

# MAN LEAVES HALF-MILLION ESTATE

Los Angeles, Calif.—Timothy Lee Woods, former Boley, Okla., store merchant and farmer, died at his home recently from blood poisoning caused by an infected foot.

Mr. Woods was perhaps one of the wealthiest Negroes in Southern California. He had recently been offered \$100,000 cash for the handsome brick building at Ninth and Central, which he had paid \$60,000 cash for five years before when he moved to Los Angeles from Boley. Besides oil holdings and a farm in Oklahoma, Mr. Wood owned a cotton ranch worth \$40,000 in Calipatria, California, and numerous real estate holdings in Los Angeles, leaving his widow, Mrs. Hattie Woods, and young children, Helen Louise and Roberta Lee, an estate valued at more than \$500,000.

Mr. Woods was a member of the Eleventh Church of Christ, Scientist. He was born in Raleigh, N. C., 49 years ago, served with the U. S. Army in the Spanish American war and is also survived by a father and brother.

## LEM JOHNSON, COLORED LIGHTWEIGHT OF ENGLAND, IS CONSISTENT WINNER

Scores Third Successive Win in an Impressive Manner. Shows Remarkable Ability in Bouts

London, England—For the third time in succession Lem Johnson, the colored middleweight of Manchester, outpointed George West of London in their recent encounter at Cardiff over a fifteen-round bout. Each of the two previous contests was a twenty-round affair fought at Manchester. The superior skill of Johnson was always apparent in the recent bout. The manner in which he frequently scored with a remarkable accurate left hook was one of the features.

## ST. BENEDICT'S CHURCH

As a request has been made to the pastor of St. Benedict's to explain the attitude of the Catholic church toward dancing, the Reverend Thomas Martin will do this next Sunday evening at 8 o'clock in the church auditorium at Twenty-fourth and Grant streets. The speaker is giving an exposition in popular style to an increasing congregation of the doctrines of the Catholic church as seen from the inside. Whenever anyone wishes to know the truth about any organization, he must go to its authorized exponents.

The pastor of St. Benedict's, the Reverend Francis Cassilly, has arranged to have an interesting picture sermon on the life of the "Little Flower," St. Teresa of Jesus, on Monday evening, April 4th. This date will be the feast of St. Benedict the Moor, who is the patron of the church. Teresa was a fascinating girl who died about twenty-five years ago, and on account of the many "roses" dropped to earth since her death, has been added to the list of the canonized saints. Persons who are interested in knowing something about the saints of the church will have a good opportunity to learn on this occasion. There will be no admission charges.

There will be a band concert at St. Benedict's church, Monday evening, April 4th.

## DR. BRITT'S SISTER RANKS HIGH IN TEST

Mrs. Anna Pratt ranked second in final test of educational psychology at Teachers' College last week. A white teacher of the training department of the college ranked first. In addition to the completion of the above course, Mrs. Pratt has finished several original literary productions. —From Kansas City Call.

Mrs. Pratt is a sister of Dr. L. E. Britt. She has visited in Omaha several times. Mrs. Pratt has taught fifteen years in the Kansas and Missouri schools.

Overstreet's Lake Syncopators at Dreamland Hall, every Saturday night. Admission, 35 cents.

## MOST VALUABLE COLLECTION OF RACE LITERATURE

Schomburg Priceless Collection of Rare Volumes, Documents and Manuscripts Placed in New York Library

New York, N. Y.—The Schomburg collection of Negro literature and history has recently been acquired by the New York Public Library through a purchase made by the Carnegie corporation. This collection, one of the largest and most complete of its kind, is housed in the 135th Street Branch Library, which for two years has served as a reference library for students of the Negro.

4,500 Volumes in Collection  
There are 4,000 volumes in the collection, many written by Negroes, and 1,000 pamphlets and manuscripts, besides 250 old prints and engraved portraits, some very rare.

African folklore, art, dialects and the history of African and West Indian Negroes are extensively covered in these books. Many of the volumes found in hand-tooled leather and printed on vellum, are fine examples of the early bookmaker's art, besides contributing source materials.

Works in Many Languages  
Colonial possessions in Africa, South America and the West Indies are dealt with in books of historical, anthropological and general interest. The languages of these early books include Latin, Spanish, French, German, Dutch, Portuguese and Arabic.

Noted Works Included  
The noted Negro scholar and poet, James E. J. Capitein, who was born in Africa and educated in Holland, is represented by an elegy written in Latin and by a small volume of sermons in Dutch that were printed in Amsterdam in 1742. "A New History of Ethiopia," or "Des Kingdom of Abessinia," is dated 1682 and bears the subtitle, "Vulgarly, though erroneously called the Empire of Prester John."

Samuel Purchas's book, "Purchas: His Pilgrimage, or Relations of the World and the Religions Observed in All Ages and Races Discovered from the Creation unto the Present, in four parts is in the collection. The date of publication is 1613.

Illustrated Works Added  
An illustrated edition of "Residence in Ashantee," by Joseph Dupuis, is enlivened with illustrations of creatures and scenes worthy of the adventures of Marco Polo. This volume is dated 1824. The other volume is the Koran in Arabic, while "A Book on Physical and Medical Climate and Meteorology of the West Coast of Africa, and valuable hints to Europeans for the preservation of health in the tropics," is a detailed picture of living conditions that the colonizer and traveler to that coast might expect.

Tells of Toussaint L'Ouverture  
Toussaint L'Ouverture, liberator of Haiti, is represented in the collection by his original proclamation and address in which he struck for freedom. "An English History of Jamaica," published in London in 1774, and the "History of the Maroons at Sierra Leone," by R. C. Dallas (1803) contribute to the early history of the Negro.

Included in manuscript form are some of Paul Laurence Dunbar's poems, sermons by Alexander Crummell and speeches by Frederick Douglass, abolitionist and editor who was born in Maryland about 1817.

A rare first edition is that of "The Poems of Phyllis Wheatley," who was one of the first Negro poets in this country. She was bought when very young by the Wheatley family in Boston. Because of her marked ability, she was sent to England to be educated. While there she wrote her poems, which were brought out in England in 1773.

Give Interesting Accounts  
Another early race poet represented is Jupiter Harmon, the slave-poet of Lloyd's Neck, L. I. He was born about 1720. Worn copies of his poems, which consists of quatrains of dialogue are among the earliest American books in the collection. The prints were gathered from all

## EDITORIAL

Tuesday the primaries will be held. Primaries are very important. Many voters do not appreciate this fact. "Primary" means first, chief. Candidates must first be nominated, before they can be elected. At the primaries the voters nominate the persons whom they want to stand for election to office. If, therefore, there are certain men whom we want to see nominated for City Commissioners, it is our duty to go to the primaries and vote for them. We ought to help to nominate them. Voting is not only a privilege, but a duty. As a matter of fact, it is more important, who shall be elected to administer the affairs of our city, county and state, than who shall be president of the United States. At the present election it is confined to City Commissioners, the men who shall govern this city in which we live and for the maintenance of which we are taxed. It is of supreme importance to us, as a distinct group of citizens who are very likely to be discriminated against, that fair-minded men shall be placed in charge, or continued in charge, of our city government. It is of prime importance, for example, that we shall have a man in charge of the parks and their recreational privileges, who shall see to it, that our people, in common with all citizens, enjoy without limitation or discrimination those privileges. It is of chief importance that the Mayor be a man who shall have the DISPOSITION and the BACKBONE to see to it that all citizens be given a square deal; that the head of the police department be humane and insistent upon fair treatment to all classes and impartial in the enforcement of law. And so with the heads of all departments. You see, then, do you not? how vitally interested we ought all to be in our city government, and you will appreciate our contention that it is of much more importance to us who shall be our city, county and state officials than our president. If this be true, and it is, then you ought to see the necessity of your going to the primaries and voting for the men whom you honestly believe will do the right thing. Your ONE VOTE—did you ever look at it this way?—may elect the right man and defeat his opponent. YOUR vote, then, is a vital thing. Vote at the primaries and vote at the regular municipal election.

Tuesday fourteen men are to be nominated. Then, in May, from these fourteen, seven are to be elected to administer the government of this city. More than forty candidates for nomination have filed. Several slates are in the field. Among the candidates are undoubtedly some who belong to an organization unfriendly to our people. Some of these we know, others we do not. The present City Commissioners we know are not Kluxers. Whatever else may be said for or against them, this fact, so far as we are concerned, is in their favor.

The Monitor is chiefly concerned now in urging upon our people the importance of getting out and voting at the primaries. If the people will do that we can safely leave it to their intelligence to vote right. But we do urge that every one of our people, whoever else they may vote for, should be sure to vote for Charles J. Solomon, one of our own group. The time has come for our people to be VOTED FOR as well as voting for the other fellow.

Go to the polling places, then, on Tuesday and nominate the candidates whom you want to run for City Commissioners. Be guided by men's past records. Those who have proven themselves efficient, friendly and fair in the past, in their relationship with our people, be it in business or political life, can be safely trusted to be fair in the future. Use your brains, your common sense, your good judgment, and your conscience, and VOTE AT THE PRIMARIES TUESDAY.

parts of the world and represent the habits and customs of Negroes in Guinea, the Congo, Abyssinia, Ashanti and the West Indies.

Pamphlets and manuscript material about the work of Northern Negroes in their effort to abolish slavery from the early days of American colonization through the Civil War, contain much unpublished material. Other source manuscripts on slavery and the "underground railway" open additional fields of research.

Nucleus of Library  
With the Schomburg collection as its nucleus, the 135th Street Library expects to build a complete collection of books about and by Negroes. The reference library thus far has served many purposes. College students working for advanced degrees, authors and editors are among those who have used its materials. History, sociology, anthropology, are subjects studied, as well as Negro art, poetry and music.

Arthur A. Schomburg, a Porto Rican and now a resident of New York, spent many years in assembling these books, pamphlets and pictures. He will serve as advisor to the library regarding the expansion and service of the Negro collection.

## OVERSTREET'S SYNCOPATORS MAKE A HIT AT ROSELAND

Omaha is justly proud of the several fine orchestras which have been developed out of local talent and are making good in their chosen field. The latest addition to this aggregation is Overstreet's Lake Syncopators, who have been appearing at the Lake Theatre, and also doing much broadcasting over W. O. W. They played a special St. Patrick's Day dance, March 17th, at Roseland Gardens, with Tracy-Brown's Oklahom-

ans, and went over so big that they have not only received many letters of congratulation and commendation but also a number of out-of-town jobs as a result. This red hot jazz band is under the very capable direction of Holly Overstreet. The public may look for big things from Overstreet's Lake Syncopators in the near future.

## St. Philip's Episcopal Church

The usual services will be held at the Church of St. Philip the Deacon, Sunday, and are as follows: Holy communion, 7:30 a. m.; Church school, 10; eucharist with sermon, 11; evening prayer and sermon at 8. The Men's club of St. Philip's held an interesting meeting Wednesday night at the residence of J. F. Smith, 3027 Manderson street, at which time an address on "Church History" was given by the host, a spirited discussion following.

The Woman's Auxiliary of St. Phillip's church will have a missionary tea at the residence of Mrs. John A. Smith, 2511 North Twenty-second street, Thursday afternoon, from three o'clock to six, at which time Mrs. W. H. Brook, diocesan president will give an address. Friends are invited.

## CARD OF THANKS

We wish to thank our many friends for their kindness during the illness and death of our beloved mother and sister, and for the beautiful flowers. Mrs. Irene Jones, Daughter. Virginia Jones, Sister. Minnie Brown, Sister. Lulu Giles, Sister. George Stepney, Brother.

## Freedom Movement Began 70 Years Ago By Scott Case

Seventy years have passed since the United States Supreme Court rendered its decision in the Dred Scott case. The court's opinion—a landmark in American constitutional law—handed down on March 6, 1857, not only denied Dred Scott, a slave, his freedom, but went on to declare unconstitutional the Missouri Compromise and all other legislation forbidding slavery in territory under Congressional control. It is said that under the form of government existing a Negro "had no rights the white man was bound to respect." This decision caused excitement and dismay in the North and strengthened the South.

### Sued Slave Holder

Dred Scott was a slave belonging to a Dr. Emerson, who was attached to a Missouri army post. Emerson took Scott to Illinois in 1834 and in 1836 to what is now Minnesota—nin slave territory. In 1838 he was again back in Missouri. After several years Dred Scott brought suit against his master's widow in the circuit court in Missouri claiming that his residence in free territory had made him a free man. A jury in the state court decided for Scott, but on appeal to the state supreme court the higher tribunal ruled in 1852 that although Scott might have been a freeman in free territory, on returning to a slave state his slave status was resumed.

### Case Held Back

When Scott was sold to John A. Sanford of New York, he (Scott) started a new action before the federal court in St. Louis in 1853, where, in order to give the court jurisdiction, Scott was described as a citizen of Missouri. The federal circuit court upheld the state court by holding that in cases of personal freedom the federal court practice was to follow the decision of the highest court in the state.

The case of Scott vs. Sanford came before the United States supreme court in 1854. In 1856 the decision was ready. But it was withheld until March 6, 1857, in other words until after Buchanan's inauguration, to keep the decision from having any adverse effect upon the presidential campaign of the democratic party.

### Decision Meant Much

Five of the nine judges, including Roger B. Taney, the chief justice,

were southerners. The court was in a period of constitutional reaction. Where John Marshall had sharply restricted state powers the court was now hedging. The federal judiciary had hitherto borne no part in the territorial controversies which had engrossed the country for three decades, and this sudden plunge into the heart of the question was due to a sort of revolution within the court itself.

In the Dred Scott case the chief question for the court to decide was whether or not Dred Scott was a citizen within the meaning of the Constitution and whether he had any rightful standing in the lower courts. It was simply a matter of jurisdiction.

The supreme court decided that the temporary residence of Scott's master in Illinois and in Minnesota territory in the course of his official duty and without the intention of changing his legal domicile could not affect the status of the slave. Scott was not a citizen of Missouri in any constitutional sense and hence could have no standing in the federal courts. But the court went further and in an opinion, written by Justice Taney, said that despite the fact that the Constitution spoke of slaves as "persons held to service and labor," men of the African race in view of their descent from slaves were considered not as persons but as property by the Constitution.

### Results in Great Moves

As property they were protected from hostile legislation on the part of congress by the express guarantee of the Constitution itself, and congress could no more legislate this form of property out of the territories than it could any other kind, but must guarantee to every citizen the right to carry this as he might any other property where he would.

This decision upheld the Southern claim and strengthened the South in its opposition, while it called forth a storm of denunciation from the North and the new Republican party. In its attempt to settle the slavery issue the supreme court had apparently hurried the country forward toward the infinitely greater settlement—by arms, the Emancipation Proclamation and the Thirteenth Amendment.

## SMASH INTERSCHOLASTIC RECORD FOR MILE RELAY

Richard Sands, Colored Youth, Is a Member of Famous Team. Will Meet Country's Best Squad

Newark, N. J.—One of the greatest schoolboy relay teams ever run in the east is composed of three white youths and one colored youth, Richard Sands. The colored member of the team is one of its main cogs. The team shattered all interscholastic records for the one-mile relay at the Manual Training High School games recently when they covered the mile in 3:33 4/5 which equals the world's indoor record made by Mercersburg Academy in 1924 with spiked shoes at Madison Square garden. The Newark four made their time on a flat armory floor without the aid of spiked shoes. The team is coached by Harry Coates who was a member of the team that is joint holder of the record.

The Newark Prep school relay team has been matched for a one-mile relay with the Mercersburg team at the 103rd Calvary Armory. That the former team will set a world's record is being freely predicted.

The Domestic Science and Bridge Club met with Mrs. Pauline Bell, Monday morning, March 28th. The first prize was won by Mrs. Theodore Thomas. The booby was awarded to Mrs. Jessica Wright. A lovely luncheon was served by the hostess. The next meeting will be held April 10 at the home of Mrs. Louise Foster.

## KEHM MAKING STRONG RACE

Of the forty-three men making the race for city commissioner, it is probable that Karl Kehm has the largest number of "working" boosters, excepting possibly the present councilmen.

Karl is out to get the nomination and it is a good bet he gets what he is after.

He is down at Lincoln helping to put over good laws, some of which he is the author. Kehm will not quit legislative activities to come here to personally conduct his campaign. He is leaving that to his host of friends who are working day and night to put him over.

Mr. Kehm is a well known contractor. A nice home and a fine family are his justifiable pride.

If elected, this student of civics promises a good, clean, sound business administration and more law enforcement.

## PART OF YOUR EDUCATION

Disappointments and failures are part of your education. If you always had whatever you wanted till you were middle aged, your first disappointment would crush you. If you always succeeded in everything you tried, till the same age, you would be an intolerable person, tremendously impressed by your own importance, and without sympathy for the unfortunate. Do not let yourself feel injured when you meet with disappointment, or fail in something you have undertaken, for these things are essential parts of your education.