Introduction

The Group Auditor

Since the publication of Dianetics: The Modern Science of Mental Health in May 1950, the technologies of Dianetics and Scientology have been expanded upon by L. Ron Hubbard bringing about even more impressive results in the handling of the mind.

It was as a result of the success of Dianetics and Scientology that a new profession, that of the group auditor, came about.

In the early 1950’s, group auditing was done by auditors who were themselves professional auditors of Scientology but these auditors, and the Church, began to train able persons into this specialized branch of Scientology who were not themselves professional auditors but who quickly became competent group auditors.

A group auditor is one who administers techniques, usually already codified, such as those in this handbook, to groups of children or adults.

Procedure

The group (preclears) is usually assembled and seated in a quiet room where they will not be disturbed by sudden noises or entrances. The group auditor then takes his position in the front of the group and talks to them briefly about what he is going to do and what he expects them to do.

The auditor then begins with his first command. He utters this in a very distinct voice in a very calm and quiet tone so as to be heard without any strain throughout the audience. He allows a pause, as necessary, for all in the group to do what he has said. He acknowledges their execution of the command. Then he either repeats the same command or goes to the next one as indicated. He continues through to the end of the processing session in this manner and closes the session as indicated.

The group auditor should read each command as written, allowing an appropriate interval of time between the commands. Numerous instructions to the auditor appear in the text. These instructions should be noted and followed by the group auditor, but the words in the parenthesis should not be repeated as part of the command.
The Communication Lag

The group auditor will discover that the questions he asks produce a “communication lag” in the preclear. The exact definition of a communication lag is: “The length of time intervening between the posing of a question, or origination of a statement, and the exact moment that question or original statement is answered.” If you will look very closely at this definition you will discover that nothing is said, whatever, about what goes on between the asking of the question or the origination of a communication and its being answered. What goes on in between is lag. It does not matter if the preclear stood on his head, went to the North Pole, gave a dissertation on Botany, stood silent, answered some other question, thought it over, attacked the auditor, or began to string beads. Any other action but answering, and the time taken up by that action, is communication lag.

If you will look around at people you will find them possessed of a great many communication lag mechanisms. In their effort not to be an effect, or in their effort not to be cause, in their aberrations about compulsive communication, and inhibitive communication, and in indulging in impulsive, compulsive and inhibitive communication, they manage to assemble quite a number of interesting mechanisms, but all these mechanisms are communication lag, until the exact question asked has been answered.

It may require anywhere from a third of a second to sixty hours (in very extreme cases undergoing personal auditing) for the preclear to receive and obtain anything like an answer to the command. All this period the preclear finds himself struggling with the command, feeling puzzled, feeling stupid, but seeking to answer it. In an individual session an auditor never interrupts a preclear who is experiencing “communication lag.” In group auditing it is inevitable that the auditor will interrupt one or more preclears in his group now and then by giving a new command before they have executed the old one; this is a liability of group auditing. Usually no serious compilations result but an auditor should (1) be alert to somebody in the group who is ALWAYS too slow and (2) be very sure not to use types of commands which always produce communication lags in preclears in individual sessions. Group processing commands are lighter than individual auditing commands mainly because of this communication lag factor.

Boil-off

Another manifestation of importance is one called boil-off. This is, to an untrained observer, similar to communication lag. However, boil-off is more like sleep. It is a restimulation of past unconsciousness. It is a reduction of awareness to a point where sleep takes place. Preclears who are in very poor condition are subject to it. Preclears who have not had enough sleep or food are subject to it.

The remedy of boil-off is effected by cautioning the group about a sufficiency of sleep and food or by processing itself. The processing remedies for this condition are contained in Appendix A.
Following Commands

A group auditor’s greatest difficulty in his group will be with those who are not actually following and doing the commands. These are changing the commands around, making them more complicated or less effective. These are the very difficult cases. They do not easily gain in group processing because they are not doing the actual auditing but some variation of it.

A good group auditor, of course, knows his Scientology. But his own ability to give auditing commands which can be followed depends in part upon his own ability to follow commands. A poor group auditor makes commands more complicated than necessary and departs into processes which are less effective upon the group (even though these may produce a greater explosive effect upon the group).

Results

All Dianetic and Scientology processes produce certain states of being in the individual receiving processing. These are called states of “Release.” A Re-lease is a person who has obtained results in processing and has a reality on the fact that he has attained those results. This comes about in processing when the individual becomes aware of the actual cause of an aberration, it vanishes. This point of sudden awareness and realization is the moment of release, and the process the preclear is being run on at that moment is not continued past that point.

The group auditor must be alert to members of the group going release during group processing and sees to it that those who have released have this state rehabilitated by a trained Scientology auditor as soon after the session as possible. The exact procedure for handling this situation is covered in Hubbard Communications Office Policy Letter 19 July 1965, Release Checks Procedure For.

There is more information on procedure and results available to the group auditor in the new Department 17 group Processing Pack and this pack can be obtained from your local Church of Scientology or the Publications Organization in Los Angeles or Denmark.

Exteriorization

Exteriorization is that state of the thetan, the individual himself, being outside his body. When this is done, the person achieves a certainty that he is himself and not his body.

It will be found that about fifty percent of a group will be able to exteriorize early in group processing by present day techniques. The remaining percentage receive considerable benefit in most cases. Exteriorization is not necessary to receive benefit.

When the individual achieves this state during processing that is one of the end results of processing and the particular process being run when exteriorization occurred is not thereafter continued.

Therefore, the group auditor must use Hubbard Communications Office Bulletin 6 May 1970R, Blows, Auditing Past Exterior to handle his group members who go exterior.
The Emergency Auditor

A group auditor should have someone in the group designated as an Emergency auditor. This person, who should be a trained Scientology auditor, is the person called upon by the group auditor to assist a preclear in the group who has hit a sudden grief charge or who is consistently boiling-off.

When called upon, the Emergency auditor, without disturbing the session or the group any more than absolutely necessary, takes the affected preclear into a side room and administers “Next to Last List, Self Analysis” to get the preclear into present time.

But the Emergency auditor must first check for “release” on the individual and if this is the case that is what is handled and the Self Analysis list is not run.

Group Auditing by Tape Recording

The Church has many hour long and half-hour long tape recorded auditing sessions of groups. A group auditor should experience and study these to get a proper “feel” of his auditing. Such tapes are also of great use to groups as supplementary or total group auditing.

Self-Processing

Self-processing is possible only where the preclear uses specially prepared lists. Written group auditing sessions can be self-administered by carefully following the commands.

However, self-processing is, in general, of little or of detrimental value. Self-processing without the use of lists is not only condemned, it is a symptom of extreme scarcity of people in a preclear.

The auditor will discover in his groups people who are self-processing without lists. He should uniformly forbid the activity as it will wipe out whatever gain the group auditor attained on the preclear in the group session.

Conduct of the Group Auditor

The group auditor should conduct himself in a very orderly and sensible fashion before, during and after group processing. He should have a good appearance and be dressed in a businesslike fashion.

A group does not run well for a group auditor who conducts himself or keeps himself poorly.

Self assurance is a keynote in a group auditor. Whatever happens he should remain calm and in charge of the situation.

Only by the invitation and reassurance of his demeanor will many preclears in the group be able to raise sufficient general confidence to run the commands at all. They would become uncontrolled under processing administered by a carelessly speaking or nervous group auditor.
The Group Auditor’s Code

The group Auditor’s Code is followed closely and expressly by the group auditor. The Code is contained in Appendix B of this volume. And also as a Scientologist the group auditor is expected to abide by the Code of a Scientologist.

Smoking During Sessions

The group auditor should not permit smoking during group sessions and actually should not smoke himself, if he does. It will be found that preclears seeking to escape the commands will begin to twist and turn or will light cigarettes; this is a certain indication of commands not being followed.

Suggested Study for a Group Auditor

Some of the best material for study by a group auditor is contained in the new Department 17 group Processing Pack. This pack has such items as: Journal of Scientology Issues 14-G, 16-G, 24-G, and the Associate Newsletter of 23 April 1953. These Journals and the Newsletter should be thoroughly studied by the group auditor before he conducts any of the sessions. Another publication for his general use is Self Analysis which has the double purpose of personal and group processing.

There are also many tape lectures on the subject of auditing and group auditing which the group auditor can study with considerable profit.

Professional Training

Training is available from the Church of Scientology on how to become a Professional group Auditor. L. Ron Hubbard in 1956, when asked what he thought of auditors, said “I think of an auditor as having INITIATIVE. Auditors survive better than other people. If this world has any faintest chance of surviving it will not be because I write, but because auditors can and will think and DO.”

The Editor
Compiled from the works of
L. Ron Hubbard.