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Dr. Woodson Found Dead

WASHINGTON—Father of Negro History Week and founder of the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History, Dr. Carter G. Woodson was found dead in bed in his apartment office (Associated Publishers) building at 1538 Ninth St., N.W., on Monday afternoon.

He was 74 years old and unmarried. He was found by Arnett G. Lindsey about 2 p. m., and pronounced dead by Dr. Henry Callas, who was called immediately.

Dr. Callas said that Dr. Woodson had suffered a heart attack. He had had several attacks but was not believed in a critical condition. He had been up until 11 the night before talking with friends.

Considered one of the most influential persons of his time, Dr. Woodson was to a great degree responsible for the contributions of many of our great historians.

Such scholars as Dr. Rayford Logan of Howard University, Dr. Lorenzo J. Green of Lincoln University, Dr. Charles H. Wesley of Wilberforce State College and A. A. Taylor of Fisk University were financed for their research study in history by Dr. Woodson's Association.

Although he was an advocate of books and publicity about and by colored persons, he looked forward to the day when there would be no need for a "Negro History Week."

He said: "There is no real Negro history. History is history, but the white man left us out when he wrote history books.

"However, when our contributions are written in the books along with other Americans, our job will be accomplished."

A man with much personal charm, Dr. Woodson was in much demand as a lecturer and took great pleasure in filling such engagements, especially those where he could address school children and teachers.

Lena Horne Quits M. G. M.

HOLLYWOOD — Lena Horne sailed last week for a 10-month tour of Europe, leaving behind the glittering capital of filmdom. Miss Horne is free for the first time in seven years. Free from a contractual agreement with the Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Studio which virtually has kept her in a singer's dog house.

The glamorous star was tired of Hollywood. She was tired of films. She wanted to do some acting.

No Hard Feelings
On breaking with the studio, Miss Horne said: "There were no hard feelings and they were very nice about it. They didn't have any parts coming up for me. And I was getting tired of just singing in all those musicals.

"I'm grateful to M-G-M for giving me an audience the world over. But as they have nothing for me to do now, I'd like to take advantage of some offers."

The offers referred to included a starring role in a Broadway play and a series of movies in France and South America.

She Missed Showboat
It was also revealed that Miss Horne was eager to do the leading role—a talking part—in M-G-M's Showboat. "But it looks as though Judy Garland will get it," she said.

She wanted to do some straight roles in the movies to let people know that she could talk as well as sing.

In an interview with a Hollywood correspondent she said: "I'd like to do a murder mystery. I'd like to be a laboratory technician or even a night attendant in a hotel. I don't care. I'd even be the corpse, just so I was a pivotal part of the plot."

Will Play Palladium
"People are used to seeing me in movies, so if I came on in a straight part, something essential to the story, I don't think it would shock them."

Miss Horne's European engagement is scheduled to end with a four-week stand at the London Palladium.

Muriel Rahn

(Continued from Page 1)
title role in Oscar Hammerstein's "Carmen Jones," will postpone an extensive concert tour in order to sing the lead in "The Barrier," a musical tragedy in opera form to be produced by the Columbia University Opera workshop in mid-January.

Prof. Willard Rhodes, musical director of "The Barrier," declared that the role of Cora makes "tremendous vocal and histrionic demands," a challenge which induced Miss Rahn to change her concert plans. The Langston Hughes-Jan Meyerowitz production, which will have its world premiers at Columbia University, is a psychological drama of the new South. It consists of a prologue and two acts in three scenes.

Ex-Slave, Age 107, Oldest Fla. Voter

Bradenton, Fla. — There are

Raleigh, April 10. — Of North Carolina's 14,213 employers subject to the Employment Security Law, 8,180 qualified for reductions in their contribution rates on payrolls from the standard rate of 2.7 percent to an estimated average rate of 1.55 percent for the calendar year 1950, thus reducing contributions by an estimated \$14,250,000 for the year, or an average of \$1,725 for each of the 8,180 employers earning a reduction of 1950.

This average rate of 1.55 percent, on which 1950 contributions, or taxes, of employers subject to the law is based, is an increase from the 1949 rate of 1.36 percent of payrolls, due in part to the benefits paid in 1949 to unemployed workers. Hugh M. Raper, director of the Bureau of Research and Statistics, who made the compilation announced by Chairman Henry E. Kendall, shows that unemployment benefits in 1949 amounted to \$19,500,000, as compared with \$6,800,000 in 1948, making these payments in 1949 higher than in any previous year. In 1938, the first year of benefit payments, and the heaviest until last year, they amounted to \$8,216,000, but the average weekly benefit amount then was about \$5, as against slightly more than \$14 a week last year.

The reductions in amounts paid by N. C. employers is due to the Employer Experience Rating Plan embodied in the Employment Security Law, enacted in 1939 and becoming effective in 1943, with the amendments to this plan enacted by the 1949 General Assembly. The Commission and its Advisory Council proposed the changes enacted which revised the contribution formula and resulted in an additional saving of \$5,500,000 for this year against what would have been paid had the law not been changed.

The minimum payment for any employer was reduced from 0.27 percent of payrolls to 0.10 percent. This year 532 employers will pay this minimum rate and 256 will pay the next highest rate of 0.20 percent. Of the 10,584 rated accounts (employers), 2,404 will pay the full 2.7 percent rate, as will 1,629 other employers who have been subject to the act less than three years (new firms) who are not yet eligible under the law to be rated.

A proration of the \$3,257,000 earned in interest by the State's fund balance while on deposit in the U. S. Treasury, made to all employer accounts with credit balances, tended to reduce the rate of such employers.

Segregation Bill Signed By Gov. Thomas E. Dewey

ALBANY, N. Y.—Gov. Thomas E. Dewey's civil rights program was rounded out, last Friday, with a law against segregation or discrimination in public housing and limited dividend housing because of race, color, religion, national origin or ancestry.

The new law, effective on July 1, applies to all publicly assisted housing accommodations "to be constructed," but not to existing projects, such as Stuyvesant Town in New York City.

In approving the bill, a bipartisan measure, Governor Dewey called it "a logical extension of the State's policy now in effect in public housing and limited dividend housing."

Race Designation Illegal

The measure, sponsored in the Legislature by Sen. Arthur H. Wicks, Republican Majority Leader, and Assemblyman Bernard Austin, Brooklyn Democrat, exempts housing accommodations operated by a religious or denominational organization and those privately owned and not in any way publicly assisted.

It defines publicly assisted housing as any which is tax exempt in whole or in part; is constructed on land sold below cost by the State or any political subdivision or their agencies; or is constructed in whole or part on property acquired through the power of condemnation.

The law makes it specifically unlawful "for any person to cause to be made any written or oral inquiry concerning the race, color, religion, nationality, origin or ancestry of a person seeking to rent or lease any public assisted housing accommodations."

Provides for Court Action
The law, which provides for court action to restrain violations and collect damages, both on the part of the aggrieved persons and any taxpayers, was praised by Algernon D. Black, chairman of the New York State Committee on Discrimination in Housing.

It means, he said, "that New York is now the first state in the union to bar discrimination in both public housing and private housing which is aided in any manner by the government." Mr. Black urged continued efforts to outlaw "all housing bias in New York State."

two things of interest about Simpson Barber, a local resident who registered to vote here. One is that he is a former slave who has reached the age of 107 years. The second is that he is, in all probability, the oldest voter in the state.

Barber was freed from slavery near Winnsboro, S. C., when he was 22 years old.

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