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Sociologist at Harvard Quitting Teaching Post



Dr. Pitirim A. Sorokin

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CAMBRIDGE, Mass., March 23—Dr. Pitirim A. Sorokin, Harvard University sociologist, will retire from teaching Aug. 31. He will continue to direct the university's center for research in creative altruism.

Dr. Sorokin is the author of more than thirty books on sociology. His four volumes of "Social and Cultural Dynamics," published between 1937 and 1940, presented his analysis of historical change. Periods of "sensate" culture,

based on a materialistic outlook and developing strong natural sciences, alternate with periods of "ideational" culture, based on faith, mysticism and authority as in medieval European society, he argued. Dr. Sorokin believes that our own Western culture is sensate and that its breakdown is at hand.

He was born in Russia sixty-six years ago. He received the degree of Doctor of Sociology from the University of St. Petersburg.