



Free Press Photo by JIMMY TAEFYA

The ceiling is explored by scientologists

Space-Age Religious Sect Stresses 'Life Discovery'

BY HILEY H. WARD
Free Press Religion Writer

Three times the Rev. Mrs. Beth Fordyce commanded the members of her congregation to shake hands.

A chemical engineer shook hands with a two-year-old; a teenager shook hands with a housewife, a bearded youth with a casual sport shirt with an elderly man.

THIS WAS the "first process" enacted Sunday at the Church of Scientology on the second floor of a store at 18212 James Couzens.



"Now I'll give you a new commandment," said Mrs. Beth Fordyce, a former Presbyterian who is married to an automotive engineer.

"Notice that wall..." The eyes of the several dozen persons turned right.

"Thank you," she said. "Now notice the back wall." The youth with the beard rubbed the wall as though he had discovered it for the first time. They looked at the ceiling, then the floor.

They were discovering one another, becoming aware of their environment, which is a major premise of this faith which wants to make a person get the most out of life.

Mrs. Tuc Farrell, wife of a Scientology missionary from Washington, told the group of the joy she has in having all of her babies at home, without any medical assistance.

SCIENTOLOGY — probably the first really offshoot

religion of the Space Age—draws a little bit from all places, even from electronics.

Their clergy wear crosses, with an "X" in the center. This does not represent Jesus but an eight-point self-improvement program.

A main principle is to analyze everything, as a scientist, before you act.

Scientologists believe they have had other lives, and anticipate others. Scientologists don't go in for seances, but some feel influences from other worlds.

There is no boundary between soul and body, so mental telepathy—a subconscious understanding of another's thoughts—fits in here, too, said Mrs. Fordyce.

"We are founded largely on Buddhism," says Mrs. Fordyce. "Like Buddha under the tree, we can practice exteriorization and leave it (the body) for a while," largely by thought processes.

Goal of the scientologists is to be a "clear," a completely good fellow.

Nuclear physicist L. Ron Hubbard, of Tilden, Neb., who founded the movement in 1950, took the term "clear" from the world of electronics, referring to a computing machine which has been eliminated of mechanical faults.

Scientology sees the Space-Age sinner as "a fine machine needing clearing of unnecessary and unwanted impediments which lower the computing value of the machine."



Missionary Farrell . . .
A non-Christian cross



Two young worshipers . . .
Beards and bonnets

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Detroit Free Press

Today's Chuckle

Hold your head high but keep your nose at a friendly angle.

Lyon Mettler

Sunday, April 7, 1963 THE SECOND FRONT PAGE Page 3, Section A

Scientology Claims Cures, Chases Reds, Vexes U.S.

BY JACK MANN
 Free Press Staff Writer

When the Church of Scientology offered last August to send its E Meter into battle against Communist subversion, President Kennedy didn't even say, "No thanks."

Because this religious organization when scorned has a political fury of a Hell it doesn't especially believe in, Mr. Kennedy will hear more about his oversight.

In the meantime, the Federal Food and Drug Administration



(FDA) has seized the E Meter.

FDA, bureaucratically un concerned with any spiritual or ideological magic the machine might work, had United States marshals confiscate it from Scientology's Washington, (D.C.) offices.

The FDA said the meter had been labeled an aid in treating almost all the ills that is heir to, from schizophrenia to cancer.

It had not, said the Rev. John Farrell, in Detroit to "help organize" Scientology's local branch of about 1,000 members, five ministers and "20-odd practitioners in training."

Mr. Farrell did not rule out the possibility that "application of spiritual doctrine

can bring about a better physical state."

But it was clear to him that FDA, in seizing a "spiritual" instrument and two truckloads of books, most of them by L. Ron Hubbard, founder of Scientology and inventor of the E Meter, was "trying to get us under the wording of the Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act."

AND WORSE, he said at Scientology's Detroit headquarters, 18212 James Courts, the seizure was "a Communist attack."

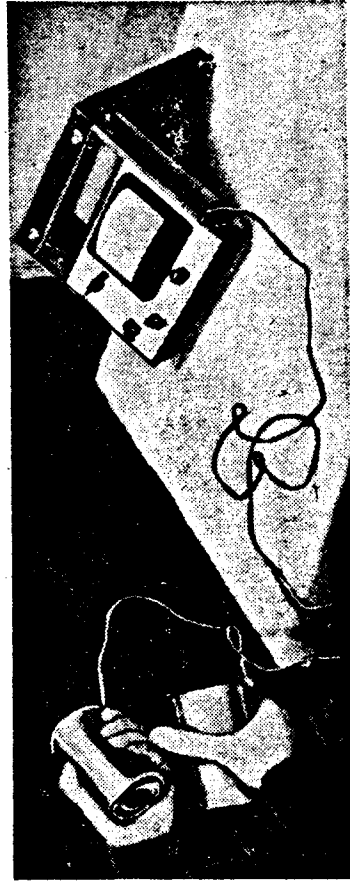
"We're seventh on the Kremlin's list of organizations that must be destroyed," Mr. Farrell explained. "The American Legion is No. 1."

The instrument, a simple ohmmeter such as a television

"It seems obvious that no government can afford to refuse our offer."

The E Meter's Communist-hunting value is a fortuitous by-product of Scientology. Hubbard's application of the ohmmeter to the spirit, circa 1961, was part of his attempt to bridge the centuries-old gulf between religion and science.

Scientology's auditors (ministers), using the meter in "processing" (a sort of confessional - consultation) members of the church, found that spiritual fluctuations were indicated as charges in body resistance to the meter's current flow. "It is one of the principles of the polygraph (lie detector)," Farrell said.



The E Meter. Can it catch Communists electronically?

repair man would use to detect a short or open circuit, is of proved and unparalleled value in detecting subversives, Mr. Farrell said.

A trained operator — it takes up to 300 hours to train one in the Academy of Scientology and there are about 1,000 in the world — can de-

fect a Communist in 18 minutes of interrogation, Farrell said.

"An FBI security check takes a lot longer," he said.

MEANWHILE Scientology, growing to a membership of 13,000 in Washington alone and perhaps 100,000 in the world, was being very choosy about its personnel.

All "except maybe some janitors," Mr. Farrell said, must have an intelligence quotient of at least 120 "and an acceptable personality profile." Perverts are out and so are subversives, so there had to be a security check.

"We've had trouble with Reds since 1950," Mr. Farrell said. "We checked everybody. We found only about five Communists in our organization—which isn't bad, out of 100,000."

The process is simple. The church member being pro-

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Sunday, April 7, 1963

4-A Sunday, April 7, '63 DETROIT FREE PRESS

Scientology: It 'Cures' Ills, Chases Reds, Vexes the U.S.

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cessed or the security risk being checked grips two tin cans connected to the meter and talks.

Communist tendencies show up as spiritual difficulties because they are "subversive and criminal"—what Scientologists call "overt transgressions of the individual's morea," and other religions call sins.

THE E METER performs no function itself, Mr. Farrell stresses, and no claims of infallibility are made for it. But what subversives it does not detect it may chase out of town.

"We found the subversives in South Africa," Mr. Farrell said, "and they've had a lot less trouble there. When the word got around that we were going to use the E Meter, a couple of plane loads left the country."

Some of those fleeing subversives, he said, had survived other security-checking procedures.

Mr. Farrell, 40, and Brooklyn-born, is ruggedly handsome and articulately blunt.

"We're ready to leave the question of the hereafter to those churches who specialize in it," he said in explaining Scientology as "the study of the human spirit in its relationship to the physical universe."

It is an offshoot of dianetics, "science of the mind," which Hubbard founded in 1950 and abandoned, or refined, in 1953 when he found that it did not quite bridge the gap between science and "empirical study of the spiritual being."

SCIENTOLOGY did bridge the gap, Hubbard found, and the E Meter worked in either case.

It first worked in Detroit in 1953, when two dianoeticians were arrested. They were let off with \$50 fines when authorities were unable to decide what the charge against them should be.

Mr. Farrell was blunt, but not too articulate, about his religion's position on the existence and nature of a Supreme Being.

"I do not counsel faith in



Rev. John Farrell

God as a solution to problems," he said. And: "Salvation through Christ seems to me not to have much to do with an individual's conduct in everyday life. . . . We're interested in making people happy; if they're happy, they'll be good."

But: "The Government is trying to adjudicate that my religion is not a religion. . . . The theory of the Supreme Being is something we do not care to stress to those who are relative strangers to us."

ANOTHER THING Scientology does not stress to strangers is its financial condition.

"Some of these organizations," an FDA official said, "try to create an aura of religion—partly to evade taxes."

Replied Mr. Farrell:

"Our attorney advises us that we are not required to divulge our sources of support."

Scientology sees an individual trying to survive in eight ways, living in eight spheres of responsibility: To himself, his children, mankind—and, at the other end of the spectrum, to the Infinite, or a Creator. Take your choice."

When the eight "motivations" are in proper balance, the individual will be "clear," Mr. Farrell explained. "He will have a heightened sense of how to play the game of life."

And it will show on the E Meter. Mr. Farrell pro-

duced a meter from an attache case.

"This is the serious menace to health," he said. "It was in the same office and those marshals missed it."

The reporter held the tin-can electrodes and registered 6,500. Mr. Farrell took them and registered 14,500.

"NEITHER OF US is clear," he explained. "Clear is 12,500 for a male, 5,000 for a female. Except pregnant females; we haven't tried enough of them yet."

Mr. Farrell didn't blame President Kennedy directly for the FDA attempt to "break up our internal security program."

"It was probably some tool or dupe," he said. He displayed a booklet, in Russian, which he said was the Kremlin plan for "psychopolitical warfare. . . . They attack any religious organization that is successful," he said.

Still, Scientology's leadership is disillusioned with Mr. Kennedy, who was "our man" in 1960, and this snub of the Communist-hunting offer last August may prove costly.

Scientologists are almost as particular about their Presidents as they are about their personnel. Kennedy was their man in 1960 because of a fatal blunder by Vice President Nixon two years earlier.

NIXON, THROUGH aides, advised that he'd just as soon not have his name mentioned in any more Scientology sermons.

"That upset Mrs. Hubbard," Mr. Farrell said, "and two of the office girls, terribly." And that did it.

"We opposed Nixon in 1960 and our man won," Mr. Farrell said. "And I don't know what you can make of it, but he tried to run again in California, where we're very strong, and he lost again."

"Now we're feeling very unhappy about Kennedy, and a lot of us are looking for a suitable replacement. That's why we're watching Gov. Romney very closely, in his attitude toward Federal control."

"What we have now is a welfare state but Romney seems to favor individual responsibility."

"And that's four-square," Mr. Farrell concluded.

and Sunday and entered
matter at Seattle, Wash.



SEATTLE, WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 11, 1963

5**

Downtown Seattle

Pastor Slain Before Eyes Of Horrified Followers

The Rev. William J. Fisk, 33, Seattle head of a religious mystical church, was shot to death last night before several horrified members of his congregation.

The Rev. Mr. Fisk died almost instantly from a bullet fired by a man who interrupted the churchman as he stood conducting a special class in the downtown headquarters of the Church of Scientology of Washington State, 1112 1/2 Fourth Avenue.

A SINGLE SHOT, fired from a .380 automatic, cut short the Rev. Mr. Fisk's pleas to summon a police officer.

"This man is going to shoot me . . . go get a cop," Fisk, who is known in his religion as an auditor, said, as soon as the man appeared in the building. "Please, someone get a cop," he urged again.

BEFORE the startled congregation members could obey, the man casually pulled a gun from his pocket, loaded it with a clip from another pocket and then fired.

The Rev. Mr. Fisk turned as the gunman pulled the trigger, the bullet entering the chest just below the right armpit. He fell without a word. The gunman calmly walked out the front door.

The Rev. Mr. Fisk was pronounced dead on arrival at King County Hospital a few minutes after the shooting, which occurred just before 9:30 p.m.

LITTLE MORE than an hour later, a man identified as Russell Edward Johnson, 36, of 3832 NE 91st Street, a carpenter and building contractor, surrendered at police headquarters with an attorney.

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RUSSELL E. JOHNSON
Surrenders To Police
—(Post-Intelligencer Photo by
Ken Harris.)

Followers See Slaying Of Pastor

(Continued from Page 1)

ney. He was booked without charge in City Jail. Detectives said they have been looking for Johnson since a few minutes after the slaying.

On the advice of counsel, Johnson declined to give officers a statement. However, as he entered headquarters, he asked:

"Is the guy dead?"

POLICE, delving into the shooting, said the Rev. Mr. Fisk was described as an ordained minister in the Church of Scientology, which is a little known but world-wide organization. It has extensive offices in Los Angeles, Washington D.C. as well as Seattle. The home church is thought to be in England.

The Rev. Mr. Fisk's wife, Donna, is believed to be in England. The couple lived at an apartment at 1022 Union Street but neighbors there said they had not lived there for the past two or three months.

A PAMPHLET, found by police at the scene of the slaying, described the religion as: "Scientology is the study of the Human Spirit in its relationship to the Physical Universe and its Living Forms."

It was not ascertained immediately if the Rev. Mr. Fisk was an ordained minister in the usual sense or if he was a graduate of a recognized school of theology.

ACCORDING to witnesses, four of whom identified Johnson as The Rev. Fisk's assailant, the Scientologist was conducting a class in dianetics, one phase of the religion, at the group's headquarters. The Rev. Fisk apparently had no notion that Johnson would be at the meeting.

Johnson was described by other church members as either a follower or former follower of the Rev. Mr. Fisk. One witness said Johnson at one time was one of Fisk's leading pupils.

Joseph G. Terabasso, 26, of 5011-2nd Ave. NW, attending the church for the first time, said he and three others were

with the Rev. Mr. Fisk when Johnson entered.

"We were all dumbfounded when Fisk said, 'Please someone get a cop.' Terabasso recounted. The shot was fired as Terabasso and the others attempted to flee the room.

POLICE were at a loss to learn the motive for the fatal shooting but detectives said they were investigating several possibilities. None of the witnesses could give any reason for the slaying.



In Death Of Pastor:

Detectives Seek Slaying Motive

While detectives yesterday sought a motive to explain the slaying Tuesday night of Rev. William J. Fisk, 33, Seattle head of a religious mystical church, the attorney of a man suspected of shooting him turned over a pistol to Prosecutor Charles O. Carroll.

A short time after the Rev. Mr. Fisk was shot by a man who interrupted a meeting he was conducting at 1112½-4th Ave., Russell Edward Johnson, 36, of 3882 NE 91st St., a carpenter and contractor, arrived at police headquarters with his attorney and surrendered.

JOHNSON made no statement on advice of his attorney, police said, but he did ask:

"Is the guy dead?"

Johnson was advised by his attorney, E. Theme Carras, to make no statements.

In the latest development yesterday, Carras arrived at Carroll's office with a foreign-made pistol and a handful of cartridges which he turned over to the prosecutor.

Records in the King County Clerk's office, meanwhile, disclosed that Johnson's wife, Norma, had filed suit for divorce Tuesday. The couple has four children, ranging in age from seven months to six years. Mrs. Johnson asked for support for herself and the children.

THE SURRENDER of the pistol came after Carroll had secured from Justice of the

Peace Evangeline Starr a search warrant directing Carras to turn over all material evidence connected with the case.

When Carras surrendered the pistol, he merely said that he was surrendering "a gun."

He was given a receipt signed by J. E. Kennedy, assistant chief criminal deputy prosecuting attorney, stating that:

"The property was released under protest and that all rights were reserved for Russell Edward Johnson allowing him to make motions to suppress."

It further stated that the results of any ballistic tests would be given to Johnson and his counsel when completed.

WITNESSES to the shooting told police the Rev. Mr. Fisk was conducting a special class in the downtown headquarters of the Church of Scientology of Washington State when a man walked into the room.

The Rev. Mr. Fisk told his students. "This man is going to shoot me . . . Go get a cop."

They said the man fired a single shot and walked from the room.