



newsletter

ON INTELLECTUAL FREEDOM

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No. 1

Where, Indeed?!

Where in the Constitution, Chief Justice Earl Warren wanted to know yesterday, does it say that *censorship* is all right for children but not for adults?

Warren tossed the problem at civil libertarians as the Supreme Court wound up two days of argument in three of the term's obscenity cases.

The problem for the foes of censorship is that few persons dispute the power of government to keep indecent literature out of the hands of children, but once that power is conceded, lawyers cannot find in the Constitution itself where that power can be stopped. —John P. MacKenzie in *Washington Post*, 12 October.

Free, Free Library Scares Off Censors

Anti-smut vigilantes have pressured many a public library into censoring the community's resources. The Palisades, N.Y. Free Library's operating policy would give pause to any would-be censor:

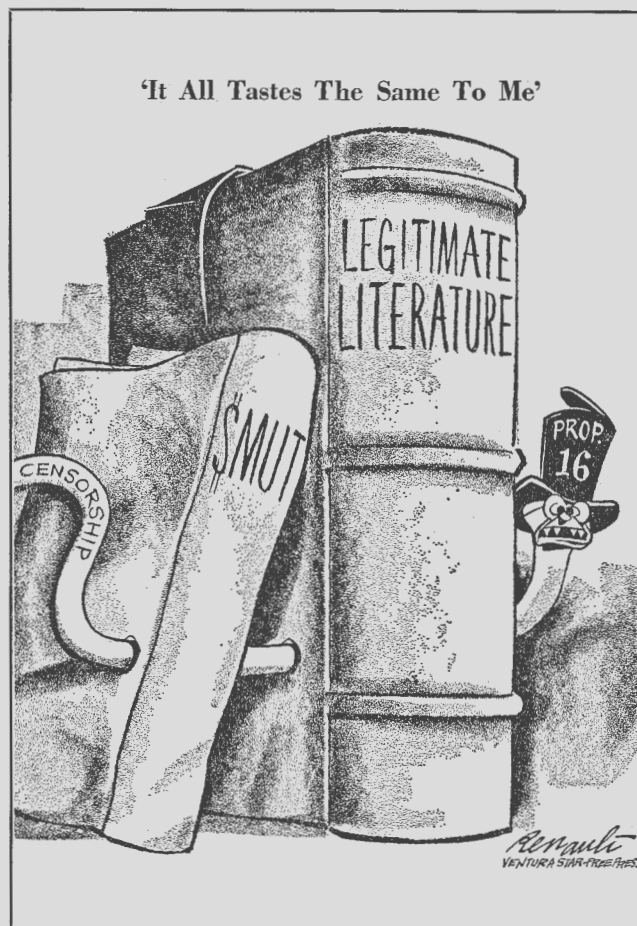
[The responsibility of the Library] . . . is to serve all the community, not to promote — and above all, not to censor—any particular political, moral, philosophical, or religious convictions or opinions. It is not the purpose of the Library to stimulate or to cater to trivial, antisocial, prurient, or immoral interests. But no one, least of all a free public library, has the right to judge what another may or may not read or hear.

If a member of the Library wishes to find out for himself whether a certain publication is worthless, tasteless, vicious, or inaccurate, it is the function of the Library to give him an opportunity to do so. Furthermore, history shows that many books which have been most controversial or objectionable to some persons or groups have in due course been recognized to be among those books which most, rather than least, belong in public libraries. If an idea is truly dangerous or evil, the best protection against it is a public which has been exposed to it and has rejected it; the worst protection is a public which has been shielded from exposure to it by official or self-appointed guardians.

Therefore, in the event that anyone in or out of the community should object to the Library's acquisition or retention of a certain publication on moral, political, religious, or philosophical grounds, the objection should be recognized as an indication that the publication in question may well be of more than routine interest and may be likely to be requested by members of the community who wish to judge its merits and demerits for themselves. —*Civil Liberties*, October.

Prop. 16 Defeated CLEANly

California voters on November 8 soundly defeated Proposition 16, the initiative sponsored by the self-appointed California League Enlisting Action Now by a 2-1 majority. Additional library-related organizations and Legislative bodies publicly opposing Prop. 16 before the election include: California Association of School Librarians; Berkeley City Board of Library Trustees; Friends of the Berkeley Public Library; Antiquarian Booksellers Association of America; Fresno State College Librarian Henry Madden, former chairman of CLA IFC; Southern Council of the California Teachers Association; Southern California Booksellers Association; Hope District Teachers Association; Peralta Junior College District Board; Merlin Junior College District Trustees; San Diego Teachers Association; Chula Vista City Council; Association of California State College Professors.



Pornography and Delinquency

FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover, said "Periodicals containing salacious material . . . play an important part in the development of crime among our youth."

Dr. William P. Riley of the Citizens Anti-Pornography Commission in New York said, "Habitual reading of obscene literature and viewing smutty entertainment . . . result in anti-social actions."

What did 378 psychiatrists and 556 psychologists in New Jersey say?

They were polled in a 3-month study conducted by the New Jersey Committee for the Right to Read. Dr. Sanford Clarke of the Committee reported the findings to the fifth annual meeting of Audience Unlimited on October 27.

The findings depart significantly from Hoover's and Riley's opinions.

The 934 New Jersey authorities were asked, "In your own practice, have you ever had patients whose behavior was otherwise in the normal range, who were provoked into anti-social behavior primarily as a result of exposure to sexually oriented literature?"

"Yes," said 5.7 percent of the respondents. "No," said 94.3 percent. And of those who said, "Yes," only three regarded the incidence of those cases to be statistically significant.

Dr. Clarke said that the psychiatrists and psychologists responded beyond anybody's expectations for a survey of this kind. Here are some of the additional questions asked in the survey and the answers received.

"Do you believe that sexually oriented materials might have a value for some individuals and might in these cases serve to minimize anti-social behavior by providing a vicarious outlet." Yes—66.8 percent. No—33.2 percent.

"Do you believe that the official exclusion of such materials in libraries and retail stores will be beneficial in encouraging a healthy and accurate view of sex by young people?" Yes—13.6 percent. No—86.4 percent.

"Do you believe that the passage of such legislation would contribute to the general improvement of mental health in juveniles?" Yes—10.8 percent. No—89.2 percent.

"Do you think that the official concealment of sexual and anatomical information might tend to promote a pathological degree of curiosity and injudicious experimentation in the inexperienced?" Yes—66.8 percent. No—33.2 percent.

An equal number of respondents favored "no limitations as to what reading material is available to persons under 18 years of age" as favored "limitations imposed by parental decisions within the family." Of the remaining 27.3 percent who favored additional limitations, some wanted librarians, teachers, specialists in literary values, and mental health agencies to get into the act. Less than 5 percent favored state or other legislative actions.

When asked where state funds might best be spent in the interest of improving youths' condition, 5.1 percent said the funds could be best spent eliminating ob-

scenity, 94.9 percent suggested other areas, with emphasis on expanded mental health facilities and sex education.

Many of the respondents prepared additional comments, typical of which is this statement from a clinical psychologist specializing in children and adolescents: "I have for the past 12 years worked extensively with adolescents—emotionally disturbed, delinquents, brain injured, the whole range. I have yet to encounter a single case where harm was done to a child because he was reading pornographic material. As a matter of fact, the children I have seen who were the worst cases of sexually acting out—i.e., those who committed sexual crimes or exposed themselves in public or who were deviants to the point of being harmful to others—they had little or no contact with pornography. They started to get better when they began to read pornography. —Audience Unlimited *News*, November, 1966.

Topless Show Continues Anaheim Run

The Anaheim City Council and Melodyland Theater Monday resolved differences over the controversial bare-bosom "Vive les Girls" now showing at the theater.

Councilmen voted unanimously to rescind their order that the theater must remove its marquee-type sign on Harbor Blvd., and dropped court action on the theater's conditional use permit.

Under terms of the agreement drafted by City Atty. Joe Geisler and attorney Charles Schegel, representing Melodyland's operators, the Las Vegas-style revue will be allowed to complete its current run, which cannot go past Dec. 25.

Danny Dare, one of the theater's operators, said there will be no shows involving nudity for one year under the agreement.

Councilmen last week ordered the sign removed within 30 days and called for a public hearing on the theater's conditional use permit, contending the topless show producers had failed to cooperate with the city.

Geisler and Chief of Police Mark Stephenson claimed Harry Zevin, Melodyland general manager, had told them the show would not go on in topless form. Zevin said there had been a misunderstanding.

Dare told the council Monday, "Our production of 'Vive les Girls,' is legal and a legitimate theatrical production. We also recognize the concern of you gentlemen in attempting to keep the topless cocktail entertainments out of Anaheim.

"We are in staunch support of such objectives. We do feel, however, that our presentation of artistic revues such as 'Vive les Girls,' is entirely different from topless go-go and other topless lounge acts. It is in good taste in view of the present trend of entertainment in California.

"In this production we did not and do not now feel we exceeded any bounds of propriety. We do consider ourselves at Melodyland as vitally interested members of the community and are proud of the international image of Anaheim as the finest entertainment area in the United States." —Los Angeles *Times*, 29 November.

How To Succeed in Censorship Without Really Trying

In many communities, you cannot buy or obtain from the public library such books as *Catcher in the Rye*, 1984, *Brave New World*, *From Here to Eternity*, *Grapes of Wrath*, and *Tropic of Cancer*. There are communities in which all bookstores and newsstands display signs indicating approval by self-appointed citizens' committees. The signs reveal that these stores abide by the committee decisions concerning what books and magazines the stores will sell. Magazine distributors have been instructed not to handle certain issues of *McCall's* and *Reader's Digest*.

How Do They Do It?

These vigilantes start by requesting store managers to discontinue a few comic books and girly magazines that only a few customers care about. Having won the first round, the committees request removal of other items, and the proprietors comply. When some of the stores' bread-and-butter stocks come under the ban and store owners begin to balk, the committees threaten organized boycotts. Having strengthened the vigilantes by accepting some of their decisions, the stores eventually come completely under vigilante control. Although the avowed intention of the citizens' committees initially was to "protect the young," their demands soon remove from all members of the community any material that the members of the committees consider undesirable.

Where citizens fail to protect the liberties of others, this technique succeeds. Recently, it has succeeded in communities in Texas, California, Oklahoma, Georgia, Mississippi, Ohio, and New York. When the majority is quick to defend the rights of a threatened minority, these vigilante techniques fail.

Rochesterians have virtually ignored the fact that, for several years, a citizens' committee has met once each month to "advise" on what magazines should or should not be distributed in Monroe County. Their "advice" has removed several hundred issues from circulation. Like us, you probably never missed them. You probably wouldn't even recognize their names. Therefore, the committee's decisions went unchallenged. Recently, the committee expanded, calling itself "Operation Monroe" and listing as its areas of concern "movies, periodicals, books (especially paperbacks), newspaper and magazine advertising, records, and mailed material." In other words, they would control almost all media of communication in Monroe County.

Will you wait until a film, book, magazine, or record that you consider significant cannot be viewed or purchased in Monroe County?

The liberty you risk is your own.

Your "trash" and mine may be another man's treasure, and vice-versa. You and I may be completely indifferent to a poorly done girly magazine, but those who buy it may not show the slightest concern at the banning of *Brave New World*, *Grapes of Wrath*, or *Reader's Digest*. We do not need to change our personal evaluation of what we consider trash. But if we believe

that the right of a citizen to choose his own reading and viewing matter is inalienable, we should defend the right of trash to be available to those citizens to whom it is literature.

Will you decide, perhaps too late, which magazine, book, or film is worthy of your defense, or will you defend the constitutional liberty of all, aware that by doing so, you are preserving your own liberties? This is the effort to which Audience Unlimited, Inc., is dedicated.

AUDIENCE UNLIMITED, INC.
P. O. BOX 3844 ROCHESTER, NEW YORK

Censorship by Anyone

The Iowa Pharmaceutical Association has undertaken to combat "objectionable literature" by enlisting the help of customers in drugstores operated by its members. The association is making available, on request, placards to be placed over drug store magazine racks. The placards state:

"Attention Parents and Customers. The pharmacists of Iowa pledge their co-operation to prohibit the sale of obscene literature in pharmacies. Occasionally some objectionable material may be overlooked. Therefore please call our attention to any item you think objectionable. It will be removed immediately and its sale discontinued."

Similar signs have been made available by pharmaceutical associations in other states. The head of the Iowa association says the step is being taken because pharmacists receive hundreds of magazines weekly, are unable to check every magazine and need assistance of "parents of teenagers to remove obscene and objectionable publications from sale."

If the association's sign is followed literally, any zealot who objected to the sight of an unclothed knee or to an article discussing atheism could have the publication banned from a store merely by voicing an objection. This customer's definition of what constituted obscenity or "objectionable literature" would be binding on the pharmacist. In towns where drug stores are the principal places distributing magazines or books a publication could be effectively banned for the entire community by such a protest.

The courts have concluded that unrestricted distribution of literature is so vital to protection of First Amendment rights that government may not interfere with sale of publications unless a clear showing of obscenity is made. The U.S. Supreme Court has constructed an elaborate standard for courts to apply in determining whether a publication is obscene.

This standard does not prevent a private magazine or book-seller from applying his own more stringent standards in determining the publications he should handle. The wise businessman will exercise restraint and not be a purveyor of pornography. But he should also recognize the importance of free distribution of ideas and that taste in literature varies widely. We hope Iowa pharmacists will exercise common sense and decline to blindly remove publications from their shelves solely because someone asks them to. —Des Moines *Tribune*, 22 September.

Is Nothing Obscene?

The Swedish film *491* is a sardonic shocker that takes its title from Christ's commandment to forgive sinners "until seventy times seven," or 490 times (*Matthew 18:21-22*). Apparently suggesting the unforgivable 491st sin, the film depicts a Swedish sociological experiment in which a young bachelor named Krister (connoting Christ) shelters six juvenile delinquents who proceed to wreck his home, sell his furniture, maim themselves, cavort with a prostitute and force her to have intercourse with a dog. Assorted scenes evoke other perversions from sodomy to fellatio; the picture ends with Krister's arrest and one boy's suicide.

According to a Swedish psychiatrist, the novel (*491*) on which the film is based is "probably the best textbook on youth psychiatry ever to have appeared." U.S. and European critics have praised the film. When *491* reached New York in 1964, however, U.S. customs men barred it as an "immoral" import. In upholding the ban, U.S. District Judge Henry N. Graven ruled that *491* met all the Supreme Court tests on obscenity. "To the average person applying contemporary community (national) standards," held Graven, the film's "dominant theme as a whole appeals to the prurient interest." In addition, he said, "it is utterly without redeeming social importance."

Invisible Target. By a vote of 2 to 1, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit has just reversed Graven. All three judges on the panel that heard the case were admittedly "disgusted" by the film. Yet, after mulling over the Supreme Court's muddled obscenity rules, two of the judges felt forced to clear *491* for U.S. entry.

In stinging dissent, Chief Judge J. Edward Lumbard argued that more than 99% of viewers would consider *491* purely a pitch to prurient interest. Speaking for the majority, though, Judge Leonard Moore saw "redeeming social importance" in the fact that *491* professes "constructive ideas" even while it purveys sex. Moreover, he noted a vital effect of last term's Supreme Court decision in *Mishkin v. New York*, which apparently discarded the "average person" test of prurient interest. Now the yardstick is "the probable recipient group" — which seems to mean that judges must determine whom the material is aimed at and how it appeals to that particular group — an effect that Moore believes "can never be ascertained with certainty."

Visible Sex. "More objectively," said Moore, "the court cannot be wholly oblivious to contemporary community standards." While *491* languished in the customs basement, he said, millions of Americans were free to view the Italian film *Love and Marriage*, which depicts a sultry Sicilian wife cuckolding her husband everywhere from a public lavatory to his own bed as he sleeps on it. Glancing at U.S. bestsellers, Moore wryly noted that Harold Robbins' *The Adventurers* "introduces a different nymphomaniac every few chapters," while Masters and Johnson's *Human Sexual Response* describes hundreds of couples' reactions as they "perform their sexual functions, naturally and artificially, under kleig lights."

Not only does *491* fail to affront such contemporary

1966 Index

A comprehensive index to the Newsletter for 1966 will be published in February and distributed to all subscribers. Additional copies may be purchased from A.L.A. in Chicago at \$2.00.

national standards, concluded Moore, but only a "pharisaical" court could declare it void of social significance. If all this seemed to give foreign film makers a total green light, Moore added one word of warning: local communities can still adopt "whatever reasonable moral codes" fit their own "community standards" — provided that those codes also meet the Supreme Court's standards. —*Time*, 4 November.

"The Love Book"

The Editor had been hoping to see a succinct editorial statement in the *San Francisco Chronicle* concerning the local rhubarb over Mrs. Lenore Kandel's five-page volume entitled *The Love Book*, but his deadline is upon him and he will need to be content with presenting only the facts from a variety of news stories from the Bay Area papers.

The incident began when Police Inspector Peter Maloney and Patrolman Sol Wiener seized all copies of her poem, "The Love Book," they could find in the Psychedelic Shop and in the City Lights Bookstore, and arrested the clerks of both places for selling obscene material. We have not seen a copy of the poem, but the trouble seems to be that she writes about the passion of sexual intercourse in blunt four-letter words which the police find objectionable.

In a concerted protest against this police harassment, six San Francisco State College professors, on November 23rd, went about defying police attempts at censorship by scheduling public readings on campus from *The Love Book* and a play, "The Beard," by Michael McClure, for the playing of which two actors were arrested last August. (*The Beard* was cleared by Superior Court judge Joseph Karesh on 8 December.) The readings went off without hitch or incident, for Police Chief Thomas Cahill could not have been less interested. Said Cahill: "Go ahead. We have two cases which are sufficient for the courts to decide whether we acted correctly. Now it is up to the courts and we have no intention of piling it on with arrest after arrest." LCM.

It Couldn't Happen Here

Finland is normally as liberal as any Scandinavian country, but *pornography* has gone too far, according to a new Finnish law.

The law is aimed at preventing "authors and playwrights who cannot sell on literary merit from achieving commercial success by stuffing their books with obscenities." Finns don't have to get their laws by the U.S. Supreme Court, of course. —*Utica Observer-Dispatch*, 12 November.

The Best Defense . . .

San Diego State College Librarian Louis A. Kenney talked on "Censorship, the Ever Present Danger" at the Palomar Unitarian Universalist Fellowship Meeting House at the Sunday morning service on April 17, and led a discussion afterward.

"Censorship at the personal level is preferred to legislative controls," a panel on decency in literature indicated to the monthly meeting of the Friends of the Goleta (Calif.), Library on 21 April at the Goleta Valley Junior High School. According to the Santa Barbara *News-Press*, the panelists agreed that some censorship is needed, but could not agree on the degree.

Obscenity Convictions Overturned

The government's efforts to prosecute a California publishing enterprise for mailing *obscene literature* into Iowa suffered a setback last week when Federal District Judge William Hanson threw out the convictions of eight of nine individual defendants in the case. Left standing is the conviction of the publisher and his four publishing companies for violating the federal anti-obscenity law.

The case is unusual in that the publications originated in California, but the trials took place in Sioux City. Iowa was chosen as the site under a 1958 law that makes prosecution possible at the place where the literature is distributed as well as the place of origin. The publisher charged the government selected Iowa because Iowa jurors were more likely to convict than California jurors.

The case is unusual also because it represents the first attempt to bring action against editors, writers, photographers and circulation people, in addition to the publisher, for their roles in the production and distribution of obscene magazines and books. The Sioux City jury hearing the case found last January that the magazines and books claimed by the government to be obscene were obscene and that these employees were guilty along with the publisher under the federal law.

Judge Hanson's ruling knocks out the convictions of all of the individual defendants except the publisher. The judge does not dispute the authority of the government to prosecute these employees under the obscenity law. Judge Hanson said the government failed to meet the legal requirement that adequate proof be shown in the case of each individual that the individual both knew the contents of the publications in question and that they were sent through the mails.

The indictments in the Sioux City case were returned in February, 1965. About a year of investigation preceded the indictments. The trial itself lasted three

Red Book Ban

JAKARTA, Indonesia (AP) — The Indonesian government has forbidden any private individual, library, university or government ministry to keep books about communism. On south Sumatra students ceremoniously burned Communist books and magazines seized by authorities. — *Fresno Bee*, 7 November.

months. Judge Hanson held off action after the jury returned the guilty verdicts in January in order to await Supreme Court rulings in pending obscenity cases.

The government is left after all this with the conviction of one individual and four firms. However, these convictions were on numerous counts, with each conviction bearing a possible penalty of imprisonment for five years or a \$5,000 fine. The government conceivably can emerge from the case with a substantial deterrent against distribution of smut when sentence is pronounced next month.

But the verdict is certain to be appealed. There is no telling when or how the marathon Sioux City obscenity case will wind up. When it does, there is assurance that no literature will have been suppressed except within the legal framework that has been carefully provided to prevent abuse. — *Des Moines Register*, 14 November.

IU Librarian Tackles CHFL

Howell Malham, spokesman for Citizens For Happy Family Living, denied Thursday night that the organization is quarreling with an Indiana University librarian over distribution of indecent literature.

"We have no quarrel with Mr. Cunningham, but it seems in spite of our explanations of what we are trying to do, it is labeled censorship," Malham said.

Malham indicated the group's campaign will continue in full force.

Lawrence Cunningham, librarian at Northwest Campus of Indiana University criticized the organization at a meeting of the Ross Township consolidated group last month, saying keeping indecent literature hidden from children serves no purpose.

"We are not censoring anything, we merely ask dealers to look at what they are selling to children. The choice of whether to sell or not is up to them," Malham said.

"We deliver the bulletins, there is no mandate, no threat, no demonstration. We propose that harmful drugs are kept out of the reach of children and this type of literature should also be kept out of their way." — *Hammond Times*, 18 November.

Librarian Deplores Censorship

John Drew Forsman, Richmond city librarian, speaking before Richmond Kiwanis members specified he is against censorship of books of any kind.

He called the topic of his speech "Book is a Four Letter Word."

Referring in his talk to prohibition he observed that we found we could not enforce sobriety and even though it is known it is harmful the State cannot keep people from smoking. It has never been proven he said that obscene books have hurt anyone.

He said often such books reveal to people the true evil and as such gives them a chance to realistically guide their own lives.

Pornographic books he said are usually written by "hacks" and as such usually become boring. He further observed that if you really want to get a book to sell, ban it or put it on the forbidden list. — *Richmond, Calif. Independent*, 29 September.

Ban on Sales to Kids Okay

The United States Supreme Court on 10 October declined to review, on the ground that no Federal issue was properly raised, a ruling of the New York courts upholding the constitutionality of two state laws that prohibit the sale of certain salacious reading material to children below 17 and 18 years of age (No. 332, the *Bookcase, Inc. v. Leary*).

'Obscene' Books Dealer Acquitted

A Santa Ana bookdealer arrested in a district attorney raid April 23 and charged with possession and sale of alleged obscene literature was acquitted Wednesday by a municipal court judge.

Ernest G. Mishey, 63, was freed from a two-count misdemeanor criminal complaint by Santa Ana-Orange Municipal Court Judge Paul Mast.

Judge Mast dismissed the case on grounds that the two books cited in the complaint were protected from prosecution by the Constitution.

The books in question were identified as *Madam Butch* and *3½ Women*. —Santa Ana (Calif.) *Register*, 29 Sept.

MAC Opposes Censorship (sort of)

The metropolitan airports commission (MAC) took a stand against censorship Monday, then — in effect — qualified it by adopting a second resolution.

The anti-censorship stand was embodied in a motion offered by Minneapolis Mayor Arthur Naftalin. It stated that book sellers operating under MAC concession contracts have the same rights and obligations that apply to all other book sellers in Minnesota.

The qualifying resolution, proposed by P. K. Peterson, had the group adopt as its policy a finding of the MAC legal counsel that what a concessionaire sells may be considered by the commissioners when they are deciding whether to renew his lease.

The legal report, prepared by Gordon Shepard, warned, however, that judicial determination is necessary before any book or magazine is classified as improper, salacious, *pornographic* or *obscene*.

The whole issue came up for discussion as a result of a letter sent the MAC last month by the Minnesota branch of the American Civil Liberties union (ACLU). The group pointed out that the MAC still had on its books a resolution passed last year after former Mayor George Vavoulis and former Commissioner Milton Rosen, both of St. Paul, had complained of some of the books being sold in the Wold-Chamberlain field terminal building.

The resolution asked that book concessionaires refrain from selling or displaying improper, salacious, pornographic or obscene material. This, the ACLU group contended, constituted censorship — something beyond the powers of the MAC. —St. Paul *Pioneer Press*, 8 November.

"Within Shadows of Doubt"

A Cypress elementary school teacher has been suspended over a situation stemming from the publication of his first novel which the author says has 18 bedroom scenes.

Paul T. Bayne, whose "Within Shadows of Doubt" was released Oct. 5, was ordered suspended by the Cypress Elementary School District board of trustees, which filed a notice of intent to dismiss him.

The suspension order cited "immoral conduct, dishonesty and persistent violation" of district regulations, including forgery of a physician's statement of his mother's illness, upon which his presence in Plattsburg, N.Y. Oct. 3-7 was based.

Bayne was given 30 days in which to contest the dismissal notice and file for a hearing in Orange County Superior Court. —Santa Ana *Register*, 7 December.

Hidden USIA Subsidy Deployed

Librarians who persevered through the huge Monday (Oct. 3, 1966) edition of the *New York Times* discovered an article on page 34 that gave them a look into what is decidedly a new departure in the publishing policy of the federal government, particularly the United States Information Agency (USIA). This Agency, originally established to conduct the government's overseas propaganda operations, the article pointed out, has recently begun to operate a propaganda program here at home.

In this dispatch from Washington, the *Times* reported that USIA has been commissioning authors to prepare book-length manuscripts on subjects for which the Agency has been unable to find already-published books presenting a favorable view of U.S. government policy. When such government-financed books appear in the bookstores, they carry the imprint of a regular trade publisher and do not indicate that the book was commissioned by the federal government.

Last year, for example, when USIA learned that several books critical of U.S. involvement in the Dominican Republic were to be published, it contracted with Jay Mallin, a *Time* magazine correspondent who had reported the Dominican crisis, to write a favorable account of U.S. intervention. Mr. Mallin, in signing a contract for \$2368.00, agreed that if his work was not satisfactory, he would not be paid. As the *Times* article put it: "Mr. Mallin's work was satisfactory."

After USIA had accepted Mr. Mallin's manuscript, it asked him to find a publisher for it. He was successful in getting Doubleday to publish it in book form under the title, *The Truth About the Dominican Republic*. The publisher was informed that the book had been written for the USIA and printed it without any substantial changes. The book, which was sold both here and abroad, did not contain any statement that the USIA had commissioned the manuscript.

It was only reluctantly that USIA revealed its involvement in the book publishing field. The Agency,

according to an article in the *New York Times* of September 30, was pressured by members of the House Appropriations subcommittee to explain its role as clandestine publisher. Congressmen on the subcommittee pointed out to Leonard Marks, director of USIA, the anomaly of taxpayers unknowingly subsidizing books written specifically in support of government policy and then being sold as regular trade editions.

The question for librarians faced with the above facts is: where does this leave us? Does this make us the final link in the chain from subsidized manuscript to subsidizing taxpayer, unwittingly paying for his own brain washing? If the USIA, with its relatively small budget which Congress fortunately has the authority to audit item by item, is carrying on this publishing program, is it not conceivable that the CIA, with a huge budget almost entirely protected from Congressional scrutiny, may be carrying on a much bigger program? Perhaps it is relevant here to point out that the venerable quarterly, *Foreign Affairs*, published an article in its April 1966 issue titled, "The Faceless Viet Cong," but failed to state that its author, George A. Carver, Jr., is a CIA man. (See *I. F. Stone's Weekly*, Oct. 31, 1966.)

Librarians individually, and collectively through the American Library Association, continually talk in terms of freedom to read, the right to read, freedom of information, and similar phrases. But of what use are these freedoms if the information has been tampered with at the source? Does the patron have the right to expect to receive from his librarian the same honest product that he (the patron) may expect to receive from his pharmacist at the corner drugstore?

This phantom publishing policy of the federal government challenges ALA to express strong opposition to such a highly dangerous practice. But ALA, many of whose members have been grateful recipients of government largesse, may not relish the role of government critic. It will be interesting to see if consensus triumphs over conscience.

Librarians have been somewhat accustomed to face the opponents of freedom of information in the form of minor league vigilantes and petty politicians on school boards and city councils. It is quite another thing, however, to stand up to the subtle and awesome power of the federal government. But the size of the opponent should not determine whether the challenge should be accepted. There is much at stake here, and librarians who understand what freedom of information means will not stand mute. —Elmer S. Newman, Adult Services Librarian, Maple Heights Public Library, Cuyahoga County, Ohio.

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Censors are folk who want certain books burned but only after they have read them. —
Wall Street Journal.

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STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

DIVISION OF INSTRUCTION

Willard Bear, Assistant Superintendent

B. L. Simmons, Director, Curriculum and Instructional Media

Salem, Oregon, September 1966

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR SELECTION AND DEFENSE OF SCHOOL LIBRARY MATERIALS

It is highly important for the welfare of school children, for efficiency in instruction, and for economy in the expenditure of money that the school district have sound practices for the selection of materials for school libraries. It is even more important now when ESEA Title I and II funds are available for the purchase of library materials. Periodically we have urged all schools to adopt considered selection policies and procedures to accomplish these ends.

This is even more important as challenges to materials included in school libraries become more frequent. It is very disruptive when a community experiences trouble over the alleged inclusion of questionable books in its library collection. Wise, carefully planned selection procedures, supplemented by orderly methods for dealing with challenged materials will greatly relieve or ameliorate the divisive results of such community outbursts.

The Curriculum and Instructional Media Section of the Department has available a number of materials which can assist school districts in developing such policies and procedures. They include: Policies and Procedures for Selection of School Library Materials; Examples of Policy Statements; Instructional Materials Selection Policy and Procedures (adopted by Salem School District); Educational Materials Selection Policy (adopted by West Linn School District); How Libraries and Schools Can Resist Censorship--a statement by the American Library Association Council, 1962; Defending the Books, a statement developed by the National Council for Teachers of English and Citizen's Request For Reconsideration of a Book, a procedure useful when materials are questioned; The Student's Right to Read, a pamphlet issued by the National Council of Teachers of English dealing with the whole question of what kind of materials are being made available to students of different maturity levels; and School Library Bill of Rights, approved by the American Association of School Librarians.

We urge all school districts to put into practice policies and procedures such as are suggested here. Copies of the materials listed above are available from the Director of Curriculum and Instructional Media, Department of Education, Salem, Oregon 97310.

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