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YORK UNIVERSITY BOOK STORE

Landlord locks Student Services when owners unable to meet rent

by Anita Levine

Student Services Unlimited has been padlocked, with the unsold books still inside, beyond the reach of any students who didn't get theirs when the company announced it was "phasing themselves out of the textbook business."

Jack Seaton, co-owner of Student Services, said Tuesday night that the owner of the building at 1195 Finch Ave. W., took over the premises and contents about a week ago.

"We had word from at least one of the publishing companies we were dealing with that if we didn't pay up they would force us into bankruptcy. Our landlord got wind of this and asked for the rent. We couldn't pay it."

The landlord, Marco de Luca, said Seaton and his partner, Mike Garfin, owed him "six or seven hundred dollars."

He said he was sorry he couldn't let students in to retrieve books that were missing or misplaced due to Student Services' disorganization.

"I can't let anyone in until the bailiffs come," de Luca said.

Seaton said he "felt terrible" about students losing money and

books because of the operation's failure. But he wanted to correct any impression that he and Garfin have absconded with the loot. He said the two have lost several thousand dollars in the snafu.

Seaton also offered something to think about for anyone planning to come after him with a meat cleaver.

First of all, he pointed out that the York Bookstore offered a 5% cash discount on all books this year — mainly to meet the competition by Student Services.

And since the bookstore will probably gross about \$500,000 this year, that's a saving of \$25,000 to York students, Seaton said.

"I doubt that they'll see the need to offer that discount next year," he said.

Secondly, he claims that his

company put over 6,000 used books in the market this year, which meant considerable savings for anyone who would otherwise have had to buy the books new.

Thirdly, Student Services was taking only a 10% commission, which according to Seaton was "a very slim margin, barely enough to meet our overhead."

Seaton's defence may placate a few students, but many are still angry over what they feel was a screw-job.

One girl who was told to "please come back and check again" when she went to claim her unsold books and found several missing, is out over \$40.

The students have no recourse but to sue. And let's face it, most lawyers change over \$40 just to discuss your case.

Copyflow

by Bill Novak

I was fortunate enough to attend a National Convocation for Peace, held in New York last week; supported by students, business, and various Peace Groups — or what Johnny calls, contemptuously, the Liberal Establishment. In one of the morning sessions, Columbia Engineering Professor Seymour Melman provided some shocking facts on the Department of Defence, or, as he prefers to call it, the killing industry. Not only do they control a large proportion of the country's economy, but, according to Melman, this para-state within a state is actually threatening a social takeover of the United States, under the guise of the "Promise of Protection". The only solution left, according to Melman, is not to find a useful place for them in society, but to do everything possible to take away their resources and, ultimately, their power. And all this from a scientist.

American economist Kenneth Boulding also sees the defence department as a separate state, but one which has discovered from experience that, quite plainly, war pays off. In his brilliant and engaging style, Boulding calmly suggested that peace cannot come until we await the death of his own generation. The younger generation has to make peace if we are to have it at all.

Boulding suggested that we should see the hawks in every country as forming a gigantic world-wide and dangerous conspiracy: the greatest supporter of the U.S. Department of Defence is the Russian Department of Defence.

About the draft, Boulding is curiously ambivalent. While he feels it is a stupid and medieval system of taxation, he says we must at the same time realize that abolishing the draft would take most of the steam out of the peace movement. What hope is there, then, in this post-civilized society? Only one — a "retrievable disaster" — can, according to Boulding, save the human race. To a young man who suggested that his idealism left something to be desired, Boulding replied: "The price of purity is impotence".

The lunchtime session was the most politically revealing as one witnessed, first-hand, the tension between the peace movement and the peacenik. As Senator William Fulbright began his remarks, Vietcong flags started dropping from the balcony of the New York Hilton, to the scattered cries of Ho, Ho, Ho Chi Minh, NLF is gonna win and Hey, Hey, Viva Che.

The Liberal Establishment was really hung up. They could obviously not tolerate such behaviour, nor did they dare use vicious tactics to eliminate the demonstrators. Senator Jacob Javits, whose very presence was highly suspicious, apologized profusely to his colleague and cussed out the demonstrators.

George McGovern spoke last, assuring those of us who were beginning to doubt that there was still a spark of hope left in the United States Senate.

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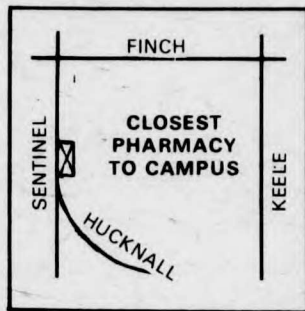
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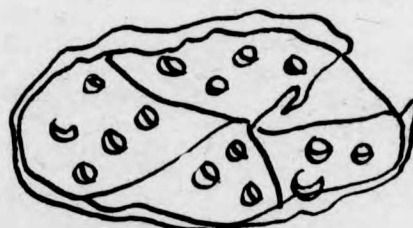
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