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LeMoyne Reflections on Sanitation Strike March pp. 348-350 -- L.O.

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On March 28, 1968, Dr. Martin Luther King arrived in Memphis to lead a protest march in behalf of the sanitation workers. The march originated due to the partial treatment of the sanitation workers. But because of circumstances. I was unable to participate in the march, a march that I deeply believe that it was altogether fitting and proper. Because of my absence I am unable to give a [illegible] to what took place in Memphis on Thursday, but I was able to get the comments of a business into how he felt toward the incident that occurred in the city of “good abode.”

With his business situated in a predominantly Negro neighborhood and a victim of the incident. With his merchandise [illegible] the sidewalk and his windows broken, he responded to the questions in this respect, “the march and the looting and smashing of windows was an [illegible] plot to give the colored man a chance to destroy or [illegible] white business and to avenge the mayor for his actions. King is a man of poor leadership ability and should not have the right to have a demonstration; but nevertheless, the march should never have taken place because it had no value.”

By what way do you mean the march had no value?

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I [illegible] that there was no for a demonstration response the policy of our mayor, in totally [illegible] Mayor Loeb actions are right and is with his constitution in sights to deal with the situation as he sees fit. The mayor is dealing with the problem sufficiently.”

From talking with this merchant of great wealth and heard of animosity feels that this protest and other protest are “[illegible] because it hurts them [illegible]. There should be extreme measures taken to prevent these types of incidents. Measures such as extreme police [illegible] prosecute these destructive people to the [illegible]. Such organization was the N.A.A.C.P, [illegible] and above all the Memphis militants, the Invaders because they can be detrimental to the city and cities.

Businessmen [illegible] these types of incidents, they cannot come up with reasons why the Negro should protest, they believe the Negro should be satisfied with what they have.

But in conclusion I give my honest opinion to the situation and its event. I feel that the demonstration was only a small way of protesting the way we have been treated and mistreated and now we are rebelling rebellion [illegible]. With the prevailing system of discrimination there is going to be boycotts, demonstrations, and perhaps violence to secure our liberty. Discrimination creates a social problem among the Negro with [illegible]---

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---for us to destroy this social problem we must and will destroy discrimination. The only for the "black man" to stop protesting is to give the "black man" what he is protesting for and that is "equal rights" full equal rights.

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