

# **ROBERT S. ABBOTT, 69, A CHICAGO PUBLISHER**

## **Negro Newspaper Founder Was on Permanent Fair Board**

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

CHICAGO, Feb. 29—Robert Sengstacke Abbott, founder and publisher of The Chicago Defender, Negro weekly newspaper, died today in his home here after an illness of several months.

Mr. Abbott was born sixty-nine years ago in Savannah, Ga., and attended Claflin University, Orangeburg, S. C., and the Hampton (Va.) Institute, where he learned the printer's trade. He was graduated from the Kent Law School in Chicago, practiced law for a year and in 1905 founded The Defender.

In 1919 he was appointed to Governor Frank Lowden's race relations commission and in 1935 became a member of the board of commissioners of the proposed permanent Chicago fair.

He was honored at a testimonial dinner two years ago which was attended by Governor Horner and Professor Ernest Burgess of the University of Chicago.