“The Clarksdale List”

(Causes for the Second Great Migration as discussed at a town meeting in Clarksdale, Mississippi at the end of World War II)

1. Better Economic Conditions

* Low Wages in Clarksdale versus high wages everywhere.
* Unsatisfactory crop settlements and abuses by plantation managers.
* Discrimination in employment and inequalities in wages for the same work.

1. Constant Intimidations

* Wanton killings of Negroes without recourse.
* Intimidations on public conveyances.
* Law officers forcing women to work who are not vagrants.
* Unfavorable newspaper publicity and scurrilous references to Negro soldiers.
* Maltreatment of Negro soldiers while home on furlough.

1. Lack of Educational Opportunities

* Poor school buildings.
* Short school terms.
* Low salaries paid Negro teachers.
* Lack of high school facilities.
* Lack of recreational facilities.

1. Activities of Loan Sharks

* Excessive rates of interest charged.
* Refusal to give receipts.
* Threatening borrowers with bodily harm.

1. Lack of Sanitary Facilities

* Failure to collect garbage in Negro areas.
* Lack of sidewalks and drainage in most Negro residential sections.
* Lack of hospitals for Negroes.

(pp. 141-142 from *Deep Blues* by Robert Palmer)