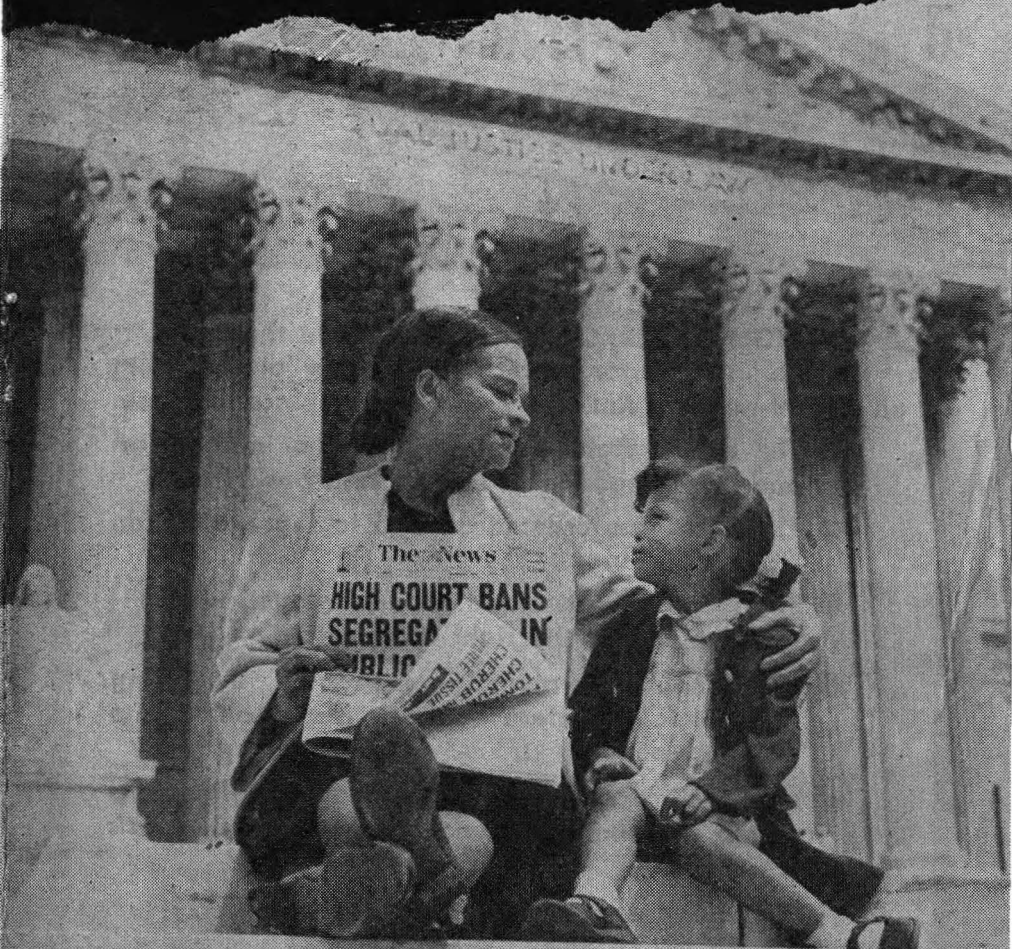


DEMOCRACY

VS.

FORCE AND VIOLENCE!





**Boy, 14,
Victim of
Race Hate**

A REIGN OF TERROR is taking place in the South. That reign of terror—which is arousing protest from all decent-minded Americans—is taking place because:

- The United States Supreme Court has ordered an end to segregation in schools and parks.
- The I.C.C. has ordered an end to segregation on trains and buses.
- The Negro people—and underprivileged whites—are demanding the right to vote.
- With industry growing in the South, increasing unity is taking place between Negro and white working people.

The reign of terror seeks to head off these developments . . . *to keep the southland undeveloped, undemocratic and unorganized.* . . .

Here is how the terror operates:

TERROR IN THE SOUTH!

ON THE NIGHT of May 7, 1955, the Rev. George W. Lee, a clergyman of Belzoni, Mississippi, was shot and killed in his car after having refused under pressure to take his name off the voter registration list. *His murderers have not been apprehended. . . .*

* * *

On the morning of August 13, 1955, a 63-year-old election campaign worker—Lamar Smith of Brookhaven, Mississippi — was shot and killed in broad daylight in front of the courthouse after having made open efforts to get out the Negro vote in the coming primary election. *No indictment has been returned against the three suspects arrested for this crime.*

* * *

On the night of August 28, 1955, two men kidnapped Emmett Till—14 years of age—from his uncle's home in Le Flore County, Mississippi. The boy's body was found four days later in a nearby river. *The men who*

admitted the kidnapping were tried for murder and acquitted. Nor were they even indicted for the kidnapping. . . .

* * *

These are no isolated crimes. Nor is Mississippi the only site of wholesale force and violence being practiced against the Negro people.

Throughout the Southland — and overflowing into northern areas—a wave of terrorism against the Negro and white champions of racial equality is taking place.

Sometimes the newspapers we read report these crimes against a people. Sometimes they go unreported. *But the terror that is afoot demands the attention of all who cherish democracy and our constitutional form of government.*

Dr. T. R. M. Howard, a Negro physician and surgeon from Mount Bayou, Mississippi, delivered an address before 2,500 people in the Baltimore Sharp Street church on October 20, 1955,

"Perhaps the purpose of this sorry and tragic error committed in my native Mississippi . . . is to prove to us whether or not we deserve to survive."
—WILLIAM FAULKNER

Help End RACIAL TYRANNY IN MISSISSIPPI

Three Unpunished Murders—Open Defiance of Supreme Court School Decree—Threats on the Lives of Many Negro Leaders—Intimidation—Economic Reprisals—Over 900,000 Mississippi Negroes Without an Effective Voice in Their Government.

Stop this slaughter of personal rights. The recent wanton murder of a boy whose only "crime" was an alleged adolescent gesture toward a woman has climaxed a series of blows to American ideals that has horrified the country.

✓ On the night of May 7, the Rev. George W. Lee, a clergyman of Belzoni, Mississippi, was shot and killed in his car after having refused under pressure to take his name off the voter registration list. His murderers have not been apprehended.

✓ In the morning of the election campaign in Brookhaven, Mississippi, a white man in broad daylight after having been arrested for the murder of a Negro

the Negro
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bring about equal
protection und
ried.

"STOP THIS SLAUGHTER," says the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People in a message to the American people.

which makes clear the situation confronting our land.

"I'm here to tell you this afternoon," the physician who operates the Friendship Clinic and Hospital in Mount Bayou, told his audience, "that the wave of terror no longer threatens the South, but the wave of terror is in the South. . . ."

"The reason that there is so much disturbance in Mississippi today is that the colored people in Mississippi have decided . . . that we don't want to wait until we get to Heaven to walk where we please. We want to do it right here in this present world. . . ."

"Everytime they get ready to lynch a person in the South," Dr. Howard said, "it's got to be about some white woman. I wish you'd also tell them that the colored man is satisfied with his women, and my great desire this afternoon is that the Mississippi white man would be as satisfied with his own women as I am with mine. . . ."

For having his own thoughts and speaking out on them, Dr. Howard's life today is in danger. As he told the Baltimore meeting: *"I live dangerously in Mississippi."*

"For the past six months," Dr. Howard reported, "I've had two guards about my home on 24-hour

duty. Not trying to protect me, but to protect my wife and my two children."

"I've had guards around my hospital and I have two other individuals to go with me wherever I go throughout the State of Mississippi. I don't know if this counts for much, but I want somebody to know at least where I take my last step. . . ."

Democracy "Subversive!"

In the South of today, anyone who defends our constitutional government "lives dangerously." In the South it is "subversive" to defend democracy today.

On October 18, 1955, the Attorney General of the State of Georgia accused the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People of being "subversive" because it demands an end to segregation.

"The NAACP," said the Attorney General of Georgia, "and its local fronts pose a serious threat to the peace, tranquility, government and way of life of our states." The official asserted that the NAACP's real design is to "force upon the South the Communist-inspired doctrine of racial integration and amalgamation. . . ."

* * *

In Lake City, South Carolina, a Negro clergyman, active in the

An ABC Newspaper
That Spans The State

NEW JERSEY ~~AND~~ AMERICAN

Prayer For Today

Read it all morning and afternoon, all day long and evening. It will comfort you and give you strength and courage in the struggle of this world.

Vol. 15, No. 30

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NEWARK, N.J., OCTOBER 8, 1935

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Vol. 32, No. 80.

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NEW YORK 17, N. Y., SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 1933

Weather: Cloudy

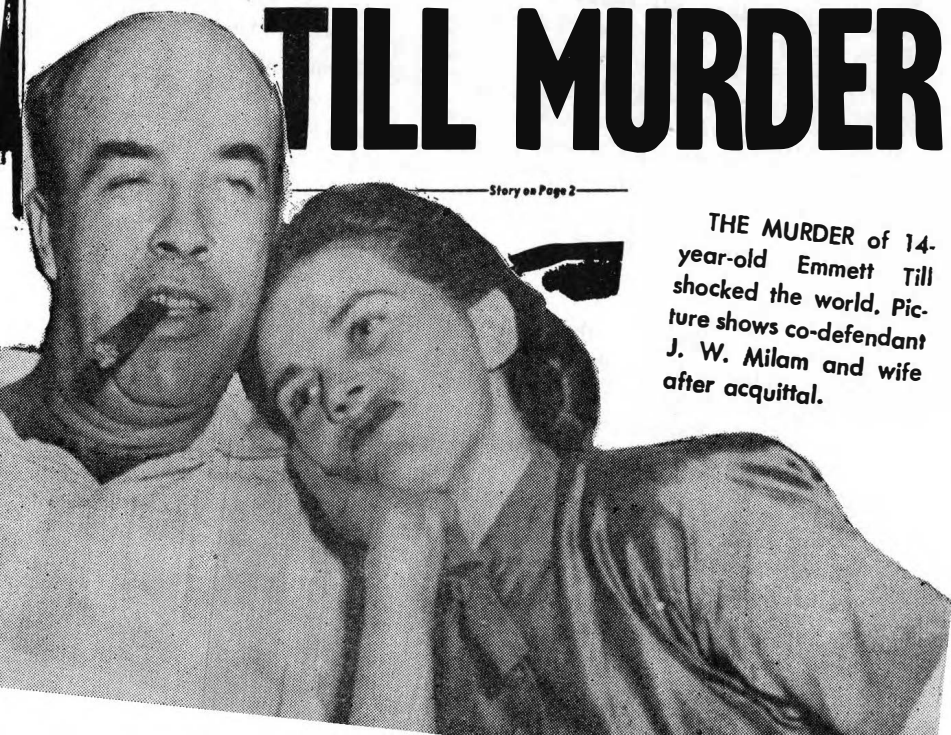
See Page 2

NEW YORK
C. C. C. C. C.

PAIR ACQUITTED TILL MURDER

Story on Page 2

THE MURDER of 14-year-old Emmett Till shocked the world. Picture shows co-defendant J. W. Milam and wife after acquittal.



desegregation movement, had to flee for his life on October 10, 1955, when he defended himself and his family with a shot-gun after his home had been fired on.

The clergyman—the Rev. Joseph A. DeLaine—charged that the Ku Klux Klan has been revived under other organizational names in the South. He asserts that *“newspapers, television and radio are being used to recruit whites against Negroes.”*

Force and Violence in Louisville

On the night of June 27, 1954, a dynamite explosion wrecked the home of Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Wade, a Negro World War II veteran, in Louisville, Ky. The reason: the Wade family bought a home in an “all-white” neighborhood through the aid of white friends, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Braden. Force and violence were used to terrorize the Wade family. Instead of hunting down the law-breakers, authorities in Louisville arrested the friends of Wade who helped him buy his new home. Carl Braden, white newspaperman who aided Wade, was found guilty of “sedition” and sentenced to 15 years in prison. Ann Braden and other white people are under indictment and await trial.

* * *

In Umatilla, Florida, on October 20, 1955, twelve Negro citrus

workers were wounded by shot-gun blasts fired into a union organizational meeting. The attacks took place without warning while a white union organizer was addressing the Negro workers in a Negro Masonic hall. . . .

* * *

In November 1954, Mississippi enacted a constitutional amendment requiring voters to be able “to read and write and interpret the State Constitution.” This qualification together with the reign of terror, is responsible for the fact that a mere 8,000 Negroes register to vote out of a total Negro population of 986,500.

* * *

On August 18, the Indianola (Miss.) *Enterprise*, following the example of other state newspapers, printed an editorial addressed:

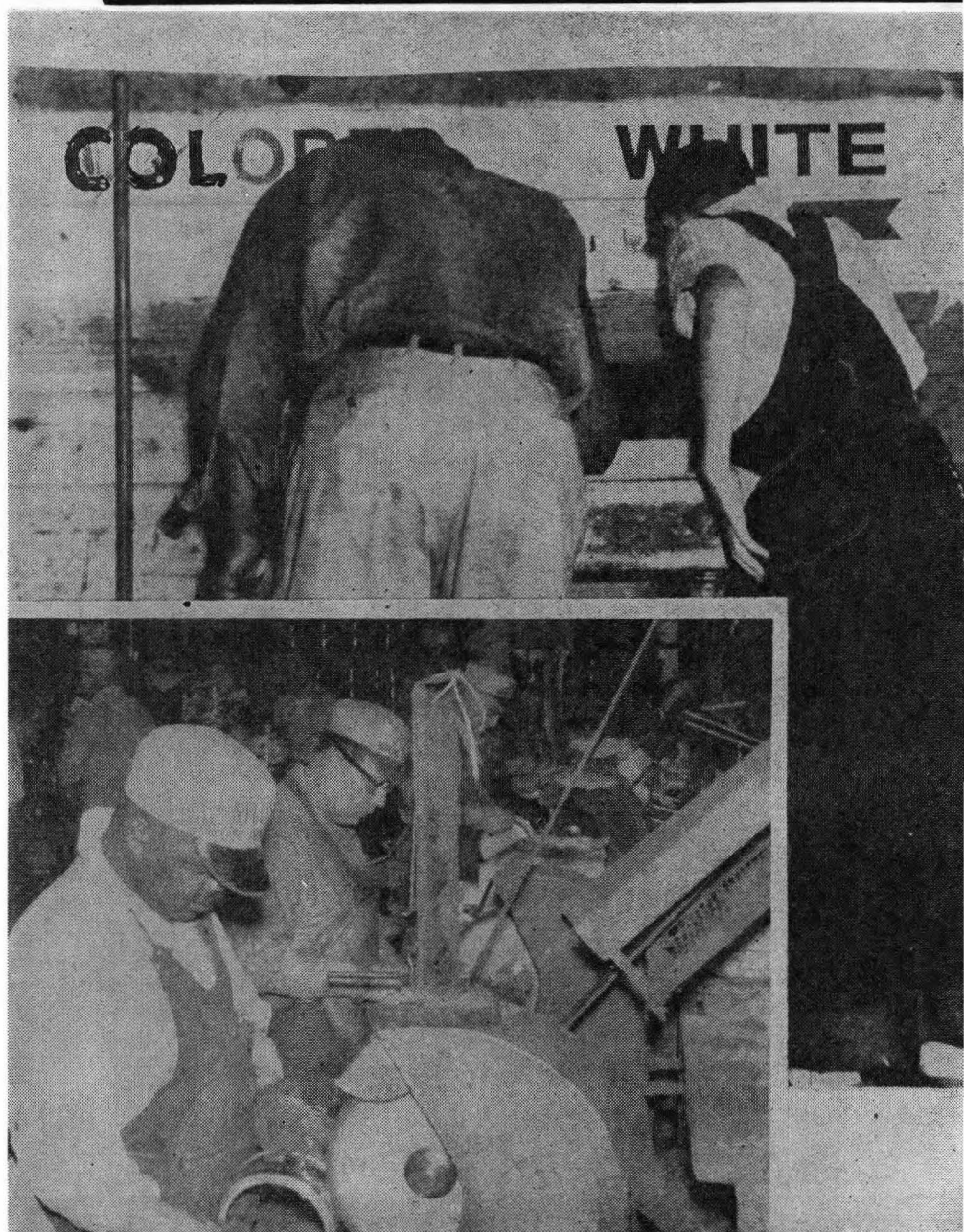
“TO ALL WHITE MEN AND WOMEN IN INDIANOLA”

The editorial urged all local white citizens to heed the “clarion call” to mobilize against the “humiliation of desegregation” ordered by a “subversive Supreme Court.”

* * *

In two counties of South Carolina, a ruthless food boycott of those families which are demanding enforcement of the United States Supreme Court anti-segrega-

Fear of Democracy Brings



FORCE and VIOLENCE!

tion order is being carried out. For more than five weeks, according to *Jet* magazine, "*Negroes have been forced to search for milk and bread outside of their neighborhoods in Orangeburg and Clarendon Counties while some white grocers flatly refuse to sell to Negroes.*"

"It is all part of a vicious hate boycott sponsored by the white Citizens' Councils attempt to 'starve' some 3,000 Negroes in the two counties who are NAACP school petition signers, members or sympathizers. . . ."

* * *

Why are the flames of discrimination and bigotry being fanned white heat at this particular time?

What lies behind the terror in the South?

FORCE AND VIOLENCE in the South are being practiced wholesale against the Negro people—and white defenders of democracy—because the ruling interests in the South fear the advance of democracy there. And behind these ruling interests stand the big corporations of the North who want to maintain the South's low wage and non-union status.

These economic and political rulers are determined that the United States Constitution shall not prevail . . . as far as the 6,000,000 black citizens of the South are concerned.

These powerful interests prefer to wreck cherished American liberties and the Constitution itself rather than grant the Negro people their basic rights—the right of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

These forces have blanketed a state like Mississippi and the entire deep South with a curtain of darkness—the darkness of fear. The Negro people fear the devastating reign of terror. White workers are also victims because the wave of terror hits viciously at anyone—regardless of color—who practices democracy.

The lynching of Emmett Till may resemble to some a nightmare. But it is not an evil dream. It is a reality. . . . *It is also a symbol . . . and a warning.*

Why The Terror?

The reign of terror is at hand because of three major reasons:

- *The children:* The United States Supreme Court decisions

WHICH SHALL IT BE? Intensification of the "Jim Crow" system in the South which aims to keep Negro and white workers separated? Or shall all of labor demand the breaking down of false barriers between human beings, regardless of color?



UNITY FORGED ON THE PICKET-LINE of working people—regardless of color, creed or belief—is the answer to the terror in the South.

which ordered an end to racial segregation in the schools, parks and playgrounds.

- *The ballot:* The fight of the Negro people in the South to vote.

- *The unions:* The growing trade union organization in the South and the growing unity between white and Negro workers.

The powerful economic and political rulers of the South fear these developments more than they would the plague. The reign of terror . . . the rise of the Ku Klux Klan . . . the lynchings . . . the open appeals to bigotry and white supremacy hatred . . . these are the poisonous fruits of the fear of the growing democracy by the Southern ruling group.

The desperation of those who seek to resist progress was made even greater by the vast upheaval of public sentiment brought on by the inhuman murder of Emmett Till. Throughout the nation, people responded:

- In New York City, 20,000 people attended a protest rally in the garment district. . . .

- In Detroit, a mass meeting was attended by 15,000 people who contributed \$14,000 to the NAACP to prosecute the case. . . .

- In Chicago 100,000 people viewed the body of young Emmett Till. . . .

- A public meeting under the local NAACP took place on September 25, 1955 in Dothan, Alabama, to hear a speaker on the Emmett Till case. . . .

Tremendous democratic forces have been turned loose. . . . This is why the Southern rulers—who have never accepted the Emancipation Proclamation—are letting loose their hooded riders and lynch brutality. . . .

THE JOB AHEAD

"The Federal Bureau of Investigation," Dr. Howard told his Baltimore audience, *"with all of its knowledge, with all its power, can never work out who the killer is when a colored person in the South is the victim. . . ."*

"Something is wrong somewhere," continued Dr. Howard, "and I believe that there is enough wrong that the President of the United States, the Attorney General and J. Edgar Hoover himself, must be called into a conference to see *why Southern investigators of the department can never solve the crime when there's a black man involved. . . .*"

Similarly, A. Philip Randolph, president of the Brotherhood of

Sleeping Car Porters, which sponsored a mass rally in New York in protest against the acquittal of the two white men accused of the Till slaying, urged upon Attorney General Herbert Brownell *"to order immediately an FBI investigation. . . . I have information from a reputable source who attended the Till murder trial in Sumner, Mississippi, that there are persons in Mississippi having information which would aid the federal authorities materially. . . ."*

"The NAACP would like to inquire specifically," states Roy Wilkins, NAACP executive secretary, *"why the FBI entered the Dammons case in New York (kidnapping of white youngster in New York) one day after disappearance of the boy, and failed to enter the Till case in Mississippi. . . ."*

This demand for federal authorities to move in on the wave of terror to the South is being advanced in many quarters.

Congress Must Act

So is support being voiced for the proposal of a group of liberal Congressmen who are making plans to introduce legislation to reduce the size of the Mississippi congressional delegation on grounds that the state is violating the U. S. Constitution by refusing to let Negroes vote.

According to leaders of this movement in Congress, the 14th Amendment to the Constitution empowers the nation's highest legislative body to reduce the delegation of any state which deprives citizens of the right to vote.

Labor Demands Action

The labor movement — white and Negro members alike — are growing increasingly aware of what white southern terror means to the future of American trade unions and union conditions.

Segregation . . . bigotry . . . discrimination . . . terrorism . . . all add up to disunity among working people who must have unity if they are to gain higher wages, decent working and living conditions. Especially is this true in areas where Negro working people are a huge numerical section of the population.

Runaway shops are another means of awakening labor to what southern discrimination means to working people. Wrote H. C. Rhodes, mayor of Palahatchie, Miss., to a northern factory president on June 10, 1954:

"Greetings. . . . We cordially invite you to visit our beautiful community. We want your Company to have the harmonious and highly successful experiences of operating in a veritable industrial paradise. . . . We will provide the

site and building as you want them . . . with taxes being exempted up to 99 years. . . . Our wonderful labor, 98 percent native born . . . will lower hourly industrial wage rates . . . from 50 cents to 95 cents below Northern states. . . ."

This is the bait for attracting runaway shops . . . lower wages . . . the result of a policy of discrimination which today is enforced by open terror. . . .

When unions seek to organize in the South today, they are accused of "mongrelization" and labor leaders—such as CIO President Walter Reuther—are labeled "Negrophile."

A headline from Jackson, Miss., says of a CIO organizing drive in the South: "*CIO plotting to end race segregation.*"

An anti-union leaflet distributed in the south states, according to Murray Kempton, columnist of the New York Post: "*Integration poses a greater threat to the working man and woman than anything else. It seems odd that intelligent men and women of the South would go along with the CIO mongrelization scheme. . . .*"

It is such anti-union smears as this that caused one local union in Cleveland to comment: "*The blows that murdered Emmett Till were also blows to murder every*

UE's NATIONAL FAIR PRACTICES COMMITTEE is shown meeting at Cleveland convention to decide winner of Tiffin Memorial Award, given to that local union that has during the course of the past year established the best record of fighting discrimination of all kinds.

UE



workers' job security, North and South. . . ."

UE's Program for Action

The 20th UE National Convention addressed itself in September, 1955 to this burning issue:

"A deadly poison is being prepared for the entire labor movement through the concentrated practice of pitting black against white. We characterize this new drive against the people as Operation Killer.

"The new reign of terror unleashed against the Negro people in open defiance of the Supreme Court of the United States is a threat to all future progress. The rising tide of violence, lynchings and economic reprisals against the Negro people, fostered by powerful economic forces in our country cannot be escaped by the labor movement.

"The UE Fair Practices program has been a key weapon in exposing and defeating our enemies in the economic struggles against the corporations, repelling raids by other unions and fighting off fascist-minded governmental agencies and committees. UE's Fair Practices work has made major contributions in the fight for full equality. UE calls for:

● *"A vigorous campaign be immediately launched by all Districts to help stop the reign of terror;*

that we make every effort to bring all labor into this fight.

"All Locals should conduct discussions and raise funds to help win the school fight and aid the victims of economic reprisals.

"All Locals should demand that President Eisenhower speak out against the terror, and instruct the Justice Department to act against discharges, denial of the vote and violations of the Supreme Court decision against segregated education, and to urge their Senators and Congressmen to also act.

● *"That we support the fight for the immediate implementation of the U. S. Supreme Court's decision outlawing segregation in the schools and fight for increased appropriations for school building.*

● *"That UE give all-out support to the fight for Federal, State and local FEPC legislation with enforcement powers, in the coming months.*

● *"That UE intensify its efforts to train and develop Negroes, women and other minority leadership at all levels of our Union.*

● *"Locals are urged to organize training programs through their community Boards of Education consistent with their shop requirements so that Negroes, women and other minority groups may*



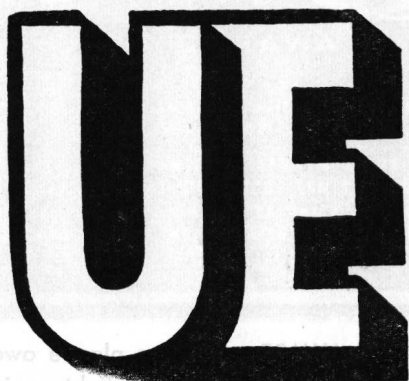
TIFFIN MEMORIAL AWARD, a bronze plaque awarded to that UE Local Union which has done the most in the fight against discrimination. The award is in honor of three young UE members who lost their lives a year ago through a railroad accident.

more fully exercise their seniority rights and avoid discriminatory disqualifications.

● *"That UE intensify the fight for inclusion in all contracts of the model fair practices clause.*

● *"That we give attention and re-*

sources to the South and to rural areas in a fight for democracy and union organization, for Negro-white unity and that we enlist the full support of Negro and white workers in our organized plants in this effort."



UNITED ELECTRICAL, RADIO & MACHINE WORKERS OF AMERICA (UE)

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