

Interview: Victor Slonim

Recorded Excerpt

Interviewer (Becky Rosenberg): And the fact that you were Jewish, did that ever affect anything in your job?

Victor Slonim: It was difficult, I think, actually to explain. It was—Leningrad had a lot of very interesting and very powerful scientific institutions. And being Jewish, it was impossible to go there—even so people just dreamed to take me to work.

Believe me. But every time, everything was nice and friendly until you submit your passport to final—and after that their face changed, and they say that sorry, it was empty talk. We don't have any open position for you—it was like a switch. One day even she [his wife] was not taken for job where people actually wanted her.

And she went [through] all medical exams and everything and last minute they knew that her husband was a Jew and they didn't take her.