

A Jew and an Irishman go to Heaven

- My Friendship with Paul Sally
- The 2020 Paul J. Sally, Jr. Midwest Representation Theory Conference
- October, 2020

Background





KAREN BRODKIN



I have seen a land right merry with the sun, where children sing And there in the King's Highways sat and sits a figure veiled and bowed ... Three centuries' thought has been the raising and unveiling of that bowed human heart, and now behold a century new for the duty and the deed. The problem of the Twentieth Century is the problem of the color-line.

Ravenswood Houses; PS 112

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10

67





Background

 G D Birkhoff was an early teacher of mine ... He systematically kept Jews out of his department, but apparently relented late in life and favoured appointing ONE by the 1940s. He also helped some Jewish refugees find jobs NOT at Harvard in the 1930s, while acting generally to hinder their entry. Though his record is mixed and some were more implacably anti-Semitic than he was, his actions in this regard are important because of his very great influence. – Chandler Davis

Ireland from One or Two Neglected Points of View



The Iberians are believed to have been originally an African race, who thousands of years ago spread themselves through Spain over Western Europe. Their remains are found in the barrows, or burying places, in sundry parts of these countries. The skulls are of low, prognathous type. They came to Ireland, and mixed with the natives of the South and West, who themselves are supposed to have been of low type and descendants of savages of the Stone Age, who, in consequence of isolation from the rest of the world, had never been out-competed in the healthy struggle of life, and thus made way, according to the laws of nature, for superior races.

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- -H Strickland Constable (1899)

Simons Foundation, October, 2010

 There is no organic connection between Hellenic civilization and modern European and American civilization. ... Greeks and Indians and Chinese and Iranians were always seeking a religion and philosophy which affected all their activities and which were intended to produce an equilibrium and a state of harmony. ... It is important to remember how far removed are modern Europe and America from the whole approach and outlook of the Greeks, whom they praise so much in their leisure moments, and with whom they seek some distant contacts in order to satisfy some inner yearning in their hearts or to find some oasis in the harsh and fiery deserts of modern existence.

- Nehru, The Discovery of India



Misty Copeland: Principal Dancer, American Ballet Theater



Yo Sally! Remembering the late University of Chicago math professor Paul Sally WBEZ - 2014





