

"I Cannot Hate The Jew"  
By RABBI SAMUEL SILVER

In Mount Vernon, New York, a Negro publisher of a Negro newspaper could no longer stand the artificial wedge being inserted between his people and the Jews and he delivered himself of this poem which he printed on the front page of his paper. "The Westchester Observer" Ben Anderson's poem speaks for itself. It's called "The Jew and Me."

I cannot hate the Jew  
I'd be foolish if I did,  
I'd not be thinking as an adult,  
But as some pathetic kid,

I won't buy anti-Semitism,  
I won't nor should you,  
What better friend have we got  
Than we find in the Jew?

When everybody kicked us 'round,  
Like we were bits of dust,  
Who were the only ones  
To lend a hand to us?

When we sought to break the spell  
Of slavery's cruel trance,  
Of all the peoples in the land,  
Who gave black folk a chance?

Perhaps you can't remember,  
But, by God, I do,  
The only hand stretched out to us  
Was that of the Jew

Long before we ever dreamed  
Of a Civil Right,  
Who stood besides the black man  
In his almost helpless plight?

When the black man lived in fear  
Of the hateful, rampant mob  
Who gave the black man help?  
Who gave him a job?

And even to this very day,  
While bigots pierce our hide,  
What other "cousins" will you find  
Standing by our side?

Who stood with our valiant kids  
In school the other night?  
Think for just a little while,  
And get your logic right!

Who supported Dr. King,  
Roy Wilkins and the CORE?  
I cannot hate Jewish folk,  
Too well I know the score.

The Jew is in the vanguard  
Of the fight for freedom's cause,  
The champion of democracy,  
Of just and equal law.

I cannot stand for bigotry  
For hate against the Jew,  
I still remember Cheney  
And Schwerner and Goodman too.

Bravo, Mr. Anderson!

Israelite Ads Pay



B'nai B'rith Protest

This week poster, red, white and black in the display in home and store windows and in public institutions during Passover, its purpose is dramatic. During the festival of freedom, a continuing protest against discriminatory practices imposed on Soviet Jewry, introduced by B'nai B'rith in the San Francisco area last year, the poster is now being distributed throughout California and to B'nai B'rith World Headquarters across the country.



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