Navone Barbara Classe III ac

#### INTRODUCTION:

This article was written on the Advertiser, the paper of Montgomery, on the 5<sup>th</sup> december of 1955.

The autor is Joe Azbell, who wrote a weekly column for the Montgomery Independent from 1968 until his death in 1995. He published first newspaper account of Montgomery bus boycott.

#### HISTORICAL CONTEXT:

The roots of the bus boycott began years before the arrest of Rosa Parks. The Women's Political Council (WPC), an organization (part of the Civil Rights Movement) formed to address the racial issues in the city founded in 1946, had already turned their attention to Jim Crow laws (were state and local laws that enforced racial segregation) about the problem of Montgomery city buses. In a meeting in March 1954, the council's members asked for some changes for Montgomery's bus system: no one standing over empty seats; a decree that black individuals not be made to pay at the front of the bus and enter from the rear; and a policy that would require buses to stop at every corner in black residential areas, as they did in white communities. But they didn't get any results. So the WPC president Jo Ann Robinson repeated the council's requests in a 21 May letter to Mayor Gayle, telling him: "There has been talk from twenty-five or more local organizations of planning a citywide boycott of buses".

After the WPC's meeting with Mayor Gayle, there were many examples of woman who were arrested because they didn't give their seats to the white people. One of them is Rosa Parks who was arrested on the 1st december of 1955

The WPC responded to Parks' arrest by calling for a one-day protest of the city's buses on 5 December 1955. Robinson prepared a series of leaflets at Alabama State College and organized groups to distribute them throughout the black community. Meanwhile the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), began to call local black leaders, including Martin Luther King, to organize a planning meeting. On 2 December, black ministers and leaders met at Dexter Avenue Baptist Church and agreed to publicize the 5 December boycott. The planned protest received unexpected publicity in the weekend newspapers and in radio and television reports. One of the article that were written for this event is this article witten by Joe Azbell.

On 5 December, 90 percent of Montgomery's black citizens stayed off the buses. That afternoon, the city's ministers and

# 5,000 At Meeting Outline Boycott; Bullet Clips Bus

By JOE AZBELL

An estimated 5,000 hymn-singing Negroes packet the Holt Street Baptist Church to its outer doors are spilled over into three streets blocking traffic last night as they voted to continue a racial boycott against buse of the Montgomery City Lines Inc.

Regents Give
Georgia Tech
Green Light'

ATLANTA, Dec. 5 (P.—Georgia's Board of Regents today rejected Gov. Marvin Griffin's move to have Georgia Tech's football team pulled from the Sugar Bowl on a racial issue and opened the way for non-segregated games played outside the South.

At the same time, it closed the door on any further bowl games played in the South, which do not follow the segregation laws and

This was a direct slap at the Sugar Bowl officials who not only invited Pittsburgh, a team with a Negro player, to meet Tech, but also let Pittsburgh sell its tickets on a nonsegregated basis.

Shortly before the regents acted Griffin had backed down somewhat on his Friday demand for a racia policy that not only would have barred Tech from the Sugar Bow but would have prohibited any Georgia state college teams from playing against Negroes or before unsegregated spectators.

The governor told his news conference that his request to he regents chairman, Robert O. Arnold of Covington, was aimed only at the Sugar Bowl and that he would not oppose nonsegregated games played in states where segregation is not practiced.

A storm of controversy we touched off by the governor move, which led to a noisy, at night demonstration Friday the Tech students who burned Griff in effigy, smashed into the stat Capitol and were restrained by cordon of police from storming the governor's massion.

The regents did not vote directly to permit Tech to carry out its Sugar Bowl contract. They merely adopted the resolution of policy applying to any future contracts.

But to make the situation clear, Arnold commented as the meeting closed, "There should be no further doubt that Tech will play in the Sugar Bowl."

It provides that in all athletic contests played in Georgia, the state's laws which prohibit racia mixing must be observed

and it declares that in future contests outside the state, teams of Georgia state colleges "shall respect the laws, customs and traditions of the host state." That means that in states outside the South, Georgia teams can play opponents having Negroes or before nonsegregated spectators, because laws and customs of those states laws and customs of those states

But the resolution adds, "No con tract or agreement shall be entered into for an athletic contest in any state where the circumstances under which it is fulfilled are repugnant to the laws, customs and traditions of the host state."

Revenue Board Adds Clerk To Office Staff

Mrs. Olive Holland has been mployed by Montgomery County board of Revenue for duty in the oard of revenue office. Mrs. Holland, formerly associated with apital Motor Lines, will serve as payroll clerk. She succeeds Mrs.

y City Lines, reported that is driven by driver B. S. John n, apparently was fired on by person with a .22 caliber rifl the Negro Washington Par

Bagley said the bullet hit the rear of the bus and Johnson coultot determine from where it was fired.

The bus company manager als reiterated a previous statemer that his firm would not violat the law on segregation of bus possengers and that he would continue to require all of his drivers to enforce the law. "If the fon't, the drivers can be fined to fine the segretary of the segretary of the segretary manager and the segretary of the segretary manager also continue to require all of his drivers can be fined to

Meanwhile, police reported a unidentified party threw a larg stone and struck the front of City Lines bus at the intersection of S. Jeff Davis and S. Hol street late yesterday. No persona injury and only slight damage the business and second the street late yesterday.

In a resolution passed at the meeting by the Negroes with roaring applause, the emotion group voted to ask "all citizer of Montgomery" to refrain fror riding buses of the Montgomer City Lines Inc. until the bus tran portation situation is cleared up

who ride and patronize them.
The resolution, among of he;
things, stated that "citizens o
Montgomery' have been inlimi
dated, embarrassed and coercee
while riding the public convey
ances and in view of the humilia
ion they have endured 1 he o
greed that they would refrair

It also declared that a "delega it also declared that a "delega tion of citizens" was prepared a all times to sit down with official; of the Montgomery City Lines and elevelop with them a program that the bus lines' patrons would find satisfactory and equitable.

The resolution stated that "no methods of intimidation" would be used or had been used to keep anyone from riding the buses but it asked that a person's "conscience" be his guide.

FROM PARKS CASE

The continuing boycott greout of the arrest and convictio of Rosa Parks, 42, 634 Clevelan Ave., Negro seamstress at a department store here, on a segre gation violation count

The conviction of the Negro woman may cause a court test on segregation of Negroes and whites on Montgomery buses. The Advertiser, learned verteads.

The Parks woman and Fred Daniel, 19, 1646 Hall St., arrested yesterday for disorderly conduct, were introduced to the large audience and the audience stood, applauding loud. They each were described as churchgoers and industrious law publishe either the services and industrious law publishe either the services are services.

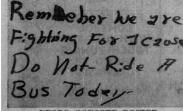
have allowing citizens.

Let Deev M. L. King pastor of the Deber tweene Baptist Church told the Deber tweene Baptist Church told the man to the transition of the "day of freedom, justice" must be used "unity of the "day of freedom, justice and equality." He urged "unity of the pastor of the past

Other speakers on the program aid the idea of the boycott of the uses being anything like the methods of the White Citizens ouncil" is "ridiculous" for "what we are doing is legal and con

"It is not like the Ku Klux Klan in going to our homes and taking men out and lynching them. It is not terrorism but democracy, a protest of Americans, in action," one of the speakers declared.

A collection was taken up at the meeting to finance the campaign of the citizens group." In the several speeches at the meeting which was conducte along the lines of a religious revival service, other remarks in cluded: "We will not relinquis



NEGRO BOYCOTT POSIER
This is one of the posters which city policemen yesterds
emoved from bus stop posts as Negroes staged a boyco
gainst the Montgomery City Lines over arrest of a Negroman
on a transportation segregation charge. The post
itses: "Remember we are lighting for a cause. Do not ric

leaders met to discuss the possibility of extending the boycott into a long-term campaign. During this meeting the MIA (**Montgomery Improvement Association**) was formed, and Martin Luther King was elected president.

That evening, at a mass meeting at Holt Street Baptist Church, the MIA voted to continue the boycott. After unsuccessful talks with city commissioners and bus company officials, on 8 December the MIA issued a formal list of demands: courteous treatment by bus operators; first-come, first-served seating for all, with blacks seating from the rear and whites from the front; and black bus operators on predominately black routes.

The demands were not met, and Montgomery's black residents stayed off the buses through 1956, despite efforts by city officials and white citizens to defeat the boycott.

On 5 June 1956, the federal district court ruled in Browder v. Gayle that bus segregation was unconstitutional, and in November 1956 the U.S. Supreme Court affirmed Browder v. Gayle and struck down laws requiring segregated seating on public buses.

#### ANALYSIS

This article talks about the Montgomery boycott of bus on the 5th december of 1955 for the rights of the black people to seat on the buses like white people.

The article is divided in 2 parts:

### - ENFORCE LAW

The bus company manager said that if one of his drivers breaks the law of the segregation he will be fined or senteced.

In the mean time a bus of the City Lines was strucked in front of a bus but the stone didn't hurt the driver but only damaged the bus.

In a resolution that passed at the meeting by the Negros they ask to all the citizens to not ride on the bus until the stop of the boycott. But someone believe that the people was obligated to do that but it wasn't true because every person could choose by his conscience.

#### - FROM PARKS CASE

Azbell explain that this boicott starts after the arrest of Rosa Parks who was the starter of the protest against the buses.

In this part he also make some citation of the speech of Martin Luther King who told: "he crowd that the "tools of justice" must be used to attain the "day of freedom, justice and equality."

He said that people that fight for the rights are bery important to obtain one day the peace. He want a nonviolent protest to obtain what they want.

In the article there is also an image: a manifest of the boycott that said "Remeber we are fighting for a cause. Do not ride a bus today"

It is a very important historical source to analize what happens in this day and what the black people said and what they want to communicate.

In my opinion this article is very important to understand some of the events that happened in that time, it is concentrated on the fight of black people of Montgomery for their rights. It explains the events in an objective way, there isn't the author's point of view. Through the images we could empathize with the fighters and understand the will to obtain their rights.

I think that this event: the boycott of Montgomery is one of the most important changes for the American History and for the black people rights.

## SITOGRAFIA:

https://kinginstitute.stanford.edu/encyclopedia/montgomery-bus-boycott

https://montgomeryadvertiser.newspapers.com/

http://www.montgomeryboycott.com/