

EAST GRINSTEAD OBSERVER

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SCIENTOLOGISTS PLACE 22 BUSINESSES OUT OF BOUNDS

TWENTY-TWO businesses have been put 'Out of Bounds' to Scientologists by their Saint Hill headquarters at East Grinstead.

A letter to the members headed 'Executive Directive,' lists the businesses as 'out of bounds,' and says: 'The shops have indicated that they do not wish Scientology to expand in East Grinstead, and we are, therefore, relieving them of the painful experience of taking our money.'

The Press officer at Saint Hill, Mr. H. Dunston, said that the list had come about following 'critical and destructive remarks about our members.'

He said the list represented only 10 per cent. of the traders who had been contacted. Another 90 per cent. had been informed that they were 'regarded highly.' The 'Observer' spoke to several shopkeepers who were mystified. At one of the busi-

nesses, David Argent, of High Street, the manager, Mr. Robin Divall, said he had put up posters for Scientology, but had refused to display their books.

'A Scientologist said if we were not having his books Scientologists would stop coming here.'

But Mr. Divall added that one or two members were still coming to the shop.

A spokesman at the Wilmington Book Shop also said he had refused to display their books.

Another banned business, East Grinstead Coachworks, had refused to sign a petition supporting Scientology, said a director, Mr. Terence A. Casper. 'I do not think we have upset them in any other way,' he added.

Mr. Dunston said he had heard nothing of a petition and added that the present attitude to Scientology had been 'brought about by ourselves.'

'There is insufficient understanding in East Grinstead about Scientology, mainly because we have not had the time to be more informative.'

'We have been so busy work-

ing on existing programmes that we have not been available to the town,' he said. 'This is wrong and we should apologise to the rest of East Grinstead.'

Scientologist youths told to leave the country

TWO long-haired Swedish youths who for the past month had been studying at Saint Hill Manor, East Grinstead, the headquarters of the Scientology Foundation, appeared before a special East Grinstead Court on Wednesday last week.

Mats Bengtson (18) and Yngue Mokvist (22), both of no fixed address, pleaded guilty to being unlawfully in the U.K. contrary to the Aliens Order of 1953.

They were granted an absolute discharge and bound over in the sum of £5 each, on their own recognisance, to leave the United Kingdom forthwith.

Detective Chief Inspector Robert Marshall said that Bengtson and Mokvist arrived in this country on April 29 this year on the condition that they stayed no longer than one month.

They came to East Grinstead, he said, where they studied at the College of Scientology and through the college applied for an extension of stay. Their application was being considered by the Home Office, when on June 24 they were seen by police officers camping on private ground and taken to East Grinstead Police Station to establish their identity.

Chief Inspector Marshall said that he had personally told them at that time that they had to leave the country by June 29.

However, they were arrested after being seen by a police officer in the vicinity of Saint Hill on July 2 — three days after they were due to return to Sweden.

Bengtson, who when arrested had £44 in his possession, said that he wanted to

leave the country, 'but the scientologists did not give me my passport until 9 p.m. on June 29. I could not leave the country because I was waiting for money from home.'

Mokvist said that when he came to England he had £40 and that he intended staying for about two and a half years. He had intended to borrow about 5,000 dollars from an American girl to help him stay in this country.