

Books not to be withdrawn

OTTAWA (CUP) - After first removing books critical of the Church of Scientology two university libraries are now replacing them.

And after first threatening legal action if the libraries did not remove the books, the Church of Scientology has now withdrawn their requests, saying that "our mutual interests in preserving intellectual freedom and free speech actually lie parallel."

Both St. Mary's University in Halifax and Sir George Williams campus of Concordia University in Montreal had removed the book, *Scientology: The New Religion* by George Malko after receiving letters November 1973 from the Church of Scientology. The letters asked that the books be removed from the library as the church felt they were defamatory. They said legal action was being taken against the

book in the Supreme Court of Ontario.

Scientists at that time were undertaking a similar campaign against libraries and bookstores across the country to have three other books removed from public view: *The Mind Benders*, by Carl Vosper, a former official at Scientology's world headquarters; *Scandals of Scientology*, by Paulette Cooper and *Inside Scientology*, by Robert Kaufman.

Scientists argue the books are full of defamatory and false statements. They feel they should not be allowed in public libraries and they point to Canadian libel law to back their point of view.

Under present law it is possible a library can be successfully sued if it knowingly distributes any book which contains defamatory statements.

"Our Board of Governors insisted that we remove it (Malko's book) as soon as

they received a legal opinion," said Ruth Hafter, chief librarian of St. Mary's.

"I was personally very opposed to this and I still am, for I feel it sets a dangerous precedent. If the Church of Scientology is allowed to get away with this, what would stop another group from doing exactly the same thing."

James Kanasy, director of Sir George Williams' library, echoed Hafter's feelings. "This whole situation pointed out the jeopardy libraries are now in under the present law."

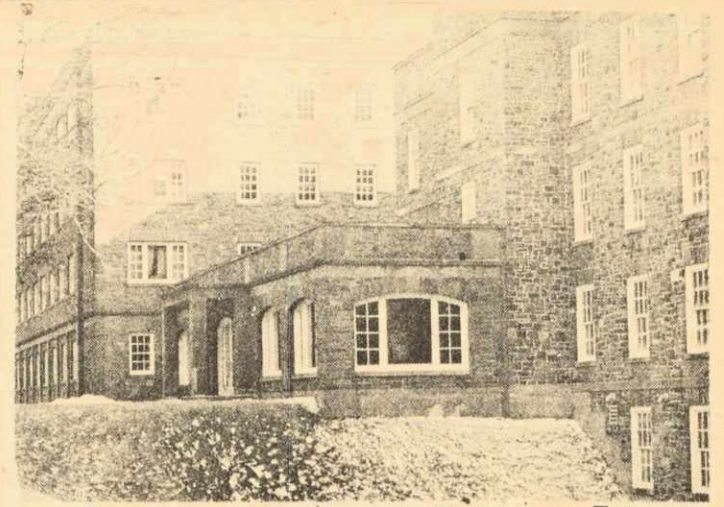
Most libraries in the country, however, refused to remove the books and both the Canadian Association of University Teachers and the Canadian Library Association (CLA) began discussions as how the threat could be stopped.

Kansay presented a resolution to the Canadian Association of Research Librarians calling on the CLA to organize a fund to assist libraries to resist the suits being filed by the Scientologists. Such a defense fund was established by the CLA shortly thereafter and an offer of financial support was made to the Etobicoke Public Library, against whom an action was brought by the Church of Scientology. It wasn't necessary to use this fund as they shortly thereafter withdrew their suit against the library.

In the course of the next two months, the Church also offered to withdraw its request of a number of libraries, including the Concordia University Library, that they remove from their shelves the Malko book and others "deemed objectionable" to the Church.

The Church proposed to resolve the dispute with libraries by suggesting that it would be satisfied if library collections included books representing both sides of the issue. The Sir George Williams Library has in fact had on its shelves a book on Scientology ethics by Ronald Hubbard, founder of the movement, since before the dispute began.

While the issue of this particular book is settled (cont'd on pge. 8)



Howe Hall Column

by Mark Thomas

The door to Jim Maddox's room was open, the traditional sign of friendliness in Howe Hall's Residence Council 75/76, we thought that it would be appropriate to pop in for a quick interview.

Howe Hall: First of all I would like to ask what you think about being elected by acclamation?

Jim Maddox: "Well, I didn't really expect it because it hasn't ever happened for the two major offices (president and vice-president) during the four years that I've been here."

H.H.: Do you think that the fact that the two major offices were elected by acclamation this year is a sign of anything?

J.M.: "Not really. I think that one of the reasons that the two major offices were elected by acclamation is the fact that both the candidates were previous Residence Council members." Jim is the former vice-president and the new vice-president, Peter Bloxham, is the former sports co-ordinator. "The students probably thought that we were experienced enough to handle the job." For this reason nobody else ran."

H.H.: You don't think it's a sign of apathy then?

J.M.: No, there were strong races for the election of the house presidents, with more candidates than in previous years. "All were hard fought." "Take the election for the position of Residence Council sport co-ordinator as another example. It's happened before that nobody ran for that office; it was a very

undesirable job. This year it was highly contested; so, I don't think there is any apathy.

H.H.: Do you have any special plans as president for the upcoming year?

J.M.: It's up to the students really. Through their suggestions and what they ask for, I do my job. It's my duty as a member of the Residence Council to make life as good as possible for the residents. As a member of the Residence Housing Committee, I'd like to see the great demands of student housing to be met and I'd do anything in my power or ability to help. One of the main duties of the vice-president is the organization of residence orientation but something that I'll get involved in is to try to help organize a good orientation program between here, Shirreff Hall, and the student union, to help the new students to adjust to their new surroundings as good as possible. Some other ideas that I have is to set up study areas and improve the games room, if possible; but I have to work with the students to get the power to do these things.

H.H.: So your stressing increased student co-operation.

J.M.: Yes especially with the student union. We have a lot of activities of our own, independent of the student union. I'd like for us to make more use of their facilities to help improve our activities.

So there he is, Howe Hall's new president. He's going to be a good one too...take it from me.

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(cont'd from pge. 15)

discussed until at least high school. Present land use, and management is directly correlated to the history of the area and the reasons for the area's discovery and subsequent misfortunes.

GEOGRAPHY: Remember your grade school geography where you learnt such important facts as the amount of bananas that Canada imports each year and the amount of wheat that India buys from us. Never any detail on why we grow wheat because of past glacial effects on the prairies, not even a sentence. Or why we have the gold out west, or oil or water? Every settlement is based on whatever sur-

rounding conditions prevail, such as a good harbour, or easily defended spot because of its natural location. These are the basic points to geography and why we have this or that is one of the first questions that should be answered.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION: Closing with this subject, leaving biology till part two for detailed consideration, for this area holds much promise. Most university's have basic camping, hiking, kayaking, orienteering and survival training as part of their curriculum as well as do most major high schools. Many can be converted to instruct not only natural

science but also the "leave no trace" philosophy in camping. Not only eatable and poisonous plants that would fall under survival training but such common things as the most common birds and their calls, the rock you are sitting on, or the trees around you. What is the point in instructing someone to hike or camp unless you give them a reason to do so? If it is purely for the exercise, then why not stay in the gym? The outside, especially the forest wilderness is much more than simply a place to pitch a tent and everyone should at least know some information about the processes and changes occurring there, at all ages.