Father 'alarmed' at rise of the mind cult

By NIGEL BENSON

A FATHER said yesterday he was 'alarmed' at the rise of Scientology. Mr Thomas Ridey, 45, spoke after his daughter Kathleen, 15, was sacked from a job in the publications organisation of the cult in Edinburgh.

Kathleen, of Niddrie Marischal Place, Edinburgh, worked for five weeks in the cult's offices which send out pamphlets and leaflets.

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Last night she told of tests she had been given on an 'E' meter. 'They asked all sorts of questions—they were really odd.

I was asked if birds flew and if I had been in trouble with the police.

Finally, after one session. I was told that I was 'clean."

She said that after a row with staff at the publications department in North-East Thistle Street Lane, Edinburgh, she was asked to leave.

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Mr Riley said: 'She tells me that at times staff were expected to work late, and even sleep on the premises. I told her that she was not going to work late and this caused the row.'

He added: 'I am very alarmed at this going on in Edinburgh, especially where teenagers are involved.'

Mr Lafayette Ron Hubbard, 57, the American inventor of Scientology, has sent a message to his followers at the cult's heardquarters in East Grinstead, Sussex.

It said: 'I finished my work. Now it is up to others.'



KATHLEEN RILEY Odd questions