

DICTIONARY *of* SOCIOLOGY

Edited by

HENRY PRATT FAIRCHILD, Ph.D., LL.D.

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PREFACE

Every science must have its special vocabulary or terminology. Sciences deal with ideas, thoughts, and concepts, and these must be expressed in words. Even the facts which are the groundwork of science must be set forth largely in words. No science, therefore, can have any more precision and exactitude than the words or other symbols, such as mathematical or chemical formulae, in which it is embodied. Quite generally, this situation calls for a special dictionary or glossary for each particular science.

The foregoing is perhaps even more true for sociology than for many other sciences. Since sociology deals with matters of commonplace experience, the thoughts, ideas, and concepts which it must express are, with relatively few exceptions, included in any standard general dictionary, and most of the really important terms are already to some degree familiar even to the immature members of society, and are frequently used in everyday speech. Scientific accuracy demands that precise and limited meanings should be assigned to these terms, in order that they may be used uniformly alike by specialists, students, and amateurs in the field. In the case of some words, a sufficiently precise sociological definition may be found in a general dictionary, and what is needed is an underscoring of this particular interpretation. In other cases, the requirements of the science call for specialized definitions which do not occur in the precise form in any ordinary dictionary. For both these purposes, a special volume is indispensable. If this process occasionally appears to do violence to the preconceptions already held by users of a given word there seems to be no escape, and one who wishes to deal scientifically with sociology must resign himself to the effort of accommodating his use to standardized practice. The only alternative that has suggested itself is to invent artificial and arbitrary words, probably derived from some classic roots, which will be given as exact a significance as possible by the inventor. This has never had any wide success, as the use of strange, artificial terms creates an impression of pedanticism and remoteness, and destroys the sense of human reality which is needed to give life and acceptability to the science. There is hardly a score of words in this Dictionary which were deliberately created to cover sociological concepts.

A dictionary has two main purposes, first to consolidate and standardize the existing uniformities of linguistic usage, and second, to establish new uniformities and precisions by selecting for authoritative support one or more of various meanings currently assigned to a given word or phrase. In the Dictionary of Sociology, exceptional emphasis is laid upon the latter task, because of the conditions already mentioned. The usefulness of such a dictionary in helping to develop a genuine science must depend largely upon the extent to which sociologists are content to accept the definitions given in the Dictionary, and use them consistently and scrupulously in accordance with the meanings indicated.

A good definition, likewise, has two main aspects. It should give the uninformed person a clear and adequate notion of the character of the object, even though he may never encounter it in his experience, and it should enable a person correctly to identify the object the first time he does meet it in his experience. A good definition must be something more than either a classification or a recipe, although both of those factors may be embodied in it. Since definitions are couched in words (and sometimes in other symbols), if a definition is to be precise and clear every word used in it must be equally precise and clear. In a general dictionary, every word used in any definition is presumably defined in its own appropriate place. While there is, therefore, a sort of an endless circle, nevertheless it is a real circle and there should be no breaks in it. In a sociological dictionary, most of the words used in defining are not themselves defined in this particular volume, but they are taken from everyday usage, and their definitions are to be looked for in a standard dictionary. This creates a regrettable, but inescapable, element of indefiniteness. But there is also a great gain in the use of certain definitely sociological words in defining other sociological terms. In this respect a dictionary can be consistent and constructive.

A special difficulty arises from the fact that, partly because of the situation just described, a very large proportion of sociological terms are not single words, but phrases of two or more words. This introduces peculiar technical problems in preparing a Dictionary of Sociology. The question of primary and secondary listings is almost unanswerable. To adopt the uniform rule of putting the substantive first and the modifier afterwards would produce such absurdities as "ladder, agricultural" and "chaser, ambulance." The expedient of

putting the more distinctly sociological word first and the more general word second has logic on its side, but also presents no solution in the case of terms where both words are equally sociological, as for example, "antagonistic cooperation." It has not been possible to discover any comprehensive formulae that could be applied unvaryingly to this and related problems. The best procedure has seemed to be to deal with each case or type of cases on the basis of its own characteristics, following the guidance of common sense, practicality, and minimum violence to the expectation of the user. As an example there may be cited the procedure of giving all terms beginning with the word "social" primary listing under that head, even though in some cases it might have seemed more logical to treat them as subdivisions of some other important sociological concept. Having done this with "social," it seemed only reasonable to follow the same practice for the terms beginning with the word "individual." As for the rest, each particular term has been handled in accordance with its apparently most reasonable and practical place in the entire scheme.

One additional problem arises from the fact that sociology, as a comprehensive science, must necessarily overlap several more specialized fields, such as those of anthropology, economics, psychology, political science, statistics, and history. It is not possible to set up any rigid dividing lines, nor to work out an inclusive formula that will prescribe exactly how far into each of these domains it is expedient to go. In this case, some guidance is to be found in the degree of sociological character of various specific terms. Thus "amulet" is definitely an anthropological term, and yet it has genuine sociological significance. On the other hand "blow-gun" is a little too specialized to belong in a Dictionary of Sociology.

The preparation of this Dictionary has rested with a staff composed of an Editor, an Associate Editor, three Advisory Editors and ninety-three Contributing Editors, whose names are listed on a preceding page. The large bulk of the definitions has been supplied individually by the members of the Board of Contributing Editors. Such contributions are identified by appropriate initials. In a few cases, it seemed expedient to assign certain rather specialized fields to one individual, who would act as Coordinator, and consolidate the offerings of the group of Contributing Editors working in each respective area. Thus Dwight Sanderson accepted this function for Agricultural Sociology, Walter C. Reckless for Criminology, Clyde V. Kiser for

Population, and E. A. Hoebel and George P. Murdock for Anthropology. Definitions which are not identified by initials have been derived from three main sources: 1) They have been prepared, either individually or collectively, by the Editor, Associate Editor, or Advisory Editors. 2) They have been derived from other works from which permission to quote verbatim has courteously been granted, such as Young's Social Worker's Dictionary, and the Glossary of Housing Terms mentioned below. 3) In a few cases they have been submitted at special request by individuals who were not members of the Board of Editors, but graciously consented to cover certain concepts with which they were particularly familiar. In the last analysis, by virtue of his official position, the Editor must take the final responsibility for every definition as printed. But as a matter of fact the great majority of the definitions submitted by others has been very little, if at all, modified. As a unit, the Dictionary stands as a unique representation of the precise thinking of the American sociological fraternity as a whole.

In the conduct of the work, much use has been made of certain other reference works, particularly Merriam's Webster's New International Dictionary of the English Language, Seligman and Johnson's Encyclopaedia of the Social Sciences, Erle Fiske Young's The New Social Worker's Dictionary, E. B. Reuter's Handbook of Sociology, Earle Edward Eubank's The Concepts of Sociology, Harold A. Phelps' Principles and Laws of Sociology, Edgerton's Statistical Dictionary of Terms and Symbols, Constantine Panunzio's Major Social Institutions, and Building Materials and Structures, A Glossary of Housing Terms compiled by Subcommittee on Definitions, Central Housing Committee on Research, Design, and Construction, of the United States Department of Commerce and the National Bureau of Standards. Grateful acknowledgment of this use is tendered herewith.

Finally, the Editor cannot refrain from becoming personal sufficiently to express his deep gratitude and appreciation to all who have helped to make the book what it is. In the face of extraordinary difficulties and complications arising out of the war period, which struck the United States after the book was planned, there has been a uniformly high level of cooperation and promptness, and patience with the many demands made necessary by the expediting of the work. To the publisher, also, the Editor extends with pleasure his thanks for generous, competent, and sympathetic support and guidance.

A

abandoned child. Cf. child, abandoned.

abduct. In general, to take away a human being by stealth and often with violence; to kidnap. In more frequent usage the word signifies to seize and take away unlawfully a young woman for purposes of marriage or rape. W.G.

abnormal. (1) Out of adjustment with the general structure of a particular system. Prejudicial to the efficient functioning of a system as a whole. Contrary to social expectation. (2) Deviating from the customary, the usual, or the average.

abnormality. Absence of, or deviation from, normality.

abnormality, social. Cf. social abnormality.

abolition. The agitation carried on in the U. S. by Wendell Phillips, William Lloyd Garrison and others against manhood slavery between 1832 and 1862. The means advocated ranged from the aiding of runaway slaves, and the use of force by private parties, to legal enactments and compensation for emancipated slaves by the State. G.M.F.

abortion. In lay, inaccurate language, a criminal interruption of pregnancy, in the early months. In more accurate medical terminology abortion is any detachment or expulsion, or both, from any cause of the fertilized ovum or fetus before it is capable of independent life (i.e., first 26 or 28 weeks). After this period, and up to the normal conclusion of pregnancy, expulsion is called premature birth (q.v.). Abortion is medically classified as (a) spontaneous, (b) induced, (c) legal or illegal. A spontaneous abortion is the detachment or expulsion of the previable

fetus by conditions or states not under the control of normal physiological functions (e.g., some pathology in the woman or an accident). An induced abortion is an artificial interruption of pregnancy, usually by an operation. Our confused laws make it impossible to define legal abortion briefly, but, generally speaking, a legal abortion is one induced by a physician, with the corroboratory consent of a medical colleague in good standing, for adequate and generally accepted medical indications (e.g., to save the life or preserve the health of the pregnant woman). Otherwise abortion is illegal in the U.S.A. The laws of one or two states do not permit even the above, but medical custom accepts the principle just stated.

N.E.H.

abortion, criminal. The unlawful destruction of a fetus by the use of drugs, instruments, or manipulation. Cf. abortion

E.R.G.

absolute divorce. The legal dissolving of a marriage permitting one or both members of the former union to remarry. E.R.G.

absolutism. The form of national government in which the supreme power is exercised by a monarch, or a small group, either with or without a constitution. By a figure of speech, the term is applied to autocratic control exercised over any social group by one or a few persons. G.M.F.

abstinence. Voluntary total avoidance of satisfaction of an appetite, because of taboo or moral restraint as in the avoidance of meat on fast days, or of alcoholic liquors. F.H.H.

abstinence, marital. (*general*) The refraining from indulging the sexual appetite in

marriage. (*specific*) 1. The postponement of marriage until one can support a family on a decent standard of living. This is Malthus' theory of "moral restraint." 2. The refraining from sexual intercourse in marriage (a) completely, or (b) except for procreation.

abstract collectivity. That kind of plurel (q.v.) characterized by the highest degree of abstractness. Such plurels are ideological, for they are not simple summations of social processes, but abstract products of simpler plurels (crowds, organized groups, etc.) which themselves are products of directly observable social processes. In other words, abstract collectivities are constructs (q.v.), although rarely if ever scientific constructs; folk language usually has much to do with them. They are almost always results of "social animism", although they can be scientifically observed and their recurrence predicted. Churches, nations, classes, parties, etc., are abstract collectivities. Related terms are associations, large social structures, and corporate bodies. H.B.

abundance. A supply of material necessities, comforts, and simple luxuries adequate to provide the physical basis for "a good life." The term has come into vogue in recent years, particularly in connection with the concept of "an economy of abundance," as a contrast to the actual scarcity and its supporting philosophy, which have prevailed, even in countries of advanced economic culture.

• **abundance, economy of.** Cf. economy of abundance.

• **academic freedom.** Cf. freedom, academic.

• **acceleration.** Increase in momentum of a moving object, applicable to a social movement or a process involving rate of change.

N.A.

• **acceleration of social change.** Acceleration is the speeding up of the time rate of social change. It is the time rate of increase in the velocity of a process. "Deceleration" is the slowing down of the rate of change. "Celeration" denotes either acceleration or deceleration, either positive or negative changing rate of the rate of

a process. These terms are measurable and therefore operationally definable, by the difference between two periods in the rate of a social change, divided by the time interval between the mid-dates of the two periods. S.C.D.

• **accident insurance.** Cf. insurance, accident.

• **acclimatization.** The process whereby migrants become organically adjusted to a new climate, or the state of such adjustment. Also, figuratively, mental and social adjustment to a new social environment. F.H.H.

• **accommodation.** (1) Any social process, whether conscious or unconscious, which consists in the alteration of functional relations between personalities and groups so as to avoid, reduce or eliminate conflict and to promote reciprocal adjustment (q.v.), provided that the altered behavior pattern is transmitted by social learning rather than by biological heredity; and (2) the social relationships which result from this process. Among the varieties (or methods) of accommodation most often mentioned are arbitration, compromise, conciliation, conversion, subordination, and toleration. H.H.

• **accommodation, creative.** That conscious and deliberate form of accommodation in which a solution for conflict is sought through discovering and developing potential areas of agreement, whereby the underlying needs, interests and motives of all those involved may be fulfilled to the maximum possible degree. As contrasted with compromise, creative accommodation seeks to avoid the sacrifice of any important underlying interest on either side; as contrasted with legalistic justice, creative accommodation seeks emergent, voluntarily acceptable solutions. H.H.

• **accommodation, group.** The process in which interacting groups modify their organization, rôle, or status to conform to the requirements set up by the situation or by the inclusive social unit. J.P.E.

• **accordance.** A phase of human association of personal-social or common-human type, most clearly exemplified in the pair or dyad, but also occurring within and

between plurels of every other variety, and characterized by a low degree of social distance. If the emphasis on the common-human aspect is retained, synonyms and/or related terms are agreement, conformity, accommodation, assimilation, acculturation, harmony, concord, etc. When association reaches the intensity of accordance, mutual participation in emotions, memories, and habitual attitudes ensues; conduct becomes more and more in accord, grows more and more similar. Nevertheless, accordance marks only the phase of similarity, not of identity; although in many respects very close to concepts such as social amalgamation, fusion, unification, solidarity, etc., it does not signify the maximum degree of association. H.B.

accouchement. Child delivery. E.R.G.

accountability (*financial*). A situation in which a person can be "held to account", i.e., legally made financially responsible for damage, loss, or results of neglect; (*criminological*) a situation in which an offender, whether or not "guilty" or "morally responsible", is considered to have committed without duress an act injurious to others, so that organized society through legal measures must so treat him as to minimize repetition of the act or continuation of "criminal behavior". Cf. responsibility. T.D.E.

acculturation. (1) A process of conditioning: (a) a child in the behavior patterns—overt and covert—of his in-groups, or (b) a member of an out-group for assimilation into, accommodation to, or imitation of the pattern of the in-group. D.E.W.

(2) The assumption of culture through contact, especially with a people of higher civilization. Cf. diffusion. G.P.M.

accumulation. The process or act of collecting or amassing culture traits such as ideas, artifacts, or techniques. J.P.E.

achievement. Progress toward a desired objective. While generally used in the sense of conscious improvement of society, it may be used as attaining a goal, whether or not that attainment has been beneficial to anyone. M.C.E.

achievement, social. Cf. social achievement.

acquired. Received from some outside source; not innate. Cf. acquired characteristic. J.P.E.

acquired character. Cf. character, acquired.

acquired characteristic. Cf. characteristic, acquired.

acquired pattern. Cf. pattern, acquired.

acquisitive. Having a strong desire to receive or possess. J.P.E.

acquisitiveness. The quality of having a strong desire to receive or possess. J.P.E.

acquisitiveness, social. Cf. social acquisitiveness.

Act of God. An event or situation the cause of which may be explained in terms of human or natural action, but which is not attributable to the carelessness or the forethought of anyone in particular. N.A.

action. A process involving change as well as progressive alteration of status. M.C.E.

action, corporate. Action engaged in by individuals so united as to react to the environment as though they were parts of the same living organism. M.S.

action, direct. The resort to such non-political methods as strikes, sabotage, violence or non-violent resistance to government in order to accomplish political, social or economic changes; in contrast to political action (q.v.) R.N.B.

action, impulsive. Action without foresight of goal or voluntary direction. M.S.

action, individual. Cf. individual action.

action, political. The use of political machinery to accomplish changes in the social and economic order, as contrasted with direct action (q.v.). R.N.B.

action, reciprocal. Action in which each of a plural number of participants matches the action of each of the others. M.S.

action, serial. Action in which the first participant initiates activity, and in which the second, and each subsequent, partici-

pant in turn responds to the action of a predecessor and stimulates another participant. M.S.

action, social. Cf. social action.

action pattern. An arrangement of social actions (q.v.) in social space and/or time; it may therefore have both static and dynamic aspects. Social processes are action patterns in which the stress is on the dynamic; social structures or plurels are action patterns in which the stress is on the static. Whether an action pattern "exists" at any given time or place is strictly a matter of greater or lesser probability. H.B.

active ideationalism. Cf. ideationalism, active.

activity, subversive. Cf. subversive activity.

actuality (*philosophical, methodological*). A situation in which an object or "gestalt" is considered to exist, or to have existed, in the external, verifiable and communicable world. (Cf. reality, with which actuality is often confused and from which it is usefully distinguished.) T.D.E.

adapt. To fit an organism to environmental conditions by processes of selection, natural or artificial, resulting in organic modifications. Similarly, to fit a cultural trait, especially a material trait, to new uses or to a new cultural medium. F.H.H.

adaptation. The process of acquiring fitness to live in a given environment. Commonly, and most correctly, the term is applicable to changes in morphological traits of the physical body. By inference, under contextual safeguards, it may also be used to indicate cultural modification to suit a particular human environment. Cf. assimilation.

adaptation, social. Cf. social adaptation.

adapté. The subject of the adaptive process; the individual, group or mass undergoing this process. F.E.L.

adaptive culture. Cf. culture, adaptive.

adaptive growth. Cf. growth, adaptive.

addict. A victim of a drug or of a pernicious habit. F.W.K.

additive. Capable of being treated by the mathematical process of addition.

adelphic polyandry. Cf. polyandry, adelphic.

adequate sample. Cf. sample, adequate.

adjust. To modify personal behavior, as through accommodation, into harmonious and effective relationship with the cultural environment. F.H.H.

adjustment. Cf. social adjustment.

adjustment, individual. Cf. individual adjustment.

adjustment, institutional. Modification of the customary functions and relationships of an institution. The mass-movement character of institutional adjustment makes it usually take place in an unplanned and largely unpredicted fashion, beyond the immediate foresight of individuals. Institutional adjustment is occasioned by changed life-conditions, especially technological and ecological changes. It takes place more readily in institutions closely associated with societal self-maintenance and least readily in general in the religious institution, removed as it is from the immediate and constant check of economic and political experience. A.M'C.L.

adjustment, personal. A condition or state of being in which the individual is in harmonious relationship with a given social situation. The process of attaining such a state. W.E.G.

adjustment, social. Cf. social adjustment.

adjustment, vocational social. The preparation and adaptation of young people to their occupational and economic status, in such a way that their social and domestic needs are also met. Such adjustment includes both a subjective and an objective aspect in that it gives to the individual a thorough knowledge of his inborn aptitudes and acquired trends of the more important occupational fields. Specific training in skills and scientific placement are

involved. Cf. vocational guidance; vocational rehabilitation; vocational training.

A.E.W.

adjustment of personality. (1) Those types of relationship between the parts of a personality (q.v.) which promote the long-run interests of the personality and the requirements of the social groups on which the interests of the personality depend. (2) Those processes which tend to produce such relationships; social processes (q.v.) when analyzed from the standpoint of the changes which occur in the individual and the effects of those changes upon the long-run interests of the individual.

H.H.

administration, household. Cf. household administration.

administrative regulation. An order issued by an administrative officer of government in pursuance of an act of legislature which delegates either general or restrictive authority to the administrator to modify or amplify the provisions of the original act. The regulation has the status of law and is enforceable by the courts; it may be challenged in the court as exceeding the powers or purpose of the law (*ultra vires*). Administrative orders are becoming increasingly important in fields such as public health, immigration, public welfare, social insurance, and regulation of business.

J.W.M'C.

adolescence. A period in the development of the human individual between puberty, the beginning of greatly accelerated sex development, and full maturity. Commonly used as a synonym for youth.

E.R.G.

adolescent court. Cf. court, adolescent.

adoption. Voluntary acceptance, confirmed usually by recognized court or other legal action, of a child of other parents to be the same as one's own natural child.

A.J.T.

adult education. Cf. education, adult.

adult probation. Cf. probation, adult.

adultery. Socially unsanctioned sexual relations on the part of a married person with a person other than the spouse.

advance. The first tentative, incipient stages of association occurring after social contact in one or another form has been established. Synonyms and/or related terms are: to make overtures, to establish relations, to "break the ice," etc. From the social-psychological standpoint it may be said that, in advance, there always remains some feeling of hesitation; the incipient association is regarded as a more or less doubtful experiment. Usually one of the two participants (advance is a common-human process most clearly exemplified in the pair) manifests greater indecision and is less desirous of closer approach than the other. The conscious or unconscious resolve to break the reserve holding them apart falls to the latter, who then carries out an act of advance or, as it were, makes advances or overtures. Exceptions are fairly numerous, however; oftentimes advance on both sides takes place because mutual desire for it is latent or manifest.

H.B.

advertising. A display of the presumed values of consumption goods, or of production goods when offered for sale, ranging all the way from dignified restraint to lying ostentation, and using any means of communication. Disvalues are never mentioned.

F.E.L.

aesthetic ideationalism. Cf. ideationalism, aesthetic.

affiance. To solemnly pledge oneself or (in the case of parents) another, in marriage; to betroth.

W.G.

affiliation. 1. A state of legal, formal or cooperative relationship between two or more organized social groups; the process of establishing same. 2. A legal action or process whereby an illegitimate child is declared the offspring of a designated man.

F.H.H.

affinity. Relationship by marriage, as with the consanguine relative of a spouse or the spouse of a consanguine relative. Cf. consanguinity.

G.P.M.

after care. Usually, social case work services rendered a client after his discharge from a hospital or institution. Also used in nursing and allied fields.

W.P.

agamogenesis. Asexual reproduction; reproduction by virgin females by means of eggs which develop without being fertilized by spermatozoa; syn. parthenogenesis. On subhuman level found chiefly among certain crustaceans, insects and worms; in human culture history so-called "virgin birth."
A.J.T.

age, gang. Cf. gang age.

age, power. Cf. power age.

age-area concept. The theory that the extent of distribution of an element of culture is directly proportionate to its age, i.e., that of two comparable culture traits (q.v.) the more widely diffused is the older.
G.P.M.

age-class. An age-grade (q.v.).

age of consent. In popular interpretation this phrase refers to that minimum age at which an individual's agreement to marry is legally valid. This meaning, however, is not technically correct. More accurately, age of consent is that lowest age at which a girl may give her consent to sexual intercourse without making the man liable to a charge of rape. Prior to the twentieth century in the United States the ages of ten and twelve years were generally acknowledged as the age of consent by common law. However, as late as 1885 the State of Delaware recognized the age of seven as legally sufficient. In most of the States today the common law rule has been changed by statute to provide for higher age limits; sixteen years of age is a common "age of consent" on State statutes at present. The States of California and Colorado have set this limit at eighteen.
J.H.E.

age distribution. (1) The classification or composition of a population by age of its members. (2) A quantitative description of the actual or proportionate importance of specific ages or age-groups within a population.
C.V.K.

age-grade. A social group, admission to which and promotion from which are largely dependent upon age, in a society whose members, or more commonly male members, are organized into a graduated hierarchy of such groups.
G.P.M.

age of maximum criminality. That chronological age period in a person's life during which, judging from criminal statistics, he is most likely to get into conflict with the criminal law. In the case of serious offenses against property (robbery, burglary, larceny) the 16-20 year age span seems to fall in this category, a slightly higher age group leading in offenses against the person. Offenses against public order are most common in the third decade of life. The uneven quality of American statistics makes positive assertions difficult. However, in some foreign countries, England for instance, the highest offense rates for serious crimes seem to lie in the early adolescent period. Generally speaking, crime rates decline after the age of twenty and very rapidly after the age of forty.
T.S.

age pyramid. A graphic portrayal of the age-sex composition of a population, so named because of its characteristic shape. In structure, the age pyramid consists of a central vertical line of origin from which a horizontal scale is extended toward the left for males and one toward the right for females. On the basis of the number in each age-sex group, bars are drawn to the appropriate length along these horizontal scales and are placed in ascending order with increasing age. When percentages rather than actual numbers are used, each age-sex group is expressed as a per cent of the total population rather than as a per cent of the total for the given sex.
C.V.K.

agent, business. Cf. business agent.

agent, county. Cf. county agent.

agent provocateur. An undercover agent who uses the method of inciting individuals to overt acts in order to compromise them. Best known is the agent employed to work within trade unions, radical political parties and similar labor groups, for the purpose of disruption, by provoking individuals to violence or similar unlawful acts, which will involve them with police and courts, create internal dissension, and bring discredit on their organization.
K.D.P.L.

agglomeration. The process or result of

people gathering together indiscriminately.
M.S.

aggregate. Cf. social aggregate. The process of bringing units together into an unorganized body or mass, without any permanently significant binding consensus.

aggregate, genetic. A group of kindred persons who have lived together from birth in one place; a settled group recruited exclusively by its own birth rate; a group whose members are of one blood through in-group marriage.
N.L.S.

aggregate, social. Cf. social aggregate.

aggregation. Cf. aggregate. In matrix algebra and in dimensional sociology, a list of separately recorded entities. Thus a calendar of a month is an aggregation of days, a map is an aggregation of regions, a roll call is an aggregation of persons and a scale is an aggregation of units.
S.C.D.

aggression. Action directed toward controlling the person, action or possessions of one or more others against their will, for the primary benefit of the controlling agent, but also with the purpose of producing suffering or discontent on the part of those controlled.
M.S.

agitator. (1) A person who by voice and pen expresses the grievances of disadvantaged classes and groups and attempts to organize radical reforms.
R.N.B.

(2) One who attempts to produce discontent, restlessness or rebellious behavior in others.
M.S.

agnate. A consanguine relative in the patrilineal (q.v.) or male line. Cf. cognate.
G.P.M.

agnation. The kinship system, prevailing in ancient Rome, whereby relationship was traced exclusively through males. Relatives having a common male ancestor, traced through male descent, were called *agnati*.
W.G.

agoraphobia. Neurotic fear of open places, especially of crossing them; in some cases possibly the result of social isolation Cf. ghetto
J.H.B.

agrarian movement. Widespread collective action for the establishment of new values for the improvement of agriculture both as an industry and as a mode of life; e.g., the Granger Movement of the 1870's, and the Non-Partisan League in the Dakotas after the first World War.
D.S.

agreement (political). An international agreement for which, in the United States, the advice and consent of the Senate is solicited and obtained is called a treaty. The name "Agreement" or "Executive Agreement" has come to be attributed to the many agreements signed by the Executive with foreign Powers—over 1200 in number—without submission for the approval of the Senate. These agreements cover a wide range, all the way from postal agreements to such important documents as the Lansing-Ishii Agreement of 1917 and the Roosevelt-Litvinoff Agreement of 1933. Some have had congressional approval; others have not. Based on the premise that the Constitution does not specify the subject-matter of treaties, and on certain dicta in the Supreme Court's decision in the Curtiss-Wright Export Corporation case, 299 U. S. 304, there has in recent years been a strong effort to demonstrate that in the interests of "democracy" the two-thirds requirement of Senate approval is and should be deemed outmoded and the Executive Agreement, with or without congressional approval, should be substituted. Its opponents regard this as a dangerous encroachment of the Executive power on the United States Constitution and Government.
E.M.B.

agricultural extension service. A cooperative adult educational enterprise, supported by federal and state and county funds, to assist farmers and their wives in improving farm and home practices, and the farm population in improving and enriching rural life.
E.des.B.

agricultural ladder. An expression used in rural sociology and agricultural economics to denote the vertical social mobility between the agricultural social classes, and more specifically the process by which a farm youth commences as a hired hand and passes successively through

the stages of renter and part-owner or mortgaged owner ultimately to attain the ownership of a farm.

T.L.S.

agricultural parity, parity prices, parity income: The term "parity" as used in agricultural programs and legislation refers to *prices* which will give each agricultural commodity a purchasing power per unit relative to articles that farmers buy, interest, and taxes equivalent to the purchasing power of such commodity in the base period, August 1909 to July 1914; and to *incomes* which will give a per capita net income to individuals on farms from farm operations that bears the same relation to the per capita net income of individuals not on farms as prevailed during the period from August 1909 to July 1914.

agricultural planning. Cf. planning, agricultural.

agriculture. The utilization of the fertility of the land for the production of humanly useful plants and animals. The term includes all forms of crop raising and animal husbandry. It depends upon the extraction from the land of materials which are at least theoretically replaceable, either by the slow processes of nature or by artificial fertilization. Therefore, it does not necessarily deplete the land. The hunting and fishing of wild creatures lies in the border zone between agriculture and mining. (q.v.)

ahimsa. The doctrine of nonviolence, as practised in India by Gandhi and his followers in their civil disobedience campaigns. The term includes all nonviolent forms of resistance, but excludes rioting, which often accompanies such campaigns. Cf. satyagraha.

S.C.M.

aid, mutual. Cf. mutual aid.

aided-recall technique. A research device which consists in presenting the informant with a printed list of items from which he is asked to select those which apply. E.g., surveys of radio listening habits supply a list of programs which were on the air at the time in question, and the informant is asked to choose the ones to which he listened.

M.P.T.

aim. The goal or purpose toward which human behavior is directed. The term usually implies activity over a period of time.

J.P.E.

albinism. A variable hereditary trait, found among both white and colored races, indicated by marked deficiency of pigment in skin, hair, and eyes. In complete albinism the eyes are pink, the hair is white and the skin is milk white with no pigment. In partial albinism these conditions are only approximated. It is due to a gene substitution, inherited in many cases as an autosomal recessive. Among partial albinos are usually included persons with piebald or white-spotted skin.

F.H.H.

alcoholism. Abnormal addiction to alcohol. The basis of all malted and distilled liquors is ethyl alcohol which is a poison when taken in excess. According to Freudian theory the psychological craving for alcohol has its basis in repressed homosexuality. More generally, however, alcoholism is an escape from conflict and is often associated with inferiority feelings. Undoubtedly alcoholism is indirectly associated with crimes against the person. Intemperance and poverty are also associated. The evil effects of alcoholism often fall heavily upon the non-drinking members of the alcoholic's family. Alcoholism is a problem of a narcotic indulged in to escape depressing psychological or social conditions.

N.F.C.

aleatory element. The element in life of the inexplicable, unpredictable. The luck element. Chance.

A.G.K.

alibi. A legal defense whereby an accused person pleads that he was present at another place than the place where the crime or offense was committed at the time when it was committed and, therefore, that he could not have committed the crime or offense of which he is accused.

F.W.K.

alien. A foreign born resident of a country of which he is not a citizen. In the verb form (to alienate) the word has two possible meanings important in sociology: (1) to cause the withdrawal or affection from another; (2) to convey or transfer property.

J.W.M.C.

alienation. (1) The state of estrangement of one spouse from the other. (2) A condition of mental derangement or lapse from normal state of mind. F.W.K.

alienist. A semi-legal word meaning a specialist in mental diseases who appears in court to testify as to a person's mental state at present or during the act of committing a crime. J.W.M.C.

alley dwelling. An intra-block dwelling fronting on an alley. These often constitute hidden slums behind respectable facades. s.s.

alimony. An allowance required by a court to be paid out of the estate or earnings of a husband to his wife or by a former husband to his former wife, or by a wife to a husband. In about one-third of our states alimony is allowed to the former husband out of the former wife's estate. Temporary alimony (*pendente lite*) is an allowance required from the husband to the wife before a divorce is granted. Permanent alimony is an allowance after divorce. The amount of alimony and the length of time it must be paid vary according to the financial circumstances, health, age, social position and other factors decided by the court. The court frequently revises the amount and methods of payment to meet new circumstances. o.w.

allotment. A share of land set apart for the benefit of a person or group for immediate possession or use, formerly for cultivation. F.W.K.

allrightnick. A returned immigrant, ordinarily from the United States, who brings with him a superficial veneer of the culture of the land in which he has temporarily resided, including a smattering of its language and a glib smartness and affectation of superiority.

almoner. One commissioned or authorized to distribute alms. The office of almoner was originally instituted by the church, and once performed a much more important function than now. J.M.R.

almonry. (1) A place where alms are officially distributed. (2) Place where almoner resides. J.M.R.

alms. The pittance of charity, generally given by individuals to beggars, but in the traditions of charity extolled as blessings to the giver Cf. *dole*. N.A.

almshouse. An institution housing the publicly supported poor of an administrative unit. (Variously known as "poor farm," "county farm" and "poor house".) W.P.

almsman. (1) A recipient of alms. (2) In the past, also a giver of alms. J.M.R.

altruism. Regard for others, devotion to others, usually implying some self-sacrifice. The opposite of egoism. o.w.

altruistic. Not egoistic; unselfish; marked by altruism; having primary regard for the interests and welfare of others or of the social group; especially having such regard with respect to others in the intimate personal relations of social life. Interested more in the total amount of happiness than in its distribution. F.H.H.

amalgamate. To participate in, or experience, the process of amalgamation. (q.v.)

amalgamation. (1) The biological process whereby two or more racial types are fused into a homogenous blend by means of interbreeding and progressive combination of the respective germ plasms. (2) By analogy, the union into a functional group of two or more separate persons or groups, differing in minor characteristics but sufficiently similar in fundamental traits so that the result of the combination is a smooth and homogeneous blend.

ambil-anak. A special exception to the usual marriage customs in the case of a daughter, frequently occurring in patrilineal (q.v.), patrilocal (q.v.) societies when a family has no sons, whereby for one generation residence is matrilineal (q.v.), descent is matrilineal (q.v.), and the customary bride-price (q.v.) is omitted or reduced. G.P.M.

ambulance chaser. A lawyer, or a person on behalf of a lawyer, who solicits legal business contrary to the standards of professional ethics; sometimes generally applied to persons who fail to observe professional standards of behavior in any professional field. F.W.K.