

The New Negro Is A Reality in Ga.

"The New Negro", that symbolic creature spoken of by editorial writers and phrase-makers, was never so evident as he is in the State of Georgia right now.

His presence is evidenced by the protests, demonstrations, applications to formerly all-white schools and institutions, and demands that are sweeping the state.

Particularly is his presence apparent in the bus boycotts that are causing companies to cease operations because of decreasing revenue.

Too long the Negro paid for his degradation and shame. He supported the very establishments that posted signs saying "Colored Only", "Colored To The Rear", "No Negroes Allowed", etc.

Fortunately that is not the case in the State of Georgia today. In Augusta, where 11 Negro students were arrested in May, 1960, for refusing to sit in the rear, the laws requiring segregated seating were declared unconstitutional by a Federal Court of Appeals recently.

In Albany, the Cities Transit, Inc. has been forced to put its buses in garages because of the lack of patronage since the bulk of its riders were Negroes. Denied any consideration, the Negro citizens of Albany have forsaken the public conveyances.

A boycott was initiated recently in Macon by disgruntled Negro bus riders. Fearful that the boycott would cause a curtailment of bus operations, whites have used radio announcements to urge use of buses by segregation-minded whites. The company purchased radio and television time urging whites to "ride a bus and help break the boycott."

It is unfortunate that these bigots cannot learn by others' mistakes. It seems that the lessons taught in Montgomery and Birmingham, Ala., along with Tallahassee, Fla., should have been enough to convince these diehards that they are fighting a losing battle, a battle against the toughest opponent they have ever faced — an around "new Negro" who will be satisfied with nothing less than first-class citizenship.

—Louisville Defender