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SOCIOLOGY

Students Move for Peace

► **THE ANGRY STUDENT** who burned his draft card in protest over U.S. bombings in Viet Nam signaled a new movement in the country, say two political sociologists. He was only one of the waves that have rippled out from Berkeley since last year and from the civil rights movement before that.

The Viet Nam protests mark an entirely new political approach among university students not to be compared to action of the depression years, said Dr. William Kornhauser of the University of California's Berkeley campus.

Dr. William Gamson of the University of Michigan said civil rights demonstrations, the Free Speech movement of 1964 in Berkeley and the Viet Nam protests are all part of the same activist sentiment that started with Martin Luther King's non-violent disobedience movement nearly four years ago.

Recent demonstrations over American involvement in Viet Nam have been equated with the student leftist movement of the 1930's. It has also been proposed that the protests foreshadow a new radical movement in the United States, perhaps on the order of permanent political agitation, based in the universities as is the case in many South American, European and Asian countries.

In rejecting both comparisons, Dr. Kornhauser pointed out that no ideology distinguishes the protests. Thirty years ago students argued a great deal more about "What is truth?" Now the keynote is action.

"The new thing is that demonstrating students are basically non-ideological," explained the sociologist. They are weak on ideas and strong on action.

Dr. Kornhauser does not expect that the current student movement will become as

important a force as foreign students who usually come from the elite society and participate by tradition in politics, but does expect the protests to continue on a series of issues.

Dr. Kornhauser thinks the university system may be in for more challenge from students who believe universities now are no more than supermarkets for credit points, when they should be a unity of scholars.

The professor emphasized that he does not see the demonstrators as frustrated kids blowing off steam. They are dealing with major issues of the day on which they have passionate convictions, he said. The result is an increasingly alive, concerned and serious student body.

However, a serious shortcoming is that the demonstrators (who actually form a small minority of the total Berkeley enrollment) tend to be rigid in deciding who is moral and who is immoral. They are not open to critical discussion of their ideas, he commented.

Along with anti-establishment feelings goes a positive corollary that says: "One can participate in major decisions involving the entire society."

• Science News Letter, 88:302 November 6, 1965

SPACE

Gemini Flight Cancelled Due to Agena Failure

► **THE GEMINI 6** flight scheduled for launch on Oct. 25 did not take off as planned.

Astronauts Walter M. Shirra and Thomas P. Stafford were to dock their craft with an Agena rocket but the rocket failed to go into orbit and consequently the Gemini flight was cancelled.

The astronauts had been scheduled to take photographs of Comet Ikeya-Seki but, due to the cancellation of the flight, these were not taken (see SNL 88:286, Oct. 30, 1965).

• Science News Letter, 88:302 November 6, 1965

Do You Know?

In Mexico City, where the 1968 *Olympic Games* will be held, the altitude is 7,500 feet and the oxygen content of the air is approximately 75% that of sea level, which may cause some difficulty to athletes.

The incidence of *tuberculosis* in the Harlem area is three times that of New York City as a whole.

Since much of the embryonic development of young *marsupials* may be observed directly while they are in the mother's pouch, these animals will be used to determine the effects of cancer-causing chemicals on normal growth and development.

• Science News Letter, 88:302 November 6, 1965

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