

SOCIOLOGY

Sit-Ins Prove Effective

New reform approaches, intermediate between violent, escalatory revolution and the gentility of the ballot box, are needed to insure justice and freedom—By Edith Lederer

► THE SIT-INS, freedom walks and prayer pilgrimages synonymous with the Negro revolt in the United States today are techniques that may be used in the future to solve world problems.

The three traditional processes for social change—war, revolution and reform—have become obsolete and undesirable methods for solving a nation's problems in the atomic age, Dr. Howard Zinn, associate professor of government at Boston University and advisor to the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee, told the 42nd annual meeting of the American Orthopsychiatric Association in New York.

Nonviolent direct action, expressed from Berkeley, Calif., to Selma, Ala., has been used over the centuries "by aggrieved groups in fitful, semiconscious control of their own actions," Dr. Zinn said.

These actions, limited in variety only by the imagination, disturb the status quo. They intrude on the "complacency of the majority" and express the anger and the hurt of the aggrieved. They publicize an injustice and demonstrate the "inadequacy of whatever reforms have been instituted up to that point."

A freedom walk or a wade-in can create tension and trouble, forcing the holders of power "to move faster than they would

have otherwise to redress grievances."

In the last decade, Dr. Zinn told the meeting of psychologists, psychiatrists and psychiatric social workers, Americans have suddenly learned that gradual progress toward ending racial prejudice in the United States is not enough.

Mass demonstrations in Montgomery, Ala., mass arrests in Albany, Ga., bombings in Birmingham and murders in Mississippi pointed up the failure of "piecemeal reform to establish racial justice in America."

The lessons from these incidents go beyond the race crisis, Dr. Zinn said, and point out that gradualism cannot keep up with the "push of events."

Rather, he said, "It is up to the citizenry, those outside of power, to engage in permanent combat with the state, short of violent, escalatory revolution, but beyond the gentility of the ballot-box to insure justice, freedom, well-being—all those values which virtually the entire world has come to believe in."

With this in mind, the Negro uprising in America can be linked to the turmoil everywhere in the world.

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Seek Campus Liberalism

► AGITATION by U.S. college students to make the rules governing their campus life either more liberal or invisible is just one symptom of a more fundamental disturbance.

This disturbance, seen in student movements from Berkeley to Yale, expresses a yearning to regain the intellectual college community of the past, Dr. Charles E. Bidwell of the University of Chicago told the 42nd annual meeting of the American Orthopsychiatric Association.

Although the forms of student uneasiness may vary from campus to campus, he said, the aims of its leaders appear constant.

"These students are pressing not so much for adulthood as for studentship, for liberality of teaching, and for the hospitable setting of the collegiate community."

In the informal comments of the Berkeley free speech leaders, Dr. Bidwell noted a determination that "students and teachers can be linked together to humane learning."

These reform movements seem to draw their leadership almost entirely from the small group of students committed to the liberal ideal who are dissatisfied with the current state of American colleges and committed to doing something about it.

Instead of calming these voices, Dr. Bidwell believes that college teachers and administrators should strengthen the student impulse to college reform.

This does not mean that college officials must give in to student demands. Rather, it means that they should examine the basic conditions of student life, he said.

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Integrated Class Can Help

► THE NEGRO YOUTH who strives for academic success may be highly motivated in an integrated classroom with a white teacher.

However, "the integrated situation is likely to be doubled-edged in the sense that failure will be more devastating and success more rewarding than similar experiences in the segregated school," Dr. Irwin Katz of the Research Center for Human Relations, New York University, told the 42nd meeting of the American Orthopsychiatric Association.

Whether the Negro child succeeds or fails, he said, will depend not only on his actual ability, but also on his expectations.

"If he expects to fail his actual chances of failing will be greater than they would be in an all-Negro setting, because his fear of failure will be more intense. On the other hand, if he has a high expectation of success in the integrated school he should be aroused to greater effort than he would be by a similar expectation of success in the segregated school," Dr. Katz said.

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Alcoholic Marriages Sick

► ALTHOUGH MANY male alcoholics put the blame for their excessive drinking habits on their wives, the fault is usually in themselves.

Speaking before the American Orthopsychiatric Association, Dr. Herman Karlen, family counselor at the Institute for Alcoholism and Narcotic Addiction, Philadelphia, said "Marriage is the last stand for the alcoholic as he seeks to find relief from his feelings of early deprivation."

In a study of 28 couples over an eight-month period, Dr. Karlen found that each marriage was a "catch all" for the unfilled need for love drinking which could not satisfy.

The wife chosen by each alcoholic, in various ways was a person who appeared sympathetic and who might "in a mothering way, sustain the faltering social functioning of the man."

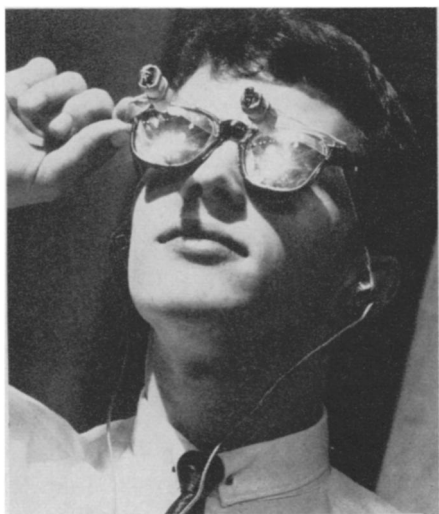
The problem-drinking husband demanded the undivided attention and devotion of his wife. Yet he avoided responsibility and any real intimacy with her.

However, despite these failings, Dr. Karlen believes that "excessive drinking, with its often resultant violent antisocial behavior, merely magnifies and intensifies the potentially conflicted marriage."

After studying 30 alcoholic marriages over a six-year period, Mary A. Mally, administrator, St. Francis Alcoholic Research Center, Pittsburgh, found that these marriages are not accidental.

"The major problem is that these kinds of situations are pathological, sick, unhealthy or whatever," she said.

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Honeywell

"SEEING WITH EARS"—These glasses for blind persons have mirror lenses that reflect the light in front of the wearer to a pair of photo-sensitive cells attached above each lens. The cells transmit sound signals to a pair of special ear pieces to help them "see." The designer, Ralph Hotchkiss of Rockford, Ill., models the glasses.