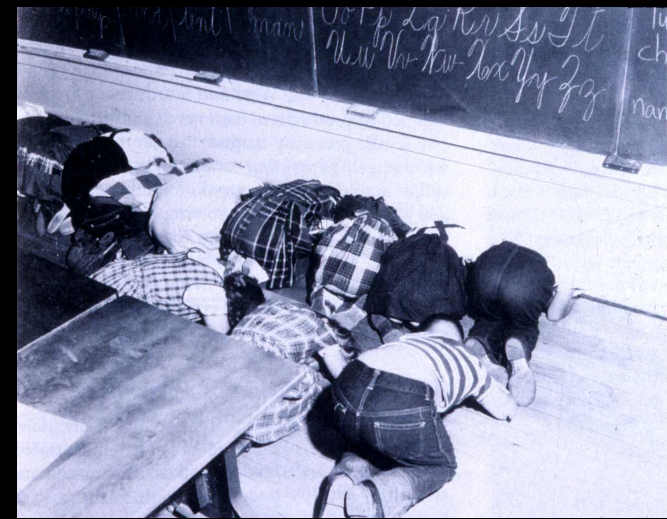
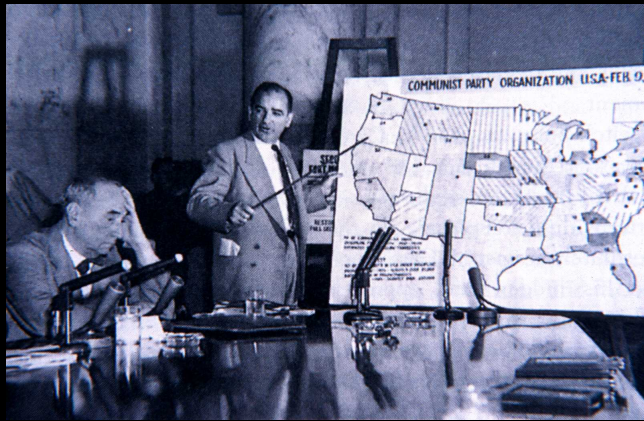




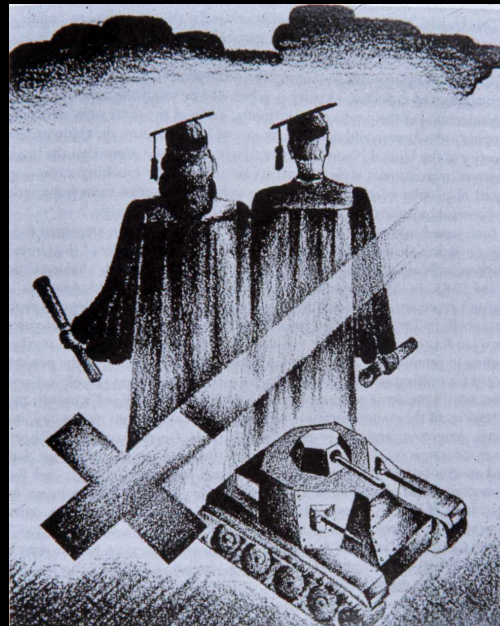
Civil Rights Movement as
Populist and Based on Non-
Violent Resistance

Participation and the chance to be responsible



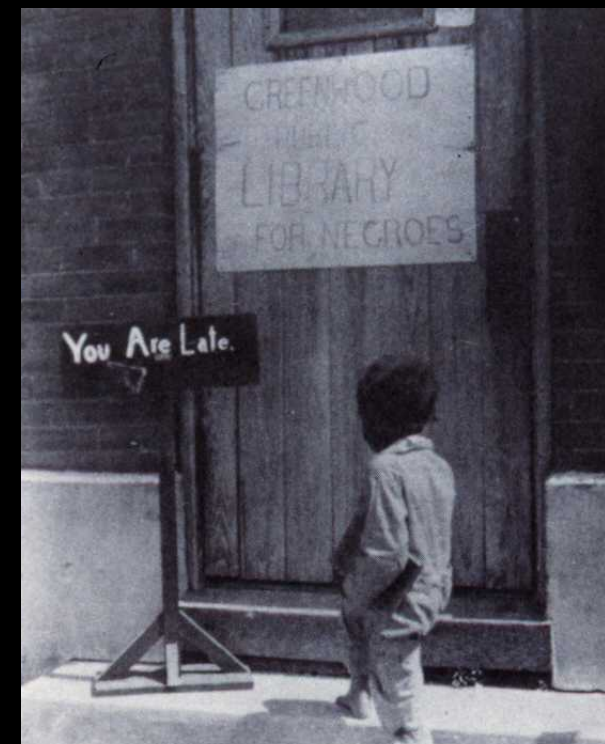


An Unlikely Time





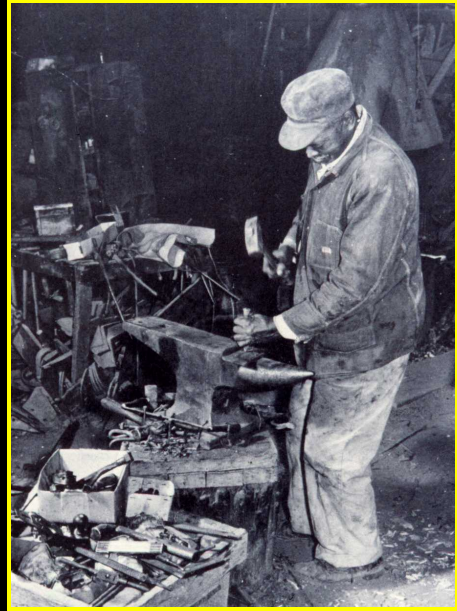
An Unlikely People



A Populist and Civic Movement

“Life is to be lived, not controlled, and humanity is won by continuing to play in face of certain defeat.”

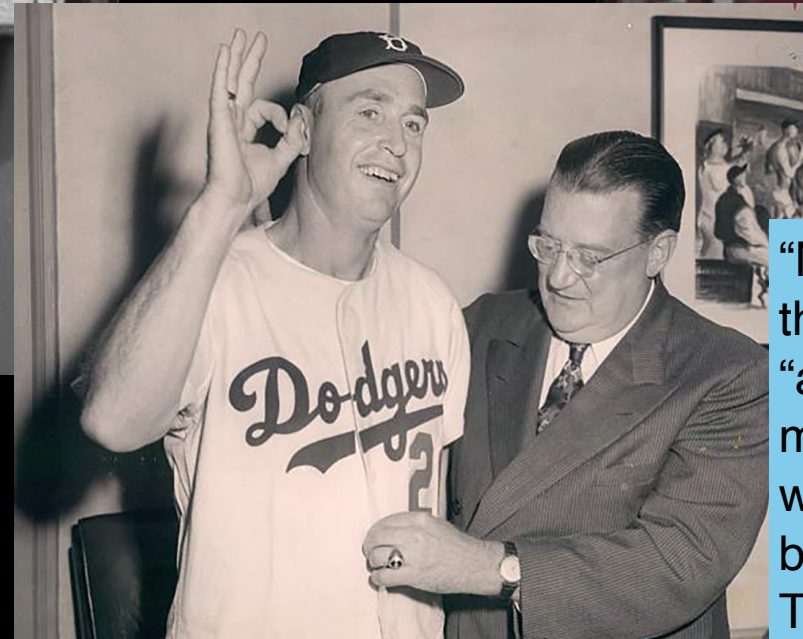
- from Ralph Ellison's
Invisible Man (1952)



The Unheralded Second Front:
Campanella, Newcombe, Bavasi, and
Alston in Nashua (New England League)



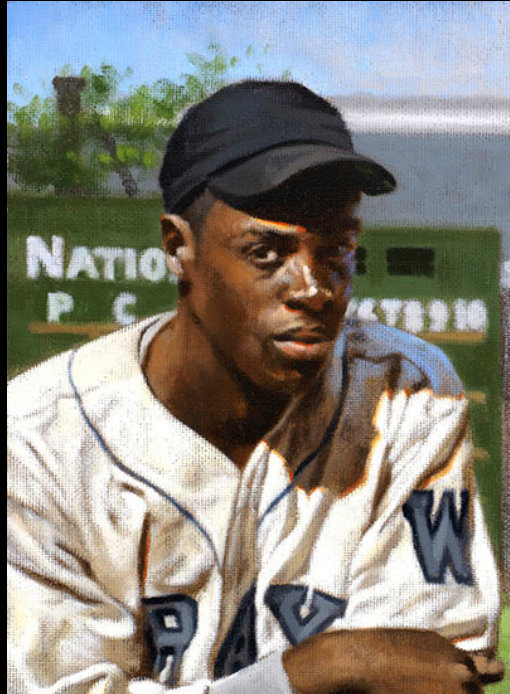
"If they can play ball better than what we have," Bavasi told Rickey's assistant Bob Finch, "then we don't care what color they are." Tygiel, 146



"Nobody asked me a thing...", Alston recalled, "and I didn't think too much about it except wondering how good ballplayers they were." Tygiel, 148



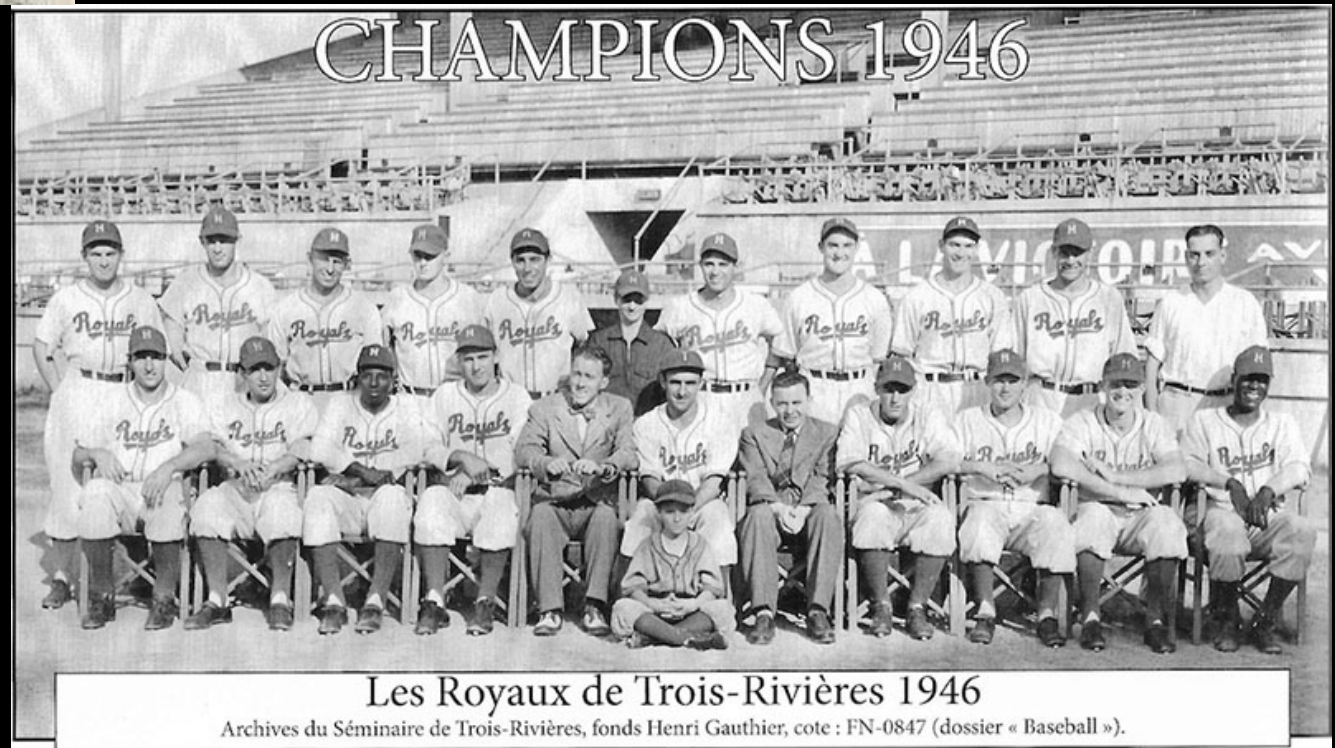
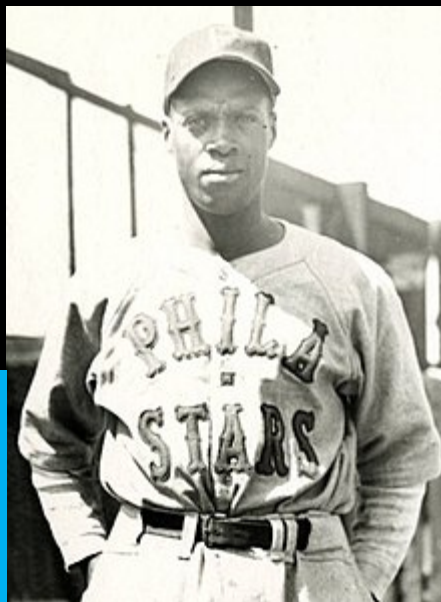
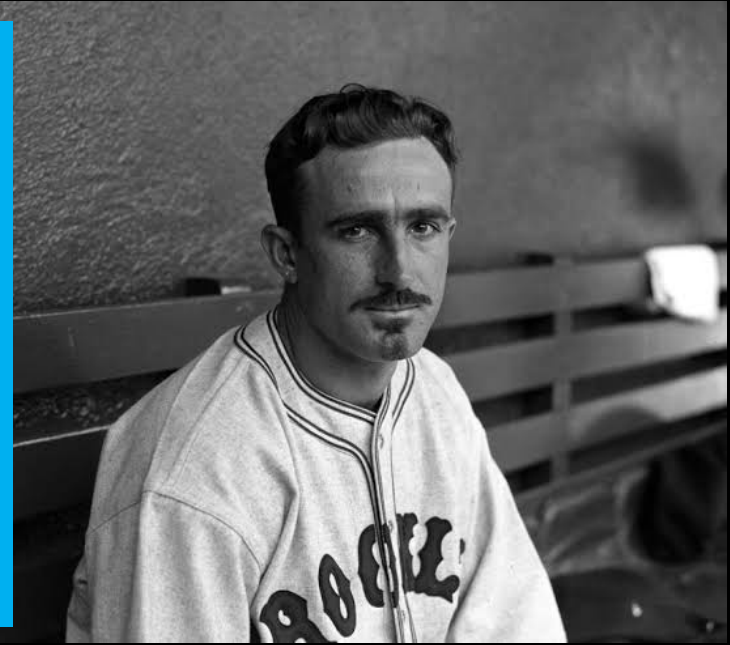
The Third Front: Fragile experiment but Partlow, Wright, and Bordagaray make it 3 for 3



“Rickey said he was going to send me someone who was going to win the pennant for me,” Bordagaray recalled. “He send me Parlow.”



“Against colored competition, the are both cracker jack pitchers,” Rickey opined, “but from all appearances they suffer a terrific inferiority complex when they are facing white boys.” Tygiel, 155



Bordagaray hit
.363 in 415 Abs,
good for a 181
OPS+

Partlow went
10-1 as a pitcher
and hit .404 as a
part-time
outfielder and
pinch hitter.

There Three
Rivers ballpark
pictured.



Preparing to be a Dodger: Ability, civil rights, and patronizing African-Americans



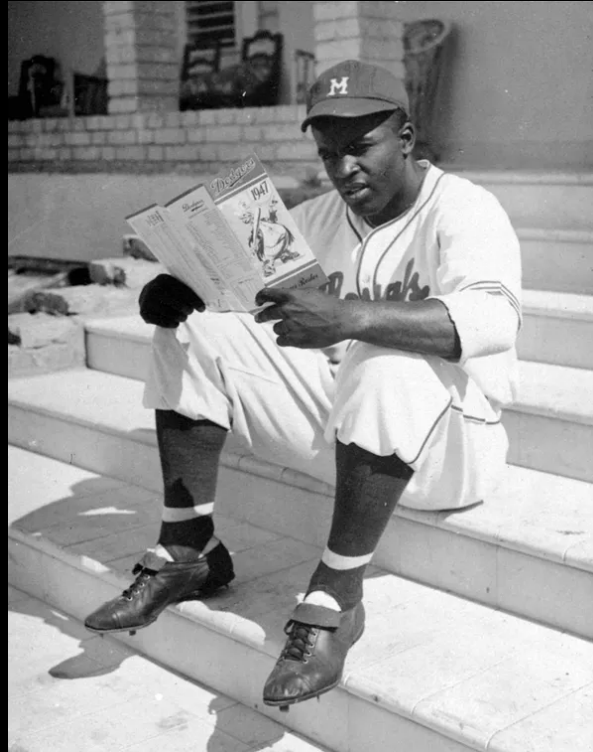
See also McGowan-Kritzer exchange on 160 and, especially, Rickey at the Carlton Branch of the Brooklyn YMCA, 162-163

Because "of the conspicuous position of professional baseball...the results of establishing equal opportunities for Negroes in Organized Baseball would be significant for better race relations in general." City College of New York Social Research Laboratory report on the "great experiment." Tygiel, 160. A student later invited JR to City College's sociology club in 1949 (pictured).



Black citizens welcoming Truman (place unknown) and Truman addressing the 38th annual NAACP conference in 1947.

Rickey's careful and botched plans: Cuba, Costs, Segregation, and First Base



On Rickey's strategy, see Tygiel, 164-165



"I thought we left Florida to train in Cuba so we could get away from Jim Crow," Robinson complained when he learned the Dodgers, not the Cubans, opted for segregation. "One night I sat in the restaurant next to the hotel eating a bowl of soup," Newcombe recalled, "and I stirred the soup and a cockroach came out of it." Tygiel, 165-166. On position change to first base, see Tygiel, 167-168



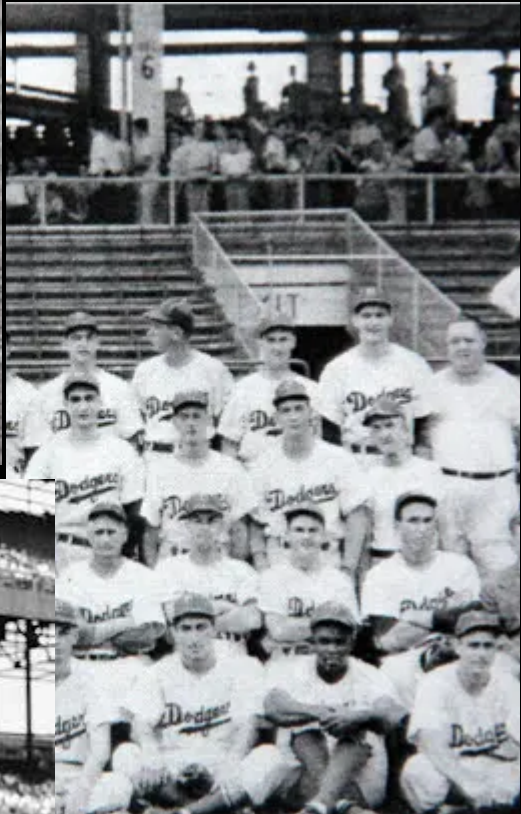
In 1947, Branch Rickey arranged for the Dodgers and the Montreal Royals to hold spring training in Havana, Cuba, with an additional trip to Panama. Things did not go smoothly, although Latin American fans adored Robinson. But manager Leo Durocher had to put down a rebellion of the white players, while Jackie himself endured bad food and several injuries. Then, just before the season began, Commissioner Happy Chandler suspended Durocher for consorting with gamblers. Burt Shotton took over as manager two games into the season. The year-long suspension arose from a long-time feud between the Yankees' Larry McPhail and Rickey.



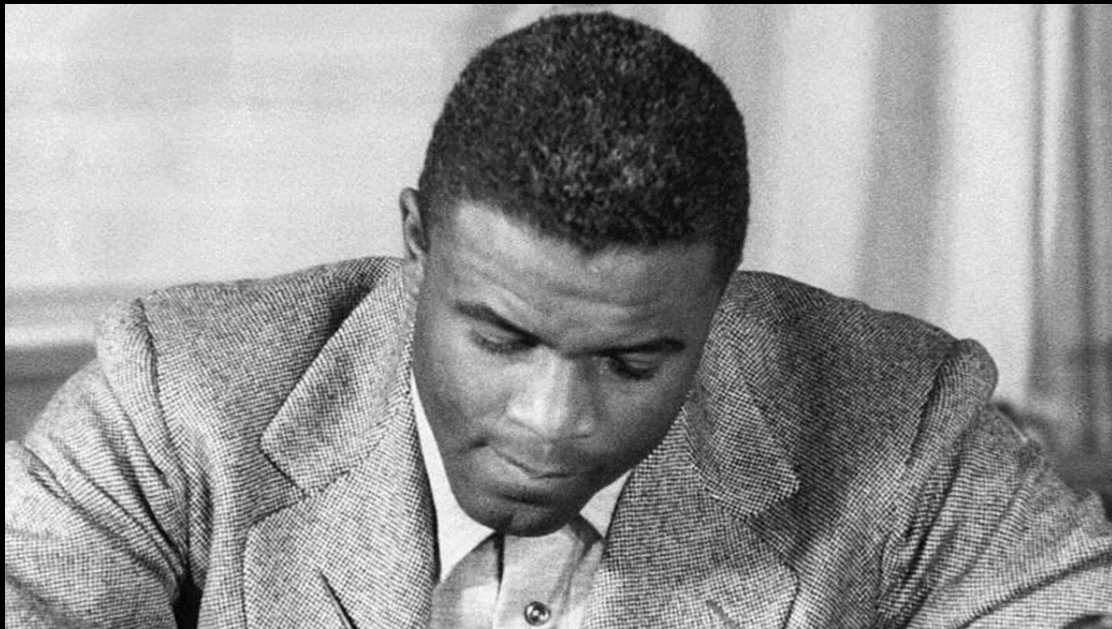
The Petition: authors, opponents, prospects, and implications



Look
carefully at
Tygiel,
171-173



More Blasted Plans:
JR's stomach,
Durocher's
suspension, and
elevation to the
Dodgers





Durocher had a long and checkered career from fighting the Babe to playing for the Gas House Gang to managing both the Dodgers and the Giants, and much later, the Cubs (piloting them to their epic fold in 1969).



"Gas House Gang" members (from left) Pat Crawford, Leo Durocher, Pepper Martin and Frankie Frisch pose on May 21, 1933. Post-Dispatch photo



Chandler publicly suspended him for consorting with gamblers but his very public courtship of actress Lorraine Day, and her messy divorce, may have been the true reason.





Rucker Archive.



