"the Polish-Black Encounter," Waterman stared out at the audience for a while and then he said: "While the rest of the speakers were talking, I have been asleep." A murmur of indignation rippled through the crowd, but it stopped as Waterman continued: "Actually, what I mean is this—I recently took a course in sensitivity training, and I learned to close my eyes while people are talking so that I hear only what is being said and not who is saying it. I have been doing that today, and I have not heard Kazimierz Olejarczyk, or Joseph Wytwarz, or Dr. Chopyński. No, on the contrary, I have heard Rap Brown, Stokely Carmichael, and Martin Luther King."

"These were some pretty conservative folks," Waterman recalled later. "And they were really stunned. But I think it made them think a little because since then a number of them have come up to me and said, 'You know, we are still talking about that speech you made, and we were very impressed.' I guess we have more in common than we had realized before." If we can get more people thinking like that, we may be able to get somewhere.

J. S. Judge Forbids Barber Prejudice

Barber shops—long a stronghold of segregation—are still segregated in many parts of the country, though not, apparently, with legal sanction. Judge James T. McMil- lan of U. S. District Court in Charlotte, N. C., recently found in a case involving discrimination in a barber shop that there are about 2,700 barber shops in North Carolina. Of these, approximately 1,500 are operated by white bar- bers and serve a white clientele. There are approximately 1,200 barber shops operated by black barbers. About 85 black barbers cater to white trade, the remaining black barber catering to blacks.

McMillan barred a Charlotte barber shop from refusing to admit black students, basing his decision in the Civil Rights Act of 1866, which guarantees equality in making and enforcing contracts.

One of the operators of the shop told the judge that Negro hair is more difficult to cut properly than Caucasian hair. "A really good colored barber," he said, "is almost an artist." McMillan found it significant that the standard barbering text, used in the Charlotte school, devoted a chapter to "Cutting and Styling Curly and Over-Curly Hair." The judge said of the chapter, "It is stated that over-curly hair is present in all races to a greater or lesser degree and that learning to cut such hair is a 'challenge to the well-trained barber.'"

The New York State Human Relations Commission told Regina Stuart, New York correspondent for Race Relations Reporter, that in its 26-year history, 34 public-accommodations complaints have been filed against barber shops charging discrimination.

Ralph Katz, public information officer for the commis- sion, said most of the complaints were filed by blacks against white shops whose barbers either refused to render services or performed jobs that discouraged the return of black patrons. Of the 36 complaints filed, commission in- vestigators found 26 cases in which there were clear indi- cations of discrimination. They were settled on conditions that the shops would discriminate equally, and if not, the shops compensate the complainant for an equal haircut. The commission had no record of "education" complaints against barber shops or shops in New York City.

Most of the complaints came from predominantly white neighborhoods where white barbers did not want to serve black patrons, in fear of losing white customers. Some operators told the commission that the texture of black people's hair was different and therefore the white operators did not know how to treat it. "This is put up against the fact that when a man is granted his barber li- cense in this state, he is supposed to be able to cut all kinds of hair," Katz said.

Harold Harris, public information officer for the New York State Board of State, which issues and revokes barber licenses, said no action has been taken against the bar- ber shops or operators charged with discrimination, al- though it is against the law. "Any barber who practices discrimination will have his license revoked. It's just against the law," he said. However, his office had no record of complaints being filed.

The four barber shops advertising in the New York City telephone directory all said they do not discriminate on the basis of race.