MARTIN LUTHER KING MERY STORY 10c How so,000 NEGROES FOUND A NEW WAY TO END RACIAL DISCRIMINATION. DECEMBER 5, 1955 **DECEMBER 21, 1956** WALK TO FREEDOM **VICTORY FOR JUSTICE**

IN MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA, 50,000
NEGROES FOUND A NEW WAY TO WORK
FOR FREEDOM, WITHOUT VIOLENCE AND
WITHOUT HATING. BECAUSE THEY
DID, THEY PUT NEW HOPE IN ALL MEN
WHO SEEK BROTHERHOOD, AND WHO
KNOW YOU DON'T BUILD IT WITH BULLETS.
NO ONE PERSON MADE THE MONTGOMERY
STORY, BUT ONE MAN'S NAME STOOD
OUT AMONG THE HUNDREDS WHO
WORKED SO HARD AND UNSELFISHLY.
THAT MAN WAS 29-YEAR-OLD
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., MINISTER
OF THE DEXTER AVENUE BAPTIST
CHURCH AND PRESIDENT OF THE
MONTGOMERY IMPROVEMENT
ASSOCIATION.

YOUNG MARTIN GREW UP IN THE SHADOW OF THE CHURCH, HIS FATHER WAS PASTOR OF ONE OF THE LARGEST BAPTIST CHURCHES IN ATLANTA, WHERE



THE BASIC BOOK IN THE KING HOUSE WAS THE BIBLE. FROM IT YOUNG MARTIN EARLY LEARNED JESUS' TEACHINGS ABOUT LOVE AND ITS POWER.



MARTIN FINISHED HIGH SCHOOL AT IS AND ENTERED MOREHOUSE COLLEGE IN ATLANTA. THERE HE WORKED WITH THE CITY'S INTERCOLLEGIATE CHRISTIAN COUNCIL,



AT CROZER SEMINARY, ONE OF SIX NEGROES AMONG NEARLY 100 STUDENTS, HE WAS ELECTED PRESI-DENT OF THE STUDENT BODY AND GRADUATED AT THE HEAD OF HIS



WHILE HE STUDIED FOR A PH.D. DEGREE AT BOSTON UNIVERSITY, HE MET AND MARRIED CORETTA SCOTT, A PRETTY YOUNG SINGER.



NORTHERN CHURCHES WERE OPEN TO THE YOUNG MINISTER, BUT IN 1954, MAR-TIN LUTHER KING AND HIS BRIDE DECIDED TO RETURN





LIVE IN MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA. I LOVE MONTGOMERY, BUT I'VE HATED IT, TOO. A NEGRO ANYWHERE IN THE DEEP SOUTH HAS A HARD TIME. JIM CROW SITS MIGHTY HEAVY ON A MAN'S SPIRIT.



PEOPLE LIVE SCARED UNDER JIM CROW.
I WAS SCARED, TOO. YOU NEVER KNOW
WHEN SOMETHING MIGHT BUST OUT, AND









THAT NIGHT I COULDN'T SLEEP. I WAS GETTING SICK AND TIRED OF ALL THIS. I WOKE UP MY WIFE.

SOMETHING OUGHT TO BE DONE.
ROSA IS A GOOD WOMAN AND NOT.
A TROUBLE MAKER, THEY HAD NO
RIGHT ARRESTING HER!

WE DO?



DECIDED TO TALK TO SOME OF MY FRIENDS



WE GOT OUT A MIMEOGRAPHED SHEET PRO-TESTING WHAT HAD HAPPENED TO ROSA PARKS AND CALLING FOR A ONE-DAY BOY-



THAT NIGHT, WORD WAS FLASHED AROUND TOWN THAT THE PROTEST WAS SET FOR THE NEXT DAY.



THE NEWSPAPERS OF MONTGOMERY HELPED MORE THAN THEY KNEW.







OUR PROTEST IS A SUCCESS! NO ONE'S RIDING THOSE BUSES.



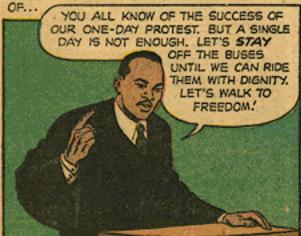
DURING THE DAY WE FORMED A COMMITTEE, THAT

WE'RE CALLING OURSELVES THE
MONTGOMERY IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION.
WE'RE GOING TO SEE TO IT THAT
NEGROES ARE TREATED FAIRLY IN
THE BUSES OF MONTGOMERY...

THE CROWDS WERE HUGE. WE USED LOUDSPEAKERS SO THAT THOSE WHO COULON'T GET IN COULD HEAR WHAT WAS HAPPENING FROM OUT ON THE



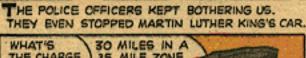
AT THAT TIME I KNEW MARTIN LUTHER KING ONLY SLIGHTLY, BUT I SOON LEARNED THAT A NEW AND IMPORTANT LEADER HAD COME ON THE SCENE -- ONE AMERICA WOULD FEEL PROUD















JANUARY 30, 1956. SOMETHING HAPPENED ON THAT
DAY THAT TOUCHED MY HEART AND DID SOMETHING
TO ME, MARTIN LUTHER KING WAS SPEAKING AT A
MEETING...
THIS IS A SPIRITUAL
MOVEMENT... VIOLENCE WILL
DEFEAT OUR PURPOSE.
VIOLENCE IS NOT
ONLY IMPRACTICAL
BUT IMMORAL.







ARTIN LUTHER KING RUSHED HOME. A CROWD WAS GATHERED OUTSIDE. THEY WERE IN AN ANGRY MOOD, WANTING TO ANSWER VIOLENCE WITH VIOLENCE. AND THEN KING SPOKE TO THEM.





THOUGH WE TRIED TO LOVE OUR ENEMIES, THEIR HEARTS WERE NOT SOFTENED TOWARD US. IN THEIR ATTEMPT TO BREAK UP OUR BUS PROTEST, THEY INDICTED 93 OF OUR LEADERS, INCLUDING



WE WERE THRILLED TO SEE MANY OF OUR LEADERS SURRENDER WITHOUT BEING HUNTED



THOSE ARRESTS WERE LAST MINUTE DESPERATION MEASURES ON THE PART OF THOSE WHO
KNEW THAT SOME DAY SOON, RIGHT AND
JUSTICE WOULD PREVAIL.
AS REVEREND RALPH

AT THIS MOMENT,
THE SUPREME COURT
IS CONSIDERING OUR
CASE AGAINST THE
BUS COMPANY, ONE
DAY SOON WE ARE
GOING BACK TO THE
BUSES, WE MUST
GET READY FOR
THAT DAY.

ABERNATHY SAID ...

WE BEGAN TO MAKE PREPARATIONS FOR WHAT WE WOULD DO WHEN WE GOT BACK ON THE BUSES. THINGS WOULD BE DIFFERENT. WE ACTED IT







THAT WAS HOW WE GOT READY TO 60 BACK ON THE **BUSES. TO** MAKE SURE WE WOULD NOT BE ACCUSED OF VIOLENCE, WE DECIDED TO CLASP OUR HANDS IN OUR LAPS AND NOT USE THEM AGAINST ANYONE, NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENED.



ON DECEMBER 21, WE WENT BACK ON THE BUSES. SOMEONE SHOUTED VILE AND ABUSIVE WORDS AT A YOUNG FELLOW WHO WAS GETTING



BUT NOW IT WAS DIFFERENT FOR ALL OF US. WE ALL JUST SMILED. AND THAT DID SOMETHING TO THE MAN WHO SHOUTED. THE NEWSPAPER FELLOWS TOOK HIS PICTURE...



ONE BUS DRIVER MADE A WOMAN PAY HER FARE TWICE.







THE KU KLUX KLAN PARADED THROUGH THE STREETS ...

CROSSES WERE BURNED IN THE NIGHT ...







ONE OF THE HOMES BOMBED WAS THAT OF REVEREND ROBERT GRAETZ, WHITE PASTOR OF A NEGRO LUTHERAN CHURCH, WHO HAD BEEN ONE OF US RIGHT FROM THE





NEGRO CHURCHES WERE BOMBED AND AN UNEX-PLODED BOMB WAS FOUND ON KING'S FRONT PORCH. BUT NOW MONTGOMERY'S LAW-ABIDING WHITE CITIZENS TURNED AGAINST THE VIOLENCE.



IF WHAT HAPPENED HERE IS A VICTORY FOR ANYONE AT ALL, IT'S FOR ALL MONTGOMERY. WE RESPECT OURSELVES MORE AND WE KNOW THAT THE IDEA OF LOVE AND NON-VIGLENCE IS SPREADING. I'VE THROWN MY GUN AWAY-IT HAD GOTTEN MUCH TOO HEAVY FOR ME EVER TO LIFT AGAIN!

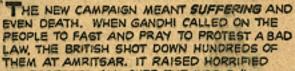


MARTIN LUTHER KING TELLS HOW A NATION WON ITS FREEDOM BY THE MONTGOMERY METHOD



(3)

MAHATMA GANDHI STARTED HIS CAMPAIGN FOR FREEDOM IN INDIA IN 1919. IT LOOKED HOPELESS. THE BRITISH EMPIRE WAS THE STRONGEST THE WORLD HAD EVER KNOWN, INDIA'S PEOPLE WERE POOR AND POWERLESS.





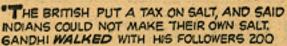


AGAIN AND AGAIN THEY PUT GANDHI IN PRISON, BUT THAT DID NOT STOP HIM. HE WOULD WAIT PATIENTLY, THINKING AND PRAYING, AND AS 500N AS HE WAS OUT WOULD



MILLIONS OF THE POORER PEOPLE IN INDIA WERE CALLED 'UNTOUCHABLES! THEY COULD NOT EVEN USE THE PUBLIC HIGHWAY, GANDHI RENAMED THEM 'HARIJAN--CHILDREN OF GOD,' AND LED THEM TO STAND IN THE FORBIDDEN ROAD, IT TOOK IS MONTHS OF STANDING, BUT THEN THE POLICE GAVE IN AND LET THEM PASS."







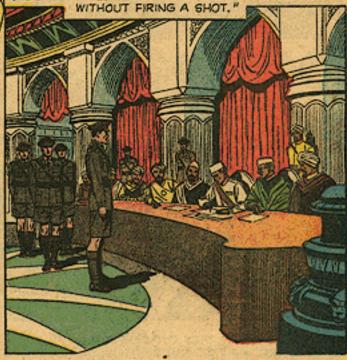
"IT BECAME HARDER AND
HARDER FOR THE BRITISH TO KEEP CONTROL.
THEIR JAILS WERE FILLED WITH INDIA'S
BEST-LOVED LEADERS, INCLUDING SUCH MEN
AS NEHRU, WHO LATER BECAME PRIME



"BESIDES, THE NEWS THAT BRITISH SOLDIERS WERE SHOOTING UNARMED MEN AND WOMEN AND PUTTING LEADERS IN JAIL, WAS TROUBLING THE BRITISH AT

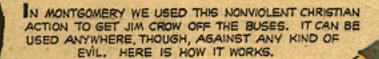
THE VOTERS IN MY DISTRICT DON'T LIKE WHAT WE'RE DOING IN WE'LL HAVE TO INDIA. GET OUT. THAT'S CLEAR.

... FINALLY THE BRITISH GAVE IN AND GRANTED INDIA'S INDEPENDENCE, GANDHI HAD MADE A REVOLUTION







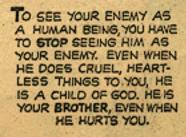


FIRST, REMEMBER THAT
YOU CAN DO SOMETHING
ABOUT THE SITUATION,
NOT JUST THE
GOVERNMENT, OR SOME
BIG ORGANIZATION, BUT
YOU. GOD SAYS YOU
ARE IMPORTANT. HE NEEDS
YOU TO CHANGE THINGS.



WHITES

ONLY

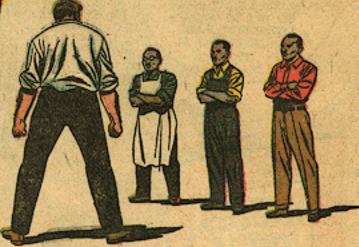


HARDEST OF ALL, YOU HAVE TO HELP YOUR ENEMY TO SEE YOU AS A HUMAN BEING. HE HAS TO SEE YOU AS A PERSON WHO WANTS THE SAME KIND OF THINGS HE WANTS: LOVE, A FAMILY, A JOB, THE RESPECT OF HIS NEIGHBORS.



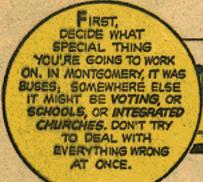
IT WILL BE EASIER FOR HIM TO SEE YOU THIS WAY IF WILL BE EASIER FOR HIM TO SEE YOU THIS WAY
IF YOU ACT LIKE A BROTHER. SO, EVEN WHEN HE
TRIES TO HURT YOU, YOU MUST NOT STRIKE BACK.
EVEN IN YOUR THOUGHTS YOU MUST NOT STRIKE
BACK. YOU MUST GO ON LOVING HIM. LIKE THE
SCHOOLGIRL IN LITTLE ROCK, YOU MUST SAY,
"FATHER, FORGIVE THEM, FOR
THEY KNOW NOT WHAT THEY DO."

THIS DOES NOT MEAN GIVING UP THOUGH. IT IS WRONG FOR THIS BROTHER OF YOURS TO TREAT YOU AS THOUGH YOU WERE NOT A HUMAN BEING, AND IT WOULD BE WROME FOR YOU TO HELP HIM TREAT YOU THIS WAY. YOU HAVE TO DO SOMETHING TO STOP HIM.



HE IS A HUMAN BEING AND SO HE CAN TREAT YOU BADLY ONLY BECAUSE, SOMEHOW, HE IS AFRAID OF YOU, OR OF WHAT YOU MIGHT DO TO HIM, IF YOU TRY TO STOP HIM BY USING VIOLENCE AND BY "GETTING EVEN" HE WILL BE SURE HE IS RIGHT IN BEING AFRAID OF YOU.

F YOU SHOW HIM LOVE, THOUGH, YOU START TO TAKE AWAY THE REASON FOR HIS FEAR AND YOU MAKE IT HARDER FOR HIM TO GO ON HATING YOU, HERE'S HOW TO GO ABOUT IT.







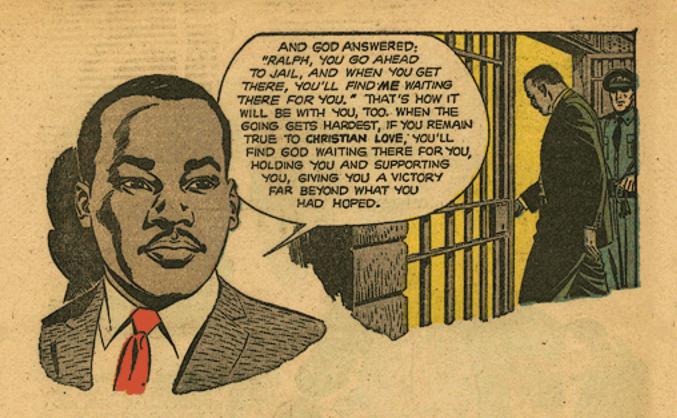
THIRD, WHERE YOU CAN, TALK
TO THE PEOPLE CONCERNED, TRY
TO EXPLAIN HOW YOU FEEL AND
WHY YOU FEEL AS YOU DO.
DON'T ARGUE-JUST TELL
THEM YOUR SIDE, AND LISTEN
TO THEIRS. SOMETIMES YOU'LL
BE SURPRISED TO FIND
FRIENDS AMONG THOSE YOU
THOUGHT WERE ENEMIES.

NEXT, BE SURE YOU ARE READY. JOIN WITH OTHERS WHO FEEL THE WAY YOU DO. HAVE SOMEONE WITH EXPERIENCE COME IN TO TELL YOU HOW TO GET READY. TRY PRACTICE SITUATIONS AS WE DID IN MONTGOMERY. MAKE SURE YOU CAN FACE ANY OPPOSITION WITHOUT HITTING BACK, OR RUNNING AWAY,

OR HATING.

When you are ready, then go ahead, and don't turn back no matter how hard the way or how long the struggle, when my friend, the rev. ralph abernathy, found himself about to be put in Jail in montgomery, he prayed, "God, I'm afraid to go to Jail. I've never been in Jail before. If I go, god, will you go with me?"





This booklet is published by the Fellowship of Reconciliation, whose thousands of members throughout the world attempt to practice the things that Jesus taught about overcoming evil with good. Additional copies of "Martin Luther King and The Montgomery Story," at quantity rates, and other printed material on this subject, may be obtained by writing FOR, Box 271, Nyack, M. Y.