

TOLERANCE IS A LIE

If one cannot tolerate a person or a race of people and proclaims it to the world, he is considered on those particular subjects as being intolerant. There are thousands of well respected men and women in all walks of life who are, in their communities, considered to be the very essence of tolerance and who at heart are bigots to the core.

The word "tolerance" is the largest lie in the English language. It is our most weasel word. If we could only read the minds of so-called tolerant people, we would discover that hate still secretly predominates the true character of millions who for business, social or political reasons tolerate things they actually hate.

Recently at a health resort in one of our southern states we met a man

who could find nothing wrong with our beautiful hotel except that "the Jews have taken possession". When we protested the remark, the usual crawfish act was forthcoming — "Now please don't misunderstand me. I like the Jewish people." He was a pure and simple unadulterated liar. He hated the Jews but back home he secretly tolerated them because he wanted to be a regular guy or something.

It is needless to mention the secret terrific anti-Catholic feeling which predominates in so many sections of our nation. Oh yes, in the open the bigot praises the Catholics as being "good people". On the surface these intolerant Dr. Jekylls and Mr. Hydes are very tolerant, but let a Catholic aspire for political office in these localities and he is buried beneath an avalanche of votes by those who mark their ballots with their genuine narrow character instead of with their supposedly tolerant reputation.

The Jews and Catholics are well able to take care of themselves but when we come to the Negroes of our nation the picture is altogether different. The Negro is the personification of tolerance of those things that cut him to the heart. He is making tremendous headway under adverse conditions only because he is learning how to cast his ballot and many of the politicians who are posing as his friends are as secretly intolerant of him as was the man down south who liked our hotel except that "the Jews have taken possession".

In Washington, our nation's capitol, the federal F.E.P.C. bill has been kicked and badgered around in a shameful way. Only a few, including President Truman, are willing to make it a clear cut issue. Others have their eyes and ears back home to ascertain if the issue will cost or gain them votes. In this such politicians are proving the lie of the word "tolerance" and the