

# Readers Agree With PM Denunciation

## Of 'Saturday Evening Post' Article

*Per [unclear]*

The readers of PM threw Milton Mayer's glove back in his face with 268 letters and telegrams and uncounted telephone calls indorsing this paper's stand on his article, *The Case Against the Jews*, in the *Saturday Evening Post*. The dissenting vote was only 27 and four of these were obviously from crackpots.

On any controversial issue, the dissenters are more likely to write than those who agree with an editor. Obviously there was no real controversy on the subject of PM's reply to the *Saturday Evening Post* article. So nearly everyone felt the same way about it that there was hardly an argument. Such a spontaneous and violent reaction as that recorded here is almost unheard of approval.

Hearty approval was expressed by 222 letters, leaving only a few writers who qualified their approval.

Among the approving letters were copies of 29 sent to the *Saturday Evening Post* condemning the journal or cancelling subscriptions and five protest letters sent direct to Mayer.

From Brooklyn College came a joint letter of praise signed by 75 students—this in addition to the 222 approving letters mentioned above. A boys' club and a group of high school teachers also sent group letters.

The citizens of America knew instantly what they felt about the smearing of the Goebbels line across this warring Nation's newsstands. They didn't like it, and were glad to see it called for what it was: an insult to their country and everything it stands for and is fighting for.

The letters printed here were chosen to represent, as a matter of fairness, all the different views expressed.

### A Professor's View

In my nearly four score years of experience I have never seen a newspaper editorial that matched in power and general excellence either your yesterday's *Editorial Answer to The Saturday Evening Post* or your today's *Open Letter to 136,355 American Men and Women Who Own the Standard Oil Co. of New Jersey*.

The service that PM has been and is rendering by the means of your pen, your guidance, and your inspiration is beyond all praise, deserving the thanks of decent men and women everywhere.

New York  
CASSIUS J. KEYSER,  
Adrian Professor Emeritus  
of Mathematics,  
Columbia University

### Code for All

I desire to speak up as a gentile. The sincere gentile is not fundamentally antagonistic to the Jew as a Jew, but rather hates a certain code of conduct which somehow or other has been associated with the Jew as a class through years of anti-Semitism.

I have been victimized by gentiles who have practiced that same code, but I do not condemn all gentiles, any more than I condemn all Jews for unscrupulous practices of certain Jews.

Christ was an individualist—and a true Christian should consider individual character regardless of background. I'd certainly rather live with a Jew who had my ideals of human conduct, than with a gentile who didn't. . . .

New York  
ED BODIN

### Copy of a Letter to:

Walter D. Fuller,  
Curtis Publishing Co.,  
Philadelphia, Pa.

Dear Mr. Fuller:

. . . Three weeks ago I had sent in a check for four more years of the *Saturday Evening Post*, but my intention now is to cancel it unless some extremely drastic action is taken by the magazine to re-establish its Americanism. Mr. Stout's contention that there is no anti-Semitic intent is irrelevant. Can you imagine his publishing a similar article on *The Case Against the Roman Catholics?* or against the Irish or Baptists? There is no question but that

Mayer's article will be distorted, quoted, illegally reprinted and circulated for many years by professional anti-Semitic racketeers who will use its *Saturday Evening Post* origin as its chief recommendation. Henry Ford's book *The International Jew* has had a similar experience, although Mr. Ford admitted its mendacities and disowned it publicly. Despite the repudiation, the Nazis have translated it into many languages and circulated millions of copies of it on every continent. The most recent reprint has been by the KU Klux Klan. . . .

New York  
EDWARD G. BERNARD

### A Debut

This is my first letter to PM, though on more than one occasion I have meant to write to you.

I think your editorial answer to the *Saturday Evening Post* article deserves superlatives, of many kinds. . . .

As one whose ancestors reached this country in the 1660's in Virginia, I congratulate you on your restatement of dedication to unfinished work, and promise you all my support, to make realities of the American dream of democracy and freedom.

New York  
EDMUND C. BERKELEY

### Why Not Try Dies?

. . . while I have not been able as yet to secure a copy of the *Saturday Evening Post*, I take it from your article that it lent itself to print filthy attacks upon the Jews . . . I should not be surprised if such a campaign is a well financed campaign on the part of the Nazis or such persons in the U. S. A. who wilfully or innocently lend themselves to be their agents.

Under these circumstances I believe everything possible should be done to drag these persons into the limelight. The best way to do this would be through the Dies Committee.

New York  
JOHN BASS

### Jews Won't Fight?

. . . If you really want to do something worth while, why don't you start talking to the Jew about shouldering a gun, and make an effort to do something for their country, which is by the way the only country in the world that will take them in. See if you can

pry them loose from their Government job and explain to them that this war will be won on the battlefield, not in a Government office doing routine paper work. But on second thought, you had better not, because they will not fight while they have the Christian to do it for them, so they will stay home, and when the war is over and we are victorious, they will have all the money they need to buy up all kinds of property and businesses as they have always done after all wars. And you know that is the truth . . .

I will look for this in your paper. Bet you won't print it.

New York

JOHN PHILIPPS

### Anti-Jewish Jew

Did you know that the American Jewish Committee and the Anti-Defamation League both ok'd the article in the *Saturday Evening Post* before it "dared" print it? Even they had some qualms about publishing Milton Mayer's scandalous tirade against the Jews. Did you know, too, that as a result of your article no one could get a copy of the *S. E. P.*? . . . In other words, I don't think you should have pasted it across the front page—as a headline—in these times when anything relating to the Jew should be toned down rather than emphasized.

New York

HELEN McNARY

### Like MacArthur

No words can adequately express my thanks and appreciation for your article in *PM* of Mar. 26, which was in response to the article *The Case Against the Jews* in the *Saturday Evening Post*.

Hail to you and success! You, like Gen. MacArthur, are fighting a rival that would undermine us and our traditions and deprive us of all progress and freedoms.

Brooklyn

MRS. MIRIAM KURK

### War on S. E. P.

Thank you for counterattacking Milton Mayer. Perhaps another reply to his renegade, un-American article is an avalanche of canceled subscriptions, reduced newsstand sales and canceled advertising contracts.

*PM* earns the gratitude of all true Americans.

Baltimore

HARRY H. HOFFENBERG

### Misunderstood?

I think you have it in you (Mr. Ingersoll) to be a big newspaperman, because you have so much courage, only I don't think you have understood Milton Mayer's article correctly.

He put the case against the Jew in order to help the Jew, using the same technique as Marc Antony, who put the case for Brutus adversely. Mayer's final point is that the Jew can reach a spiritual purity worthy of Jesus's own.

New York

LUCY BREDIN

### Youth Vigilant

I am writing you on behalf of a club of young boys, called the Ramparts, who are firmly dedicated to those principles of freedom and liberty which you so strongly defended.

Your article will, I am sure, reawaken many Americans to the task before them. As for my club, the Ramparts, we will

make an even greater effort than in the past, and believe me we have made an effort.

Yes, there is a task before us. We will not let any man like Milton Mayer or any other Adolf Snikelgrouper stand in our way until that task is fully completed!

Bronx

KALMAN ABRAMOWITZ

### Fight S. E. P.

This is to say I, for one, am very glad indeed to see you fighting the *Saturday Evening Post*. For more than a year I have been quarreling with this magazine on account of its rigid, anti-democratic attitude, its distortion of truth, and its subtly misleading mixture of a little truth with a lot of prejudiced, depressing rubbish. . . .

Thank you, *PM*, for your welcome airing of some of the facts behind the facade of this powerful but misleading magazine.

New York

MRS. P. CAMMER

### Hitler Profits

You are to be commended for your answer to Mayer's filthy article in the *Saturday Evening Post*. Always, people who attack the Jews apologize for doing it and say they are doing it for the good of the Jews. That makes it all the more vile, as far as I am concerned. I am sure that Mayer has enough intelligence to know that only Hitler can profit by such an article, especially at this time. He may think he is subtle, but he hasn't fooled all of us.

I am not a Jew. As far as I am concerned American Jews are Americans. It never occurs to me to wonder if a man is a Jew, any more than to wonder if he is Catholic, Protestant, of Italian descent or of English ancestry.

New York

WANDA BERNARD

### Congratulations

I wish to congratulate you on your editorial of Thursday, Mar. 26.

Having a husband in the Navy fighting for his country, and a son waiting to be inducted in the Army, the ilk of the person who wrote the article in the *Saturday Evening Post* is beyond words to express the injustice done to humanity.

I hope you and your paper will always continue in the name of justice.

MRS. G. H. JOHNSON

### OK With Milton

There is only one thing that this road company jeremiah seems clearly to approve: and that my friends, is honey. If you sit reading your Yiddish prayer book and don't look up when a Nazi spits on you—then you're OK with Milton Mayer.

*The Saturday Evening Post* will cost 10 cents starting with the issue of Apr. 11.

New York

JOHN S. RODELL

### Was It Subtle?

Why do you always try to pervert the meaning of any article which had for its objective the bringing of men to a realization of God?

The Jewish people are too fine and intelligent to be "frightened and hurt," as you put it, by Mayer's article in the *S. E. Post*—although they certainly are by *PM*'s bombast concerning it.

Mayer's article is a stinging indictment of Gentile and Jew of a certain type—if it opens the eyes of **MORE**

people to their own omissions and restores dignity to a floundering people it will have served its purpose.

However, your editorial was magnificent (although completely misleading as to the point Mayer was making). Did you really intend to drive everyone to read Mayer for himself? If that was your purpose I congratulate you—I like a subtle mind.

New York FLORENCE M. KLEIN

### Urges Apology

Our whole moral fibre has been corroded with a materialism and pragmatism which you in your position would do well to lend a hand in stamping out, as Mayer is attempting to do with respect to one segment of our citizenry. If Protestants were really Protestants, Catholics really Catholics, Jews really Jews, all of us would be better Americans. It is only by being better Americans that our America can fulfill the great destiny which God seems to have in store for her.

If you really want to outdo Mayer in moral courage now, one suggestion would be for you to publish a retraction and apology for your editorial of Mar. 26.

New York FRANCIS A. FULLAM, JR.

### Did It for 'Dough'

So you call Mayer's piece in the *Saturday Evening Post* an attack on the Jew. Listen, pal, a Jew wrote it for dough. He had no other constructive purpose—only the "gelt"—so what the hell! All of this poo bah about persecution of the Jew. Hitler has Jewish blood in his veins; and a Jew will attack his own race for material gain; maybe not all of them but quite a few. As long as it is only Jews attacking Jews that is not an attack, that is a love feast.

The real attack will start when the gentile attacks the Jew. . . . Please don't mark me down as an anti-Semite, and I doubt that you have the guts to publish this with the rest of your readers' comments. You can print the name, too.

New York E. C. MALCOLM

### To the Post

Ernest Angell, president of the Council for Democracy, 11 W. 42d St., in a letter to the editor of the *Saturday Evening Post*:

In behalf of the Council for Democracy, I wish to speak out against the editorial judgment which permitted the publication in the *Saturday Evening Post* of Mar. 28, 1942, of the article *The Case Against the Jew* by Milton Mayer.

At any other time, the distribution into millions of American homes of the unbalanced article written by Mr. Mayer would have been an act of irresponsibility; today, it is so inflammatory in its influence and so corrosive of American ideals that it calls

### Without Comment

The *Saturday Evening Post* in an advertisement in *Advertising Age* on Mar. 30, five days after it published Milton Mayer's *The Case Against the Jews*, answered the question:

"What can we do to help keep America free?"

The answer, over the signature of W. D. Fuller, president, said:

"—to promote sympathetic understanding and co-operation among all of the American people . . . to the end that the unity which we have achieved in time of war may be preserved for the greater cultivation and enjoyment of the fruits of peace."

The italics on all were the *Post's*, not ours.

into question the intentions of your magazine. This article holds up to ridicule one part of the American people by false and specious argument; in so doing, it furthers the Nazi technique of seeking to create artificial distinctions between groups.

However great may be the harm to American Jews caused by Mr. Mayer's misconceptions and lack of perspective, it is less, I am sure, that the disservice you have rendered the American cause. This shallow cynicism is an affront to us all.

We hope you will feel that your responsibility to your readers requires the *Saturday Evening Post* in an early issue to state in true and affirmative language the meaning of democratic life in such terms that the impressions created by Mr. Mayer's article may to some extent at least be dispelled.

### Echos Nazi Stand

I suppose the *Saturday Evening Post* is perfectly honest in its feelings and I suppose they are not subsidized by the Nazi Government, but it does seem this publication has gone out of its way over the course of the last eight years to crack down all of our American institutions and the entire New Deal program, not only in its editorials and articles, but in a great many of its stories.

Boston, Mass. GRENVILLE G. GARCEAU

### Seeks Happy Medium

Don't let that star-spangled banner get in your eyes!

Your editorial bore the earmarks of a blinded star-gazer. I, too, am an American and have ideals about my country. All of us have ideals about something, whether it be our country, our family life or our

cooking. But nothing is perfect—not even the U. S. A., Mr. Ingersoll. . . .

Mayer's statements were far too general and cynical. You have swung the pendulum the other way to a holier-than-thou patriotism and have likewise generalized. There is a happy medium between the two points of view expressed by your editorial and the article in the *Post*. That is—do or die to preserve our democracy, but don't forget there is plenty of room for improvement.

New York MARY BACON

### Three Telegrams

(From a telegram to the *Saturday Evening Post*):

. . . Hitler will no doubt renew his subscription to your publication, which will amply compensate you for the cancellation of mine.

ROBERT MAXWELL

You performed a patriotic service in your editorial on Mayer's shocking and dangerous editorial.

MARGARET CULKIN BANNING

Solidarity Lodge No. 691 of the International Workers Order, with its predominant Negro membership, joins the Negro Labor and Civic League in supporting your editorial condemning Milton Mayer and the *Saturday Evening Post* for their cowardly and degrading attack against the Jews. We are boycotting the *Saturday Evening Post*.

DAISY BROWN, Secretary

### A Franklin Jew

On Apr. 30, in the year of 1788, there was circulated in the city of Philadelphia



a subscription list for contributions to the Mikveh Israel Congregation, the first Jewish synagogue in Philadelphia. Heading that subscription is the signature of Benjamin Franklin. . . .

It was the same Benjamin Franklin who signed the Declaration of Independence and fought by the side of George Washington to save that Constitution under which a Nation for the first time in history dedicated itself to the service of the truth "that all men are created equal," carrying out in his own life and works the noble principles of brotherhood for which he stood and fought and which he left as a deathless heritage to Americans for all time.

And it was the same Benjamin Franklin who in 1728 founded the publication—now the *Saturday Evening Post*—which for years has with pride continued to announce that historic fact on its title page no less than 52 times a year, the publication that now broadcasts a dastardly attack upon these principles of equality, brotherhood and freedom to which Benjamin Franklin devoted his life and which—thank God—are still and will continue to be the goals which America will preserve.

The late Cyrus Curtis, longtime publisher of the *Post*, who revered Benjamin Franklin and contributed millions for the perpetuation of his memory through the Franklin Memorial in Philadelphia, was no lukewarm American. He believed in the ideals on which the Nation was founded and under which it grew. He would have been the first to resent the insult to the countless Americans since Franklin, who have fought and given their lives to preserve these ideals.

I am indeed grateful that Ralph Ingersoll did resent it.