Althea Gibson's Triumph

Althea Gibson, the newly crowned Queen of tennisdom, achieved more than a personal triumph in winning the Wimbledon tennis singles title. Her victory is a victory for Uncle Sam, for democracy and is a moral justification of the broad policy of the British tennis association.

Miss Gibson’s sensational triumph at the historic Wimbledon, will do much to enhance the cause of the free world in areas where America’s racial bias formed the basis of hostility toward Uncle Sam. With a mighty stroke of her tennis racket, Miss Gibson dealt a staggering blow to Communism propaganda which has been fed the meat of racial segregation. This is counter-propaganda of a sort that is far more effective than any argument contrived to disprove the Communist allegations about America’s anti-Negro attitude.

It was a day of glory when a black girl's skill brought forth the Queen of England, who is a horse racing rather than tennis fan, to Wimbledon for the first time in her life to see the match. Queen Elizabeth, beaming with joy for the success of the representative of a maligned race, presented the trophy, a large golden plate, to Miss Gibson. 17,000 spectators saw history in the making. In all its 80 years Wimbledon had never before had a Negro singles champion.

With the dignity of a true champion, and holding back the tears that were welling in her eyes, Miss Gibson bowed to Her Majesty, the Queen of England in accepting tennis’ biggest prize.

Upon her return to New York, Althea Gibson was given Manhattan's greatest accolade — a ticker tape parade up Broadway to the City Hall where she received the official greeting of Mayor Robert Wagner. Then she proceeded to a reception at the famous hotel Waldorf-Astoria where she was awarded the medallion of the city of New York.

Miss Gibson's spectacular success in achieving her goal is an impressive demonstration of what faith, determination and courage can do for those who believe with Virgil, the Roman poet, that they conquer who believe they can.