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## [The Knowledge Circle]

Beliefs & Customs - Folkstuff

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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 Terry Roth ————— Sam Schwartz

ADDRESS 17 W. 69th Street 152 W. 13th Street

DATE March 4, 1939

SUBJECT THE KNOWLEDGE CIRCLE

1. Date and time of interview April 3, 1939
2. Place of interview Furriers Union 250 W. 26th Street New York City
3. Name and address of informant Mrs. Sarah Cohen
4. Name and address of person, if any, who put you in touch with informant. Miss Spiro, Educational Director
5. Name and address of person, if any, accompanying you

Sam Schwartz

6. Description of room, house, surroundings, etc.

FOLKLORE

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NEW YORK

FORM C Text of Interview (Unedited)

STATE New York

NAME OF WORKER Terry Roth ————— Sam Schwartz

ADDRESS 47 W. 69th Street 152 W. 13th Street

DATE March 4, 1939

SUBJECT THE KNOWLEDGE CIRCLE THE KNOWLEDGE CIRCLE

It's very interesting. When we were on strike, they're having a special room where they keep the new young members, they shouldn't go to the scab. They can have a little bit education? I was there with the chess and there were a couple of boys and they learned in that time how to play chess. So two boys, one colored and one white, I explained to them that if you have an idea about chess, is just exactly the life of a person. Plus and Minus. And right away they learn what is a united front because in the game is a united front from figures.. So I explained them. I said. "Remember what a fight the union was having with the divided members? Now we are united and we will win. The same in chess. These two figures will win out also because they are united.

I call all this my knowledge circle. What is that knowledge circle? I saw many times as I told you. I may be in a house in a corner but not far from them. In my mind, with all my feelings, I participate in the conversation. But they wouldn't know. Maybe the last year they start to understand me. A worker with education 2 speaks to a worker without education — the intelligent worker eats up his heart with English Imperialist. With China and Japan. Show them a map! A person may be eighty years old, but when he was never in the school, he is exactly like a baby, like a child. Speak to him like a baby in the schools.

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Tell him. "We have five continents. We have five fingers on the continents." He must understand when you'll show him. They promised me already to give me mpas all over the union walls. He has to know that there is Japan. And explain to him why he has to protect himself on the Pacific more than the Atlantic. Show him a map! He MUST learn.