

Passes Away



MRS. EDNA R. ABBOTT

Mrs. Edna Abbott, Editor's Widow, Dies In Michigan

Mrs. Edna Rose Abbott, leader in civic and social circles and widow of the late Robert Sengstacke Abbott, founder and publisher of the Chicago Defender, died Sunday night at Mercy hospital in Benton Harbor, Mich., after a prolonged illness.

Mrs. Abbott, born Edna Rose Brown, was brought to Chicago as a child. At the death of her parents she was reared by her uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Bowser.

She received her primary and secondary education here, graduating from old South Division high school, forerunner of Wendell Phillips high. She later took a business course in a secretarial school, from which she graduated with honors. She served as private secretary in the office of the attorney general of Illinois, and continued this work later as private secretary to Carl Eitel, owner of the Bismark Hotel.

In November, 1907, Edna Brown married the late Col. Franklin A. Denison, prominent lawyer and commander of the famous 8th Illinois Infantry regiment. Colonel Denison was returned home from World War I, after serving on the French battlefield and retired with the rank of brigadier general, first of his race in Illinois to achieve that distinction.

To this union five children were born: Franklin, Jr., Dorothy, (now deceased); Denise, George and Jacqueline. Four of the children and three grandchildren survive.

Mrs. Denison was married to the late Mr. Abbott in 1934, and up to the time of Mr. Abbott's death in 1940, they divided their time between their Chicago home and their country residence in Benton Harbor, Mich., known to their intimates as Abbottsford.

Funeral services were set for Thursday, March 30.