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SUMMARY: Writing to the Advertiser, Mrs. I. B. Rutledge explains that she and every other Southern white person she has met feels it is wrong that blacks must stand on buses while whites sit.

ORGANIZATIONS: Montgomery Advertiser

TOPICS: Montgomery Bus Boycott

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Carrying Segregation Too Far

EDITOR, THE ADVERTISER—Several years ago I was the only white person occupying one of 10 vacant seats at the front of the bus. Standing back of them the car was packed with Negroes returning from the day's work. "Why," I asked the driver, "Can't you let these people sit down?" "I don't mind," he said, "but I'm afraid someone will criticize me."

In the years since this incident in which I have talked about the bus situation I have yet to find one white person who feels that it is right that a Negro be made to stand that a white person may sit.

We in the South like to think of ourselves as a courageous people with the courage not only to face danger in war, but the moral courage to face issues and adverse public opinion. Isn't it time that those of us who really believe in Christian and democratic principles of consideration of others and of fair play to speak out and help create a public opinion which will make possible a solution of the present situation that will be satisfactory to all. The bus company must move within the framework of the law, but much improvement can be made if the public demands it.

Montgomery. MRS. T. B. RUTLEDGE.