-Chairperson of the Membership Committee. (The Membership Committee is a subdivision of the Information Committee.) Carol was formerly supervisor of trust accounting at a bank; inquiries and enrollments are now clearly in very competent (and willing) hands.
- (8) Advertising. "Our small classified ad will appear in the following publications, at about 2-month intervals throughout the year: APA MONITOR, ATLANTIC MONTHLY, BULLETIN OF THE ATOMIC SCIENTISTS, HARPER'S MAGAZINE, THE HUMANIST, MENSA, THE NEW REPUBLIC, THE PROGRESSIVE, with a view to achieving and maintaining, in 1976, a membership of 150.
"We will probably continue to operate at a deficit — a deficit made up by contributions from members — but the deficit should be considerably smaller than the 1974 deficit of \$1100 (excluding contributions.) I mention this financial item here, since it is the Information Committee that spends most of the BRS's money.
- (9) Back issues curtailed. "Until recently we had been supplying new members with all back issues of the Newsletter. This was desirable because it told new members everything that had happened to date.
"But as back issues multiplied, the cost of supplying them became excessive. The first 8 Newsletters — which total 154 pages, at about 5¢ per page — cost us about \$7.70; to mail them costs an additional \$1 (or more) postage. Furthermore, the number of back issues keeps increasing, and so does the cost of postage. We could not afford to continue to supply all back issues.
"This is what we are now doing: we supply back issues of the current (calendar) year. We offer a previous year's issues for \$5 (per year.) If a new member wishes merely to read — but not buy — previous years' issues, we will lend them, for \$1 (to defray postage.)
- (10) The next Newsletter, #10, would "ordinarily come out in April, but I am going to be out of the country from sometime in February to sometime in May, and there is just no way that I can get a Newsletter out in April or May. I'm not happy about postponing NL 10, because it will report on the "annual Meeting and on the 2nd BRS session at APA, which, at this point in BRS history, are our 2 most important annual events. I will try to get NL 10 out before I leave; otherwise there will probably be a double issue in July."

(11) Philosophers' Committee (Edwin E. Hopkins, Chairperson):

BRS at APA. " I have virtually finished work on this year's meeting (December 28, 1975), and am beginning work on next year's. I have sent the announcement, calling for papers (for 1976) to Russell, Journal of Philosophy, Philosophy and Phenomenological Research, The Review of Metaphysics, the APA Bulletin, and the BRS Newsletter (see Item 15). All of these journals published our announcement last year.

"Our 1975 Program has been published in the APA Special Eastern Division Program and The Journal of Philosophy. It is first in the listing and can't be missed."

Also see Items 16 and 17, under the heading, PHILOSOPHERS' CORNER.

(12) Committee on Science (J.B. Neilands, Chairperson):

Joe Neiland's article "Science and the Biosphere," originally intended for "Organic Gardening" (NL5-5), has appeared instead in the same publisher's "Environment Action Bulletin," of November 29, 1975. "Rodale decided that this fitted better in their Bulletin, as I was not able to relate it to the culture of giant sunflowers. The Bulletin audience, although smaller, is more action-oriented than is that of 'Organic Gardening'."

The article is reproduced, Item 47.

ABOUT BERTRAND RUSSELL

(13) Re BR's mysticism: "The emphasis on BR's mysticism," writes GEORGE SESSION, "and its compatibility with rational scientific approaches will assume increasing importance, I should think. After writing my material (NL8-35), I stumbled across the closing chapters of Jager's 'The Development of Russell's Philosophy,' and he gives much the same analysis of Russell's religious views as I did, stressing Russell's paper, 'The Essence of Religion.' This section in Jager should be required reading for any Russellite who conceives BR as the arch-atheist and supreme no-nonsense rationalist."

(14) "Alley-cat" tossed back. T.S. Matthew's statement -- "Bertrand Russell had a first-rate mind, humane aspirations, and the sexual morals of an alley-cat," (NL8-31) -- does not sit well with KEN BLACKWELL, whose caustic response is: "T.S. Matthews has the scholarship of an alley-cat."

Ken goes on to say:

"If he had really wanted to get at the truth, he would have extended his researches to The Russell Archives to see if there was anything definite on the 'seduction of Vivienne Eliot' problem. He might also have read BR's letters to Lady Ottoline Morrell. (They're at Texas, but McMaster has copies.) Ronald W. Clark's Life of Bertrand Russell has the fullest discussion, but let me quote from a letter BR wrote to another writer on Eliot in 1968. He said: 'I never had any intimate sexual relations with Vivienne.' From all that I have seen, this seems to be true, though the key phrase of the statement invites philosophical analysis."

PHILOSOPHERS' CORNER

- (15) A call for papers, deadline June 1, 1976, to be presented before The Bertrand Russell Society, Inc., at the December 1976 meeting in Boston of the Eastern Division of the American Philosophical Association: papers may be on any aspect of Russell's philosophy. They should have a reading time of about half an hour, should be submitted in triplicate, typed, double-spaced; with an abstract of 150 words maximum. The author's name and address and the paper's title should be on a separate page. Please send papers to Edwin Hopkins, Chairman, Philosophers' Committee, The Bertrand Russell Society, Inc., 352 S. Drew Street, Baltimore, Md. 21224.
- (16) Russell Interchange, begun last issue as a continuing feature of the Newsletter, offers a service to authors who desire critical reactions to their papers on BR. We print abstracts of papers that are available on request from their authors. Abstracts should be sent to Edwin Hopkins, Chairman, Philosophers' Committee, The Bertrand Russell Society, Inc., 352 S. Drew Street, Baltimore, Md. 21224. One such abstract follows:
- (17) "A Name By Any Other Name Is Still A Name." Abstract:
 Recently, Saul Kripke has made use of the notion of possible worlds to try to handle the philosophical problem of naming. Kripke argues that his notion of rigid designator is preferable to Russell's logically proper name. I argue that Kripke is beset with the same major difficulties which faced Russell, and that Kripke, like Russell, is methodologically committed to a doctrine of acquaintance and ostension. I also argue that Kripke is committed to acquaintance with bare particulars and species, thus extending (unacceptably) Russell's doctrine of acquaintance. Rigid designators are simply names by another name.
- * Paper available from Dr. James F. Harris, Jr., Department of Philosophy, College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, Va. 23185.
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SPECIAL REQUESTS

- (18) BR on women's rights. Our recent request for quotations that show BR as an early champion of women's rights (NL8-38) brought a quick response from KEN BLACKWELL. Ken reminded us of BR's essay, "The Status of Women," written about 1907 and published for the first time 66 years later, in the Summer 1973 issue of "Russell."
 As a result, we now have a double-page, BERTRAND RUSSELL ON THE SUBJECTION OF WOMEN — most of it stemming from Ken's suggestion — as part of our information package that is sent to people who inquire about the BRS. It is reproduced in Item 48. Also see Item 46.
- (19) BR on Marx: quotations wanted. We'd like to collect BR quotes on Marx.
- * If you know of any or come across any, please send them to the Newsletter (address on bottom of Page 1).

Can anyone supply the source of the following quote:

"Marx pretended that he wanted the happiness of the proletariat. What he really wanted was the unhappiness of the bourgeoisie — and it was because of the negative element, because of that hate element, that his philosophy produced disaster."

CURRENT PUBLIC ISSUES

(20)

Nuclear power. ANITA JOYCE LEVINE has sent us a short pamphlet, "Why 138 Communities Are Fighting Nuclear Power," issued by the Citizens Energy Council, National Committee To Stop Environmental Pollution, Allendale, N.J. 07401 and by Solar Energy Coalition of Texas, P.O. Box 28228, San Antonio, Tx. 78228. It states the case against nuclear power. Some quotes:

"I hope the safety of this country will never be made dependent upon almost superhuman engineering and operational qualities." Sir Alan Cottrell, Science Advisor to the British Cabinet.

"The reason we don't have solar power is that the oil companies don't own the sun." Ralph Nader.

"It's a hard way to boil water." Mike Gravel, U.S. Senator, (Alaska).

(21)

Senate Bill S.1, and House Bill H.R.3907, known as the "Criminal Justice Reform Act of 1975," seem to be based, as someone has said, on the proposition that Watergate never happened and never could. Under S.1, an otherwise illegal act by a government official could be immune to prosecution "if covered by an official grant of express permission or based on a written interpretation issued by the head of a government agency." On the other hand, public access to defense information is prohibited with penalties for violation ranging up to death. Even reporting cost overruns on a new weapon or racial trouble at an army base could be considered a felony unless a reporter learned about it from a government handout. Had S.1 been the law when the Pentagon papers were published, Ellsberg and Russo — and executives of The New York Times, The Washington Post and Beacon Press — would have been jailed, according to the Unitarian-Universalist World News, of 11/1/75. S.1 contains many other infringements on civil liberties, and its sponsors include Senators McClelland, Hruska, Eastland, Fong, Griffin, Mansfield, Moss, Scott (Pa.), Taft and Tower. ANITA JOYCE LEVINE, who provided all this information, suggests you write your Senators and Representative to protest against this bill. She protested to Senator Birch Bayh, an early sponsor (who, incidentally, is not her senator), and was pleased to see that he dropped sponsorship because of public reaction. In case you're still hesitating: S.1 was drafted, in large part, under Nixon, by John Mitchell and Richard Kleindienst.

(22)

Nader. We reproduce a page from Ralph Nader's Public Citizen literature, telling where to write for materials in 7 areas of citizen-action: Item 49.

- (23) Warning. We have received a pamphlet, "Warning to you! From God Almighty!" sent by the Christian Mission Society (non-sectarian) of Phoenix.
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OPINIONS

- (24) More on mysticism. JOHN SUTCLIFFE disagrees with PETER CRANFORD'S views on mysticism (NL7-9):

"To accept Dr. Cranford's mystical view of Russell would be an act of self-deception, for it would be to admit premisses which give way to consequences other than those of Russell's 'ideal.' His ambition is an admirable one, which may, if adopted, admit more who would otherwise abhor the Russellian point of view; but by doing so, would we be true to the legacy of Russell? I think not."

- * On request, we will lend John's 3-page paper that contains the above quote. It also states his views on criticisms of COH (Conquest of Happiness) that have appeared in the Newsletter (NL3-16).
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LOCAL CHAPTERS

- (25) Fresno. JACK PITT reports, from California State University, that "the BRS-Philosophy Club is alive and well, yet we need to improve ways of reaching non-academics."
- (26) NYC. DON JACKANICZ and DAN MC DONALD, both at NYU, made serious efforts to start a NYC chapter. They sent several letters to BRS members living in the area, they put up notices on NYU bulletin boards, etc. But they underestimated the amount of time it takes to get a chapter going, time that — as graduate students working for advanced degrees — they could not spare for activities outside their studies. Consequently, a NYC chapter is out for the present. We thank them very much for their efforts in behalf of the BRS. (Don, incidentally, may write his doctoral thesis on BR. His field is modern European history.)
Does anyone else want to get things going in NYC?
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BRS AUTHORS

- (27) "My Father, Bertrand Russell," by KATHARINE TAIT (Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, 1975, \$9.95). MARTIN GARSTENS considers it "a very important contribution towards understanding BR, that should be read by everyone. It is a poignant description of the problems which arise in attempting to attain BR's main goal: 'reason in society and in our lives'."

- (28) "Russell on Religion," by JACK PITT, in "International Journal for Philosophy of Religion" (Vol.VI, No.1, Spring 1975, Martinus Nijhoff, The Hague), 40. A highly interesting 14-page essay, examining the complexity of BR's attitude toward religion.
- * We will lend it on request.
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NEW MEMBERS

- (29) We are happy to welcome these new members:

Dr. Jean Anderson/93600 West Fork Indian Creek Road/Swisshome, Or. 97480
Frank Arceneaux, Jr./ Rt. 1 Box 75-R/Carencro, La. 70520
Anne Ayers/326 Lafayette Road/Yorktown, Va. 23690
Rebert Cranfill/4619 S.Willow Street/ Seattle, Wa. 98118
Alberto Donadio/Ap. Aereo 16914/Bogota, Colombia

William McKenzie Goodrich/ P.O.Box 1316/ Portland, Me. 04104
Cindy Grieve/1937 Chippewa Place/Kent, Oh. 44240
John L. Harwick/97 Waterman Avenue/Albany, N.Y. 12205
Thomas Horne/1625 North 11th Avenue/Phoenix, Az. 85007
Howard K. Jones/707J University Village/Columbia, Mo. 65201

Paul S. Kane/4333 Redwood Avenue, Villa #5/Marina del Rey, Ca. 90291
Lt. Cmdr. Walter H. Kopp/HQ NAVSOUTH/FPO New York 09529
Steve Maragides/2438 Pine Street/Granite City, Il. 62040
John Mitchell/ Westminster College/Fulton, Mo. 65261
James P. O'Connor/2050 Monroe/Eugene, Or. 97405

Miguel Rodriguez/343 - 62nd Street, N.W./Albuquerque, N.M. 87105
Earl M. Ryan/1631 Rockdale Avenue/Lansing, Mi. 48917
Howard Sherman/Apt. 101/165 Duboce Avenue/San Francisco, Ca. 94103
Paul M. Silva/Box 285, Route 6/Bloomington, In. 47401
Greg Skie/4443 Coyle/Houston, Tx. 77023

ADDRESS CHANGES AND CORRECTIONS

- (30) Please note the following changes and corrections:

Dan Anderson/2015 E. 34 N./Sioux City, S.D. 57104
Robert K. Davis/7025 W. Franklin #86/Hollywood, Ca. 90068
Karen Garrison/ Box 605/Durham, N.H. 03824
David B. Greenman/12-10 Deer Creek Drive/Plainsboro, N.J. 08536
Ronald C. Rybnikar/48 Sunny Valley Road/Apt. S/New Milford, Ct. 06776

Dr. Grahame Weinbren/Dept. of Philosophy/California State College/
Dominguez Hills, Ca. 90747

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

- (31) Renewal procedure works this way: suppose John Doe first became a member of the BRS on April 14, 1975. Early in the month preceding his anniversary month (ie, early in March 1976), we will mail a renewal request. We will like it very much if John responds by sending his next year's dues almost immediately. Many members do; but not all. There is a 2-month grace period. If dues are not paid by the end of June(that is, before July 1st),we classify John Doe as an ex-member.

The 2-month grace period is experimental. We may modify or eliminate it in future. If most members who renew do so without using the grace period, we will probably eliminate it.

MEMBERSHIP ANALYSIS AND STATISTICS

- (32) Student membership:30%. We place a high value on the 30% of our members who are students, for several reasons: students are usually more open to new ideas than the rest of us; every new student member is a potential spreader of BR's views for many years to come; and student members represent the future -- the BRS will someday be in their hands.

Student memberships, at \$5 per year, do not half cover the cost of the mailings we send to members. Nevertheless, we think it's good policy to get as many student members as we can. It's an investment in the future.

- (33) Current membership total: as of 12/1/75, we had 140 members (135 paid-up + 5 in grace-period limbo) and 19 ex-members.
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BULLETIN BOARD

- (34) Job wanted.RON RYBNIKAR has received his B.A., and asks whether "anyone knows of a Social Studies(secondary level) teaching position. Anywhere." His address: 48 Sunny Valley Road,Apt. S, New Milford, Ct. 06776.

- (35) Going to Europe? Any BRS member going to Europe should give consideration to paying a visit to JOHN SUTCLIFFE. John is in process of setting up an English BRS (or an English chapter of the BRS, we're not sure which). Our only contacts with him to date have been by mail, and face-to-face meetings would no doubt be enjoyable and fruitful. His address: 9,Naseby Avenue, Higher Blackley,Manchester M9 2JJ, England. If you think you may visit John, please let Peter Cranford know. (Dr. Peter G. Cranford, 2108½ Walton Way, Augusta, Ga. 30904.)
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SPECIAL INTERESTS

- (36) Freethought catalog. "The American Rationalist, A Bi-Monthly Freethought Magazine" -- in which we originally saw the article, "75 Years of Rationalism" (NL8-56) -- offers to send an 8-page catalog of freethought literature on request. Write P.O. Box 994, St. Louis, Mo. 63144.
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QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

- (37) Mystery. JIM WILLIAMS asks: "What detective/mystery authors/books did BR like best?" Please send answers to the Newsletter.
- (38) Intellectual history. RON RYBNIKAR writes: "The PBS Programs, "Explorations in Shaw" and "Shoulder to Shoulder", coupled with BR's autobiographical writings, give the impression that there was a strong intellectual community whose members were personally as well as professionally very close. I'd appreciate any recommendations of books or articles dealing with the intellectual history of England, 1880-1930. In particular, I am interested in BR's relationship, if any, with the Fabian Society (or other socialist movements), the anti-war movement, and the women's suffrage movement." Please send replies to the Newsletter.
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RECOMMENDED READING

- (39) "Bertrand Russell, An Introduction," by Brian Carr (George Allen & Unwin, London. 1975. 1.95 English pounds) JOHN SUTCLIFFE writes as follows: "It contains a selection of essays covering a broad range of BR's work. It has a well-written introduction, and each section has a useful set of remarks outlining BR's ideas on a given subject. At the end of each section, there is a list of recommended further reading. It is a worthy book, and deserves to be read. My only criticism is that the price is a little much for a paperback of less than 200 pages."
On the strength of John's recommendation, we ordered it from Parker & Son, 27 Broad Street, Oxford OX2 6AQ, England. The price had risen to 3.65 pounds + postage, which comes to \$8.11 total. It is a hardcover book, covered in paper (not cloth).
- (40) "What Is An Agnostic?", an essay by BR, is recommended by BILL YOUNG. It is included in "Religions in America." (Simon & Schuster, New York. 1963)
- (41) "The Tamarisk Tree," by Dora Black Russell. (Putnam, New York. 1975. \$9.95). She is BR's second wife, and Kate Tait's mother. (See NL8-21). Two BRS members comment on it:
DON JCAKANICZ: "Delightful!"
PETER CRANFORD: "If BR can survive this book, he can survive anything."

It does one good thing: it gets the worst out into the open, and under circumstances that may make of BR a posthumous martyr — attacked when he cannot defend himself. Dora does make the record more complete, and she thereby exposes her own weaknesses rather clearly."

Query: Did these two read the same book?

(42)

"Modern English Philosophy," by Brian Magee. (St. Martin's Press, New York. 1971) It is an edited transcript of Magee's BBC interviews with British philosophers. RON RYBNIKAR: "There are many varied and interesting references to BR's work. This is my amateur opinion; my own field is educational anthropology." LEE EISLER: "This book is easy reading for non-philosophers, since it consists of spoken language rather than written language. It puts a lot of things into perspective. It is being remaindered at the Barnes & Noble Annex, NYC, for \$1. I don't know if they'll sell it by mail for \$1 plus handling. Here's the address, if you want to try: Barnes & Noble Annex, 5th Avenue at 18th Street, New York, N.Y. 10011.

FINANCES

(43)

Tax deduction reminder. Certain expenditures made by a member may be deductible items for federal income tax purposes. These are of 2 kinds:

- (1) If you spend money on BRS business, it is deductible. Examples: a long distance phone call on BRS business, buying BRS stationery, stamps.
- (2) If you attend a BRS meeting, your travel, food, and lodging are deductible, provided you are in one of the 2 groups mentioned in NL8-8.

Note: If you take any tax deductions, you must also report it to the BRS Treasurer. The BRS is required to report it as income — even though the BRS pays no income tax — when income exceeds \$5000 per year.

(44)

Contributions reminder. Our dues do not cover our operating costs. We depend on contributions for our survival. Please make a contribution when you find you can spare some money — a lot or a little; it all helps.

(45)

Contributions. We thank the following members for their contributions, received since the last Newsletter: ALLENDORF, NEILANDS, REINHARDT.

ADDENDA

(46)

DONG-IN BAE supplied 6 excellent BR quotes on the subjection of women, from "Why I Am Not A Christian", "Principles of Social Reconstruction", "Fact and Fiction", "Unpopular Essays", "The Philosophy of BR", "Portraits from Memory". We were not able to use them in our Information Package, for lack of space, but we are glad to have them and will use them when the opportunity arises.

(47) Science and the Biosphere: Coexistence or Catastrophe?

A biochemist calls for the scientific community to assess its portion of the blame for the environmental mess we've made of things and suggests ways it can begin to make amends.

*J.B. Neilands, Professor of Biochemistry
University of California, Berkeley,
and Chairperson, Committee on Science,
Bertrand Russell Society*

Twenty-three years ago, when I first began teaching biochemistry on the Berkeley campus of the University of California, there was no thought but that science was an unalloyed blessing to humankind. We all believed, with Francis Bacon, that scientific research would work for the "merit and emolument of man," and we were unabashed fans of the technological fix. But in less than a quarter of a century the research scientist has come face to face with this stark reality: Unless technology can be tamed, the time left for the human species on this planet may be measured in decades.

First, we should acknowledge the genuine triumphs of science. Medical research has done much to alleviate human suffering and has practically eliminated the major infectious diseases in our society, save for the common cold. Science has enabled rapid communication and travel over vast distances. It has allowed us to discover basic facts about the physical and natural worlds we live in. Yet all of this seems now to have been a Faustian bargain when measured against the potentially destructive power inherent in a runaway technology. And much of what we call progress has been achieved at enormous cost in resources. It has also been specist in that it afforded short term benefits to the human race at the expense of other life forms.

The behavior of all substances, animate or inanimate, is governed by the immutable laws of thermodynamics. These laws are more durable than anything cast in concrete or written in stone. They are permanent and inviolate. They tell us that energy can be neither created nor destroyed and that a system, plus its surroundings, proceeds inexorably to a condition of increasing disorder. The failure of the human race—the so-called intelligent species—to heed these basic laws of thermodynamics lies at the crux of the environmental and survival crisis.

What are the major factors tending to destabilize

the biosphere and thus possibly terminate life on this planet? Forecasts in this field are not apt to be highly accurate since we often simply cannot predict the direction and source of trouble.

Granted that our technological way of life tends to undermine the stability of the biosphere, what alternatives can be suggested?

Since science is the mother of technology, it has sometimes been suggested that all scientific research should stop. However, this would be both counter-productive and undesirable.

Research scientists are motivated by curiosity and their labor corresponds to the intellectual and creative endeavor of the artists and writers. So, despite whatever obstacles might be thrown in the way, some level of scientific research will remain and will continue to offer its *potential* enhancement of the quality of life.

Indeed, the knowledge already gleaned by scientific research indicates the road that *must* be traveled to reach the steady-state biosphere. In short, we must "go lean," "live lightly," recycle, study nature, turn to the sun as the only truly "organic" source of energy, and terminate the unconscionable waste of both material and intellectual resources on militarism. Individuals should endeavor to become self-sufficient in regard to energy and food. The continued dependence on agribusiness means the plunder of soil, water, fossil fuels, and the exploitation of farm workers. The individual can live more ecologically by using solar heaters, by installing insulation, by recycling, by generating methane for cooking, and by replacing the private auto by the foot, the bicycle, or the public transport system. Fission power reactors should be abandoned as an inherently intractable technology and as for fusion power we already have it—safely installed 93,000,000 miles away in the sun. Industry must be induced to use enzymes and an organic technology in general. For example, the iron-containing nitrogenase enzyme in soil bacteria fixes N₂ efficiently at 50° F and

(Our thanks to our friends at the Bucks County Free Library, James A. Michener Branch, who obtained this copy of the Environment Action Bulletin for us. The Bulletin has a circulation of about 15,000, according to the N. W. Ayer Directory.)

at atmospheric pressure while the commercial process for the synthesis of ammonia, using an inorganic iron catalyst, runs at 800° F and several hundred atmospheres of pressure!

"All institutions receiving federal funds for basic research must be required to set up a unit committed to science policy studies and offer courses in the social responsibility of the scientist."

All growth-oriented economies can be discarded as viable means for political organization of societies. In my travels in the Third World, from North Vietnam to Peru, I have not yet found a government sufficiently attuned to the environmental imperative.

Society has the power, through the manipulation of the purse, to regulate the scientific enterprise. Basic research in the typical major American university is underwritten by grants from the National Science Foundation or from some other division of the federal government, such as the Departments of Health, Education and Welfare or Defense. We should phase out all campus Defense contracts and divert these presently tainted dollars to the hard-pressed budgets of agencies sponsoring research into basic human needs, the environment and the various new technologies which will have a low impact on the life support system. At \$10.6 billion, the proposed expenditure by the Pentagon for research and development is exactly half of the total federal budget in this category for fiscal 1976!

Recipients of grants, the principal investigators, should be required to make a showing, and to have compiled a demonstrated record of performance, in the broad area of social responsibility in science. Principal investigators using public funds for the support of projects in basic scientific research should be required to make a full disclosure of all personal sources of income. Thus, the federal income tax statements of

"Soil bacteria fix nitrogen efficiently at 50° F and at atmospheric pressure while the commercial process for the synthesis of ammonia . . . runs at 800° F and several hundred atmospheres of pressure."

principal investigators might be kept on public file at a central location on campus. No direct theft of money under the present system is implied—indeed, the accounting procedures of the government make this virtually impossible. I am thinking of more subtle forms of fraud. For example, how many academics have had their public service functions undermined by lucrative consultantships with industry and the Pentagon?

All institutions receiving federal funds for basic research must be required to set up a unit committed to science policy studies and, where appropriate, to maintain a recycling program. Academic institutions with substantial research activities would be obliged to offer courses of instruction in interdisciplinary studies and in the social responsibility of the scientist.

The basic thrust of these ideas is to make the research scientist aware of the environmental crisis and its origin. Ultimately, it will be the duty of Congress, responding to popular demand, to work out the mechanical details of this or some other affirmative action program on behalf of the biosphere.

Meanwhile, as the research scientists put their own houses in order, what can the average citizen do to negate the most destructive features of the technological society?

Clearly, we must develop a healthy skepticism for the maxim that "*science = progress.*" We can go on from there to inquire how we can best make our own talents and resources available in the contest for the biosphere. It is my contention that we are all in a position to make significant contributions at home, at the workplace, or at both. In my own case I have incorporated a large element of environmentalism in the teaching of biochemistry, including the initiation of a special course titled, "Biochemistry and Society." Based on fundamental knowledge gleaned from years of study of microbial iron metabolism, I have organized a research project designed for the treatment of certain types of anemia. During the years of the Vietnam war our small committee of scientists sponsored lectures and films on defoliation at dozens of meetings of professional scientific societies.

Finally, we should cultivate a spirit of optimism. Some fifteen years ago the giant Pacific Gas & Electric Company decided to build a nuclear power plant at Bodega Bay on the California coast 50 miles north of San Francisco. A handful of ordinary citizens defeated the combined might of the PG&E, the AEC and the various agencies of the state government. The struggle to preserve the biosphere is merely a replay, on a grand scale, of the battle of Bodega Bay and of countless similar engagements for the protection of ourselves and those who will inherit the earth.

I am indebted to the many colleagues who reviewed and commented upon a preprint of this article.

"The failure of the human race—the so-called intelligent species—to heed the basic laws of thermodynamics lies at the crux of the environmental and survival crisis."

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BERTRAND RUSSELL ON THE SUBJECTION OF WOMEN

Russell was an early champion of women's rights. So was his mother, who made speeches for votes for women in the 1860s. Russell himself stood for Parliament in 1907 on a women's suffrage platform. His opponent ridiculed the idea with a campaign poster that read, "No Thanks, My Dear, you mind the baby and leave POLITICS to me," and won. BR was passionate in his conviction that women must have complete equality in all areas, believing it essential to good relationships between men and women that bring out the best in both sexes.

"John Stuart Mills' 'Subjection of Women' is a very persuasive and well-reasoned book... My father and mother were disciples of his, and my mother used to make speeches in favor of votes for women in the sixties. So ardent was her feminism that she caused me to be brought into the world by the first woman doctor, Dr. Garrett Anderson, who was at that time not allowed to be a qualified medical practitioner but was only a certified midwife." Marriage and Morals (New York: Bantam Books, 1959), 53. (First published in 1929.)

"It was generally held by respectable women when I was young that sexual intercourse was displeasing to the great majority of women, and was only endured within marriage from a sense of duty; holding this view, they were not unwilling to risk a greater degree of freedom for their daughters than had seemed wise in more realistic ages. The results have perhaps been somewhat different from what was anticipated..." ibid. 56.

"If the old morality is to be reestablished, certain things are essential: some of them are already done, but experience shows that these alone are not effective. The first essential is that the education of girls should be such as to make them stupid and superstitious and ignorant; this requisite is already fulfilled in schools over which the churches have any control. The next requisite is a very severe censorship upon all books giving information on sex subjects; this condition is also coming to be fulfilled in England and America, since the censorship, without change in the law, is being tightened up by the increasing zeal of the police. These conditions, since they already exist, are clearly insufficient. The only thing that will suffice is to remove from young women all opportunity of being alone with men: girls must be forbidden to earn their living by work outside the home; they must never be allowed an outing unless accompanied by their mother or an aunt...It must be illegal for an unmarried woman under fifty to possess a motor-car, and perhaps it would be wise to subject all unmarried women once a month to medical examination by police doctors, and to send to a penitentiary all such as were found to be not virgins. The use of contraceptives must, of course, be eradicated, and it must be illegal in conversation with an unmarried woman to throw doubt upon the dogma of eternal damnation. These measures, if carried out for a hundred years or more, may perhaps do something to stem the rising tide of immorality. I think, however, to avoid the risk of certain abuses, it would be necessary that all policemen and all medical men should be castrated." ibid. 61.

"Most people's sex-life, at present, is more or less unsatisfactory. This is partly due to bad education, partly to persecution by the authorities and Mrs. Grundy. A generation of women brought up without irrational sex fears would soon make an end of this. Fear has been thought the only way to make women 'virtuous', and they have been deliberately taught to be cowards, both physically and mentally. Women in whom love is cramped encourage brutality and hypocrisy in their husbands, and distort the instincts of their children. One generation of fearless women could transform the world, by bringing into it a generation of fearless children, not contorted into unnatural shapes, but straight and candid, generous, affectionate and free." Education and The Good Life (New York: Boni & Liveright, 1926), 82.

"The most obvious example of power-morality is the inculcation of obedience. It is (or rather was) the duty of children to submit to parents, wives to husbands, servants to masters, subjects to princes, and (in religious matters) laymen to priests..." Power (London: Allen & Unwin, 1938), 239. (Available as a Norton paperback.)

"...the subjection of women is much more complete at a certain level of civilization than it is among savages. And the subjection is always reinforced by morality. A man, says St. Paul, 'is the image and glory of God: but the woman is the glory of man. For the man is not of the woman; but the woman of the man. Neither was the man created for the woman; but the woman for the man.' (I Corinthians xi.7-9). It follows that wives ought to obey their husbands, and that unfaithfulness is a worse sin in a wife than in a husband. Christianity, it is true, holds, in theory, that adultery is equally sinful in either sex, since it is a sin against God. But this view has not prevailed in practice... Adultery with a married woman was wicked, because it was an offense against her husband; but female slaves and war-captives were the legitimate property of their master, and no blame attached to intercourse with them. This view was held by pious Christian slave-owners, though not by their wives, even in nineteenth century America.

"The basis of the difference between morality for men and morality for women was obviously the superior power of men. Originally the superiority was only physical, but from this basis it gradually extended to economics, politics, and religion. The great advantage of morality over the police appears very clearly in this case, for women, until quite recently, genuinely believed the moral precepts which embodied male domination, and therefore required much less compulsion than would otherwise have been necessary." ibid. 240.

"The argument in favor of equality between men and women is merely an application of the general argument in favor of liberty." The Status of Women, c. 1907 (published in Russell: The Journal of The Bertrand Russell Archives, 14: Summer 1974,) 3.

"...liberty becomes increasingly important as the relation concerned is more intimate;...therefore it is more important in the family than in the state, and most important of all in the relations of men and women. The more two people have to do with each other, the more desirable it becomes that they should not prey upon each other's spontaneity, nor impair each other's self-respect and self-reliance... Very few have the self-control required in order to leave liberty to those whose possible mistakes are greatly feared." ibid. 5.

"...the straightforward self-reliant woman...I imagine is to retain the sympathy and kindness which belong with the maternal instinct, while everything else is to be done by education and way of life, to cure the indirectness which comes of the instinct for being loved rather than for loving. And when the world contains women of this type, the companionship of men and women will become something which at present exists only in very rare cases, where on both sides good ends are desired, and reason takes the place of the desire to have one's own way. At present, men and women seldom have any real companionship or any real understanding of each other's best: brought together by a temporary attraction, they remain strangers, and as a rule, hamper each other's development. In all this there is no necessity; it is due mainly to the fact that subordination rather than liberty is expected, and that women's follies and men's vices are pleasing to the sense of superiority of husbands or wives, as the case may be. To teach men and women to love equality and liberty is the real beginning of all reform in personal relations; and until this is done, people will continue to degrade and depress those with whom their lives are passed." ibid. 12.

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