

PSYCHOLOGY

Race Riot Prescription

Detroit scientists prescribe for the prevention and cure of Negro-white disorders, basing their advice on the experience of their city.

► YOUR CITY may be spared the horrors of a repetition of Detroit's "Bloody Monday" race riots, if the simple, practical prescriptions for riot prevention formulated by Dr. Alfred McClung Lee and Dr. Norman D. Humphrey, of Wayne University, prove effective.

Like an epidemic disease, a race riot is preceded by certain symptoms that can be recognized. It is possible to prepare a "fever chart" of heightened racial tension, and act at once on this warning to prevent bloodshed and violent destruction. Information in confidential files of the Federal Office of Facts and Figures 15 months before the Detroit riots indicated that those riots were inevitable.

What to do immediately, "before the doctor comes," in case a riot should break out in your city is prescribed by these Wayne University scientists in a new book, *Race Riot* (Dryden Press). The medicine is based on experience in the Detroit riots, as they analyzed it:

1. Demand state militia or the U. S. Army; do not count on local police to quell the riots.

2. Quarantine the race riot district. New recruits and supplies for rioters must be kept from reaching them. But innocent people in the quarantined district should have necessary food and medical care.

3. Keep the children in school, overtime if necessary, especially the high school students. Children are unlikely to create any disorder in school, but may join the rioters when let out.

4. See that accurate reports of what is going on and constructive official statements reach the public.

5. Do not experiment with half-way measures. A race riot is dynamite!

The scientists cite 13 symptoms that should serve as flaming danger signals to any community that race riots are brewing and approaching the boiling over point:

1. A shift in public opinion permitting sadistic and aggressive sentiments to find open expression.

2. Increase in race-rumor circulation and in the purposiveness and the sensational character of the rumors. On the eve of race riots race rumors bear the

earmarks of artificial creation and abnormally rapid dissemination. They may be the work of subversive groups deliberately attempting to precipitate the acts of violence.

3. Intensification in the frequency, boldness and violence of racial frictions.

4. More open action of anti-Negro and anti-white organizations in propagandizing against each other, and the assumption on their part that such action will be more acceptable to the public than previously.

5. Spectacular rises in juvenile delinquency.

6. An increasing distrustfulness of police by Negroes. The Negro press can be watched for evidence of this.

7. Evidences of a common front or pro-white or anti-Negro camaraderie between the police and hoodlum elements.

8. Increasingly prominent accounts of third-degree and other police violence and of disciplinary actions by police officials.

9. An accumulation of pressures for living space within a hemmed-in Negro district.

10. Sharp defensive movements on the part of landlords and real estate people to keep the Negro community from expanding in directions where they believe Negro occupancy would lower property values.

11. White envy of "big money" earned by formerly impoverished Negroes who do not know how to handle it and who naturally spend it rather openly.

12. Factors that clog or seriously impair the normal and accepted channels of collective bargaining so that industrial unrest has no adequate means of expression and outlet and thus may be diverted into anti-Negro excesses.

13. Increases in Negro and white employment contact where there has not been adequate preparation for sensible and democratic association.

If an alarming number of these symptoms should break out in your community, Drs. Lee and Humphrey offer this prescription:

1. Feel the pulse of the public. Scientists have developed expert methods of sampling public opinion and public senti-

ment as for pre-election polls. This will give an unbiased assay of the temper of the people.

2. It is not enough to gather facts. It is easy for people to feel that fact-finding in itself is an accomplishment. The reports and surveys are then allowed to gather dust in some file. Don't let this happen. Translate the information immediately into action that will solve local problems of immigration, housing, employment, recreation and the like.

Don't rely on an easy solution such as segregation to prevent race riots, these scientists warn. In Detroit, it was found that neighbors, black and white, living together in the same community do not riot against one another. Students at Wayne University, black and white, went to school together even on Bloody Monday and there was no disorder, no trouble. Workers in war plants where Negroes and whites were employed together had no rioting. The rioting occurred in segregated neighborhoods.

And don't expect experimental legislation to solve your problems. The laws on race and civil disorders in most of our states are fairly satisfactory, these scientists believe. What is needed is adequate and humane law enforcement.

And don't ignore the stupid and depraved elements in your city in taking action to prevent race riots. What they think and how they feel about the other race is extremely important. These are the people who may terrify you in the next race riot.

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MEDICINE

Dental Drill Peels Skin For Making Allergy Tests

► A DENTAL DRILL, symbol of pain to most persons, is being used at Rawson Hospital in Buenos Aires, Argentina, for allergy testing and is said to make these tests less painful than when performed by other methods.

The drill, mounted on a portable motor and similar to that used by engravers, peels the top layer of the skin by friction. A drop of extract of each substance suspected of causing allergy is placed on the rubbed area. After 20 minutes the reaction is read as usual.

False positive reactions due to contamination of the test substances with each other is avoided by this method, which is said to be not only less painful but more convenient and economical than skin testing for allergy by scarification or hypodermic injections.

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