PSYCHOLOGY

World Conquest For Ideals Must Be Slogan For Democracy

To Think Americans Can Be Swayed by Foreign Talk Is False Assumption of Folklore, Scientist Says

THE BILL OF RIGHTS must become more important than the refrigerator if the Nazi war of ideas is to be wiped out, Dr. Mark Graubard, physiologist in charge of industrial education for the Defense Health and Welfare Service, said. In addressing the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in Boston, Dr. Graubard made it plain that he expressed his own views and not any Government views or plans.

Democracy should not be on the defensive in this war of ideas, Dr. Graubard told his audience.

"World conquest must be democracy's slogan," he declared. "Every corner of the globe must come under its rule and every corner will subsequently have to be guarded against infection."

Worries about the swaying of our people by enemy propaganda are needless, Dr. Graubard indicated. To think that people can be fooled and manipulated at will by words properly handled is a false assumption by those under the sway of the folklore of radicalism. The lessons of anthropology and history disprove this notion.

"Man lives within the frame of culture patterns and belief patterns which he finds consistent and logical," Dr. Graubard said. "Changes in these patterns he opposes at the beginning, and often resists for hundreds of years."

"People do not give up the caste system, slavery, belief in astrology, in witchcraft, racial superiority, prestige values, democracy and similar belief patterns because of arguments or words no matter how skilfully they are presented."

"On the other hand, we know that there is a flux in beliefs, which have their periods of rise and decline. As illustrations, we might cite the course of astrological belief among scientists, the witchcraft delusion of the Middle Ages, the rise of nationalism and racialism."

"It is a fact that during the eighteenth century, democracy spread like wildfire through Europe and even Napoleon could not stop the spirited diffusion of the slogans, liberty, equality and fraternity. People were inspired. Democracy was a dynamic faith, a hope and a goal."

"In the nineteenth century, the passion of this faith was somewhat diminished perhaps for several reasons. The good it brought was taken for granted and, with the rise of science and social progress, there was great stress of mechanism in science and philosophy and of materialism in society. The refrigerator became the chief goal and the truth and wisdom of the Bill of Rights were seldom referred to or remembered."

"Democracy must rediscover and strengthen the old faith which led to its victory in the past and to the inspiration of millions all over the world."