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LeMoyne Reflections on Sanitation Strike March pp. 152-153 -- A.A.

Item Type	Text
Download date	2025-05-12 17:17:38
Link to Item	http://hdl.handle.net/10267/34055

A Tiring Time For A Tired People

A.A.-1

The situation which is now taking place in the city of Memphis should be the concern of the whole city. The situation is the striking of the sanitation workers, whose main issue of the strike is for a dues check off.

For eight weeks the strikers have been marching peacefully down main unnoticed. At first they were noticed, but after several weeks of this marching they were considered just part of the scenery. Then a mass march was scheduled and violence broke out in the downtown area and around the city. This violence accomplished a great deal. The boycott on the major businesses around the city was kept by some, but not all. After the riot, the people were too scared to go into these businesses. This kept the boycott on tighter and in the long run the businesses would lose money. After this economic

loss the businessmen would feel the pinch on their pocketbooks and thus pressure the Councilmen for a settlement in early January

The strike, riot, and boycott has brought the Negro community together. It has taught the Negro here in Memphis how to stick together for a good cause. This cause is for better jobs, housing, and opportunities for my people. We want action now, not later because now is the time for change. The new generation won't take all of this monkey business from the whites anymore.

If rioting is the only way or answer to the problems of the black man, then riot. It's time the whites wake up before it's too late for the blacks and whites of this country