

New library libel laws?

MONTREAL (CUP) - Concordia University Director of Libraries James Kanasy hopes to change a law that forced him to remove a book from library shelves last year, and he has gathered the support of the Canadian Library Association behind him.

The book was George Malko's "Scientology: The New Religion" and it was a book critical of the Church of Scientology.

Under Canadian libel law, the publisher of a book is

anyone who makes the book available to the public, as a library does.

The Church sued the Hamilton Public Library and Etobicoke Public Library to prevent them from circulating the book. The Church also threatened other libraries with suit if the book was not taken off the shelves while the case was pending.

Concordia and St. Mary's were two universities in Canada that said they had removed the book.

The Scientologists have since dropped their suit against the two libraries, and Malko's book is back on the Sir George shelves.

But the situation has raised some questions about the law in the minds of librarians.

If a library can be sued for libel, Kanasy pointed out, a threat is posed to intellectual freedom since the library should be able to make controversial material available to scholars and social historians without worry of suit until the material is actually judged libelous.

"What we want to change... is that libraries would not be considered as having published a book for having it on the shelves and circulating it," Kanasy explained.

At its annual meeting in June, the CLA passes a resolution sponsored by Kanasy which mandated the CLA to convene a meeting of various professional academic associations to decide what course of action should be taken in order to change the law.

Kanasy expects the meeting to be held at the November conference of the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada.

There are two possible courses of action. The first is to submit a brief to the Law Reform Commission of Canada and to each of the provinces. The second is to select and contest an appropriate court case.

"I think both should be done... I think we should proceed with the first and then go with the second," Kanasy stated.

Meanwhile, in collaboration with the CLA, the Intellectual Freedom Committee is drawing up a manual of what should be done if a similar situation occurs.

SUSK committee announces policy on multiculturalism

by Eugene Brody

The sixteenth congress of the Canadian Ukrainian Students' Union (SUSK) was recently held on campus.

The first two days of the six-day conference were devoted to a symposium on the Ukrainian/Canadian community, called "Ukrainians-Perspective '75".

The symposium dealt with the state of the community within the parametre of the last five years, and in particular how it developed the announcement of the policy on multiculturalism.

Among the issues that were examined were: the developing philosophy of multiculturalism; the differences between the implementation of multiculturalism and biculturalism; factors involved in the development of multiculturalism; the priorities of the Ukrainian Canadian community including the areas of the arts, education, publishing, youth organisations, adult organizations; and the potential of the community in the development of these areas.

One of the main issues that was discussed at the SUSK conference was the role of Ukrainian Canadians in communities across Canada. A position paper entitled "The Ukrainian/Canadian Community - Our Priorities", given by Shiela Slobidzian, president of SUSK, describes the role of Ukrainian-Canadians in Canadian society. She says in part:

"...Ukrainian Canadians, though spread across Canada, have finally achieved 'full' com-

munity status. We are found in all age groupings and in all walks of life."

Professor Maranchuk, author of "Ukrainian Canadians" said Ukrainians came to Canada with three loyalties: to their own culture, their new homeland, and to other peoples, and other cultures. "To our culture we have not been traitors, for we have been leading forces in the instituting of the policy of multiculturalism," he said. "To Canada, we have fought through two World Wars, stood for political office, and added social, cultural and political diversity and character. To others, we have been respectful, helpful, guiding and inspirational."

Slobidzian goes on to say, "Everywhere are Ukrainians recognised. Our concerts are full-houses; the Dauphin Ukrainian Festival was frequented by over 30% non-Ukrainians; our sons echo through every school across the land at some moment during the school year; our dancers are nationally and internationally renowned for their skill and perfection; our children are found in all professions; in all levels of government."

Although the emphasis of the SUSK Congress was definitely in the area of club and community development, SUSK has also been in the vanguard in mobilizing young people to actively participate in various groups protesting the abuses on fundamental and democratic rights in the Soviet Union.

OATS. from page 1

Dr. Vanden Born said that the grant will be channeled through the Alberta Agricultural Research Trust, an action which will allow for matching funds from the provincial government. In early 1974 the department of plant science received a similar grant which was subsequently matched by the Alberta Agricultural Research Trust.

The current grant will be used to support a research technologist, a part-time post-doctoral fellow and possibly a graduate student. All aspects of the research will be conducted at the University of Alberta.

The researchers will be carrying out a detailed study on the factors involved in both the co-operative and antagonistic behavior of herbicide combinations on wild oats.

The various herbicides, which can increase the economic yield of crops by reducing the competition of wild oats, are apparently more effective when used in an integrated system than when used individually.

"We anticipate that these experiments will provide a proper understanding of the behavior of herbicide mixtures, and that such understanding, in

turn, will result in the preparation of more effective and likely more economical recommendations for wild oats control," Dr. Vanden Born said.

'5 on 4'

With the number of students enrolled in the Faculty of Commerce quickly approaching two thousand, the opportunity for personal liaison between students and the administration has decreased considerably over the past few years. It seems that students with enquiries and problems, are having an increasing amount of difficulty in getting prompt, satisfactory answers.

This communication problem has, however, been solved in recent years thanks to an organization comprised of five undergraduate Commerce students known as '5 On 4'.

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