



E.D. Nixon, legal redress chairman of the Montgomery branch of the NAACP

## Rosa Parks Arrest, Public Response:

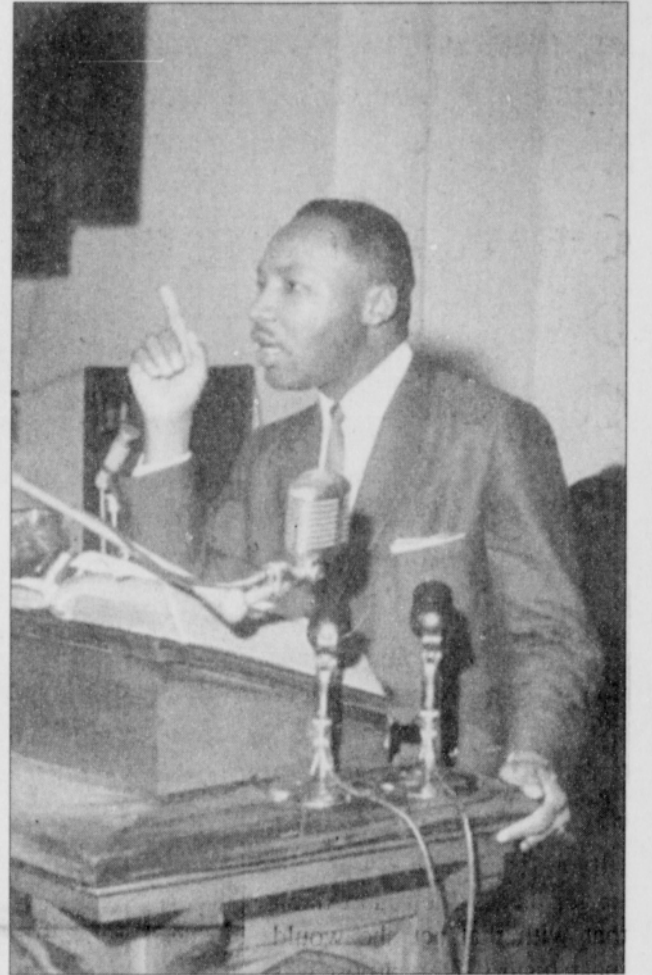
*"Actually, it began as soon as it was announced. It was put in the paper that I had been arrested. Mr. E.D. Nixon was the legal redress chairman of the Montgomery branch of the NAACP, and he made a number of calls during the night, called a number of ministers. I was arrested on a Thursday evening, and on Friday evening they had the meeting at the Dexter Avenue Baptist Church, where Dr. Martin Luther King was the pastor. A number of citizens came and I told them the story, and it became news about my being arrested. My trial was December 5th, when they found me guilty. The lawyers Fred Gray and Charles Langford, who represented me, filed an appeal and, of course, I didn't pay any fine. We set a meeting at the Holt Street Baptist Church on the evening of December 5th, because December 5th was the day the people stayed off in large numbers and did not ride the bus. When they found out that one day's protest had kept people off the bus, it came to a vote and, unanimously, it was decided that they would not ride the buses anymore until changes for the better were made."* — Rosa Parks



Rosa Parks in 1955



The black churches in Montgomery in the 1950's were integral in organizing and motivating the african american population for the bus boycott and other protests used to promote change and equality.



Martin Luther King Jr. rose to the forefront as the vocal and visual leader of civil rights reform in Montgomery. After the bus boycott his message for change through peaceful protest would sweep through the nation.

**"The time is always right to do what is right."**

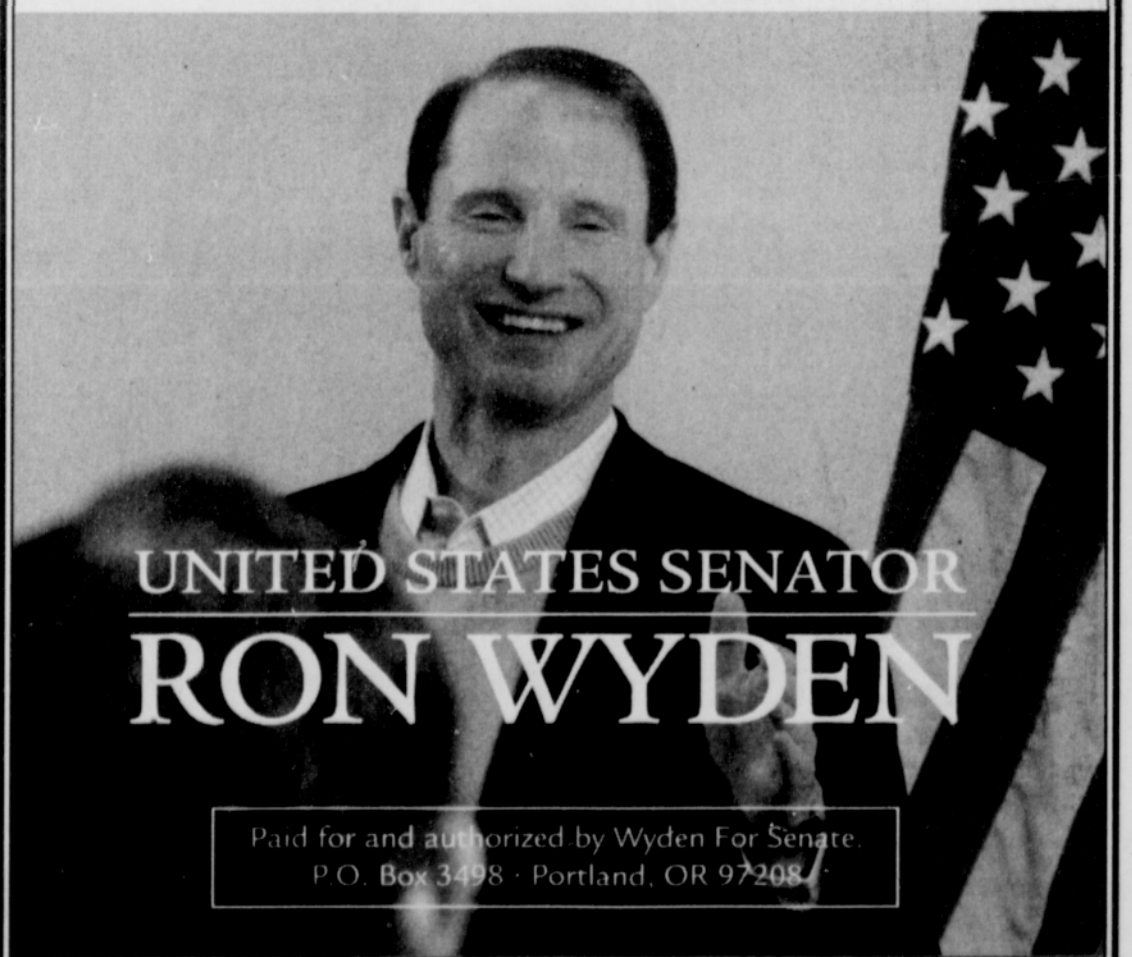
—Martin Luther King, Jr.

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PEOPLE MARCHED FOR IT.  
RODE THE BUS FOR IT.  
WENT TO JAIL FOR IT.

*Your vote is your voice.*  
**Use it!**



UNITED STATES SENATOR  
**RON WYDEN**

Paid for and authorized by Wyden For Senate.  
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