

## [Twenty Centuries]

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FOLKLORE

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NEW YORK Forms to be Filled out for Each Interview

FORM A Circumstances of Interview

STATE New York

NAME OF WORKER Herman Partnow Saul Levitt

ADDRESS 557 W. 114 Street 557 W. 114 Street

DATE June 14th, 1939

SUBJECT Fringe Folklore

1. Date and time of interview June 7, 1939
2. Place of interview 7th Avenue and 118th Street
3. Name and address of informant Anonymous
4. Name and address of person, if any, who put you in touch with informant.
5. Name and address of person, if any, accompanying you
6. Description of room, house, surroundings, etc.

## Library of Congress

FOLKLORE

NEW YORK

FORM C

TEXT OF INTERVIEW (UNEDITED)

STATE New York

NAME OF WORKER Herman Partnow Saul Levitt

ADDRESS 557 West 114th Street 557 West 114th Street

DATE June 14th, 1939

SUBJECT Fringe Folklore

EVEN IF IT TAKES TWENTY CENTURIES

This negro stuff is a misnomer. We's black people and we got a contention. But it's not to be presently discussed. I walk downtown, I'm a Negro like anybody else, regardless of the veneer and the largeness, I can walk or talk but the veneer is always there, off the reel. We know the price of everyman for his own freedom. Explicitly explained, I mean the [?] people who find themselves on relief condition, if they's white or black, are people of the same ilk. We digit is greater than the whole. Self-preservation may be the first law of nature but everybody gotta present a united phalanx, under the incentive of some brotherhood or fraternal organization. Those are arguments, that's all. But inherently speakin, I'm a son of an ex-slave, but I'm gonna be free. The thralldom we had to construe ain't gonna last forever. After all, we are no denser than the Irish and your police department symbolizes the 2 advancement of the Irish, their sympathetic bare towers over all the buildin of Ireland. Why, because of my pigment, should I be deprived?

## Library of Congress

We got the rights as men and, if it takes twenty centuries we gonna work for it. We are prepared from certain angles to meet opposition. But we pay absolutely no mind to that. If you must have your axiom to be applied, Africa belongs to us. You cannot specifically point to me in all the annals of time, it's US.

I'm gonna give you a little predicament and I ain't no sage. The very Moslems are going to stop fighting the Jews and all the people of Islamic tendency is gonna unite for their own good.