

Hundreds Express Grief At Editor Abbott's Death

Telegrams and messages poured into the office of the Chicago Defender and his home, following announcement Thursday morning of the death of Robert S. Abbott, founder and publisher of the World's Greatest Weekly.

Because of their great number, the Chicago Defender reprints but a few as typical of the hundreds received. Many others are acknowledged in the list which follows:

The death of Robert S. Abbott is a personal shock to me and a great loss to all Chicago. His public service as a leader of his people cannot be measured by his contributions to the welfare of his own race alone. America is a better place because he lived in it. Please convey to his family my sincerest sympathy.—James M. Slattery, United States Senator.

You have my sincere sympathy upon the death of your distinguished husband. He and I were good friends of long standing and I admired his fine qualities and devotion to civic affairs.—Henry Horner, governor of Illinois.

It was with profound regret that I received the news of the death of your beloved husband and I extend to you as well as to the staff of the Chicago Defender my deepest sympathy. I know that your sorrow is great but I trust that some measure of comfort will be given you through your fond memories. I feel a keen sense of personal loss as Mr. Abbott was always a loyal friend and his friendship was indeed a real privilege. He was one of Chicago's most valuable citizens and his great contributions not only to the welfare and progress of his race but to his city as well will serve as a genuine inspiration to both present and future generations. His unusual ability as a business man, his eager service on vital civic matters and his great humanitarianism readily won him countless friends and admirers who respected him to the highest possible degree.—Edward J. Kelly, mayor.

I am shocked and profoundly grieved at reading of Mr. Abbott's passing. Through the years I had come deeply to respect him as a person, and to estimate very highly the service he gave as a publisher to his city and his people. Let me recall with deep gratitude an evening in your home with Professor Alain Locke of Howard university. You will have the sympathy of the city and to this public tribute, I wish to add my own personal grief and condolence.—T. V. Smith, Congressman at large, Illinois.

It is with profound sorrow that I learn of the passing of your distinguished husband, Robert S. Abbott, founder and editor of the Chicago Defender, for more than a quarter of a century he has been outstanding in his work for the spread of genuine democracy not only in America but throughout the world. His contribution in this direction was an exceedingly large one. His passing will be deplored by his thousands of friends found throughout the world. I hope to attend the funeral.—Arthur W. Mitchell, member of Congress.

Have just learned of the death of Mr. Abbott, whose acquaintance and friendship I long appreciated. His life once more gave proof of the opportunities offered and accomplished under our American democracy. His brave heroic labors in behalf of the colored people and the general welfare of our country will not be forgotten. His passing in this troubled hour can ill be afforded.—John Hamilton chairman Republican National Committee.

I extend to you my profound sympathy in your great sorrow. To those who knew him the passing of Robert S. Abbott is a loss which can never

be replaced.—Dwight H. Green candidate for governor of Illinois.

Please accept the sincere and heartfelt sympathy of Mrs. Hill and myself in the loss of your dear husband. Our long friendship with Mr. Abbott and my close association with him in Urban League and other civic affairs cause us to mourn deeply his passing. His public interest and constant devotion to the betterment of humanity and his eagerness to go to the defense of his race at all times deserve the honored place he will long hold in the esteem of his fellowmen.—T. Arnold Hill, National Urban League.

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People shares your great loss and extends to you its warmest sympathy in the death of Robert S. Abbott. He contributed more than most men towards a newer day for the American Negro.—Walter White secretary, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

Personally and in behalf of the National Y.M.C.A. Council, extend heartfelt sympathy to you and family in passing of your distinguished husband. He was a great example of possibilities of Negro youth working from the bottom upward; his business ability, unselfish interest in his people and courage under all circumstances will be long remembered. The Y has lost a real friend and supporter.—Channing H. Tobias, National Board Y.M.C.A.

We of Indianapolis who knew and admired the Honorable Robert S. Abbott, find it hard to accept the astonishing news of his death. Divine fate was most kind in extending his life into a ripe and useful age. During his long and fruitful life, he nurtured a definite transformation of the Negro, economic, social and political status in America from a disintegrated semi-state of slavery to a powerful respected minority group. Most gratifying, was his consistent sincerity of purpose, independence of spirit, rectitude of intentions and integrity with Race pride second to none, three characteristics reflected in his powerful Chicago Defender did as much to liberate the Negro in the past three decades as any other known effort in America. Possessing limited capital, and training, but broad vision and unlimited courage, He blazed the ways as the father of Negro newspapers in America. Few men have risen from such early remoteness to achieve the respect and love of a nation. Mr. Abbott, through his business enterprises, has given more Negroes a start from the ground up in the field of business, commerce, finance and newspaper work than any other Negro in America. He was truly a lover of humanity, an uncompromising fighter for his Race, a maker of men whose ideals embodied true Americanism. It is indeed fortunate that he trained young capable men as you and Mr. Valoris Washington and others to carry on his ideals and business.

The citizens of Indiana extend to you our personal sympathy and sincerest wish for sufficient faith to adjust yourself in view of this unfortunate but inevitable bewilderment. We are sure that many of your fine characteristics and qualities can be attributed to his sincere guidance and teaching. From this you may find solace and courage to bear the burden of his loss and continue to carry on his ideals in fond memory.—Dr. Richard Winston, Atty. Henry J. Richardson Jr.

I was deeply grieved also shocked on receiving word of my dear friend Robert Abbott's passing. I want to extend to you my sincere sympathy in which my wife joins me. His loss to the nation and the Negro race will be mourned by all of us.—Bill Robinson.

We were deeply touched when news reached us of the passing of our good friend and Race champion. We, therefore, express our deep sorrow and extend our sincere sympathy. Robert S. Abbott contributed to the cultural advancement of our people to the extent that America gained something fine and invaluable. Though we mourn his

departure his work and influence will live on and on.—W. C. Handy.

From the bottom of our hearts we are with you at the moment—Josephine and Jean Lion, (Josephine Baker.)

Trustees, alumni, staff and students of Hampton Institute extend deepest sympathy to you and members of the family. Mr. Abbott's achievements are an inspiring example to young and old. His generous gifts to his alma mater are living memories of his loyalty and devotion. We have lost an outstanding graduate and the Negroes and the country an outstanding leader. — Arthur Howe, president, Hampton Institute.

The sad news of the death of your devoted husband is indeed shocking in this hour of distress and sorrow. Our deepest sympathy goes out to you and your family from the executive council, faculty, staff members and student body of Tuskegee institute in the passing of Mr. Abbott. The Race has lost an outstanding leader and Tuskegee institute a valuable friend.—F. D. Patterson, president.

I wish to express for Mrs. Moton and myself great sympathy for you and family in the great sorrow through which you are passing. We have known your husband for many years. He did a great work and accomplished great good. You have the memory of a man who built a great institution starting with nothing but energy, wisdom and indomitable will. Mr. Abbott did a great work.—Robert R. Moton, president emeritus, Tuskegee Institute.

This nation has lost a great citizen and an intelligent courageous champion of social justice for all in the passing of Robert S. Abbott. It will be hard to sustain his loss. His friends at Fisk university tender to you their heartfelt sympathy in your bereavement.—Thomas E. Jones, president, Fisk university.

In your illustrious husband's death the Race loses its dean of greatest journal builders. His story will read like an epic in coming generations. Accept deepest sympathy yourself and family.—W. J. Walls, Bishop, A.M.E. Zion church, and mother.

One by one our trusted defenders pass on to come back more forever. Mrs. Martin and I are deeply grieved to learn of the going of the Honorable Robert S. Abbott, whose race has sustained a distinct loss as has the city of Chicago for Mr. Abbott would have all men up and no man down. Please accept my sincere sympathy and be assured that our father, God, will sustain you.—John W. Martin, Residing Bishop, Sixth Episcopal District, A.M.E. Zion church.

Rev. J. C. Austin, Chicago: Que Que club, Lillian Walker, president, Chicago; Mrs. Laura Harper, Pharror, Augusta, Ga.; Julian J. Adams, New York City; Board of Director, Wabash Y.M.C.A., Chicago; Dr. C. B. Powell and P. M. H. Savory, publishers, Amsterdam News, New York City; Ambassador Athletic association, Chicago; Officers and Board of Directors of the American Emancipation Inc., James V. Washington, president and general manager; Edgar G. Brown, president, United Government Employer Inc., Washington, D. C.; Herman S. Rutherford, M.D., president of Board of Health, Chicago; Mrs. Mattie H. Heasley and Mrs. Ethel H. Ross, Chicago; Gladys Prater Brounion, Savannah, Ga.; H. M. Smith, Chicago Baptist Institute, Chicago; Hill Blackett, Republican National Committeeman, Chicago; Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Doyle and family, Chicago; New Method Industrial club, V. Savage, president, Chicago; Mr. and Mrs. Frank A. Young, Chicago; Dr. and Mrs. George Shropshire, Chicago; United Sons of Georgia, Sidney E. Davis, president, New York City; Mrs. Ella Ann Elan Club Home for Girls, Chicago; Mrs. and Elizabeth McDuffie, Washington, D. C.; William White, Philadelphia, Pa.; Monumental Baptist church, Rev. J. L. Horne and family, Chicago; the Abrazadabra Girls club, Chicago; Frank and Cora Young, Chicago; Mrs. Nellie Anderson, Chicago; Chicago Negro Chamber of Commerce; Franklin V. Burke, president, Chicago; M. T. Bailey, Chicago; Beauticians Triangle association,

Chicago; Henry A. Boyd, Georgia A. Boyd, Nashville, Tenn.; Jesse Buga, Chicago; Faculty and students, Poro School of Beauty Culture, Birmingham branch, Birmingham, Ala.; Kenneth Blewitt and Regal staff, Chicago; Lizzie Bowden, Tavares, Fla.; Joe and M. E. Booker, Chicago; Editorial staff of the Chicago Defender, Chicago; Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Clark, Bellefontaine, Ohio; Jolly Crusaders club, Mrs. Clara Cozzens, president; Beatrice L. Childs, president, National Republican Council for Colored Kansas City, Kans.; Mr. and Mrs. Robert Cole, Chicago; Mrs. Anna Bell Chandler, Chicago; Mrs. Faust H. Artis and Pauline Charles, Chicago; Mr. and Mrs. Sanford Childwell, Denver, Colo.; the Crainhead, Louisville, Ky.; Citizens Savings Bank and Trust company, Henry A. Boyd, president, Nashville, Tenn.; Claudebelle, Los Angeles, Calif.; Mrs. Thomas Cole and daughter, Chicago; Lucella and Virgil Cooke, Chicago; Ralph E. Church, M.C., Washington, D. C.; Clarence H. Cobbs, Los Angeles, Calif.; Perry W. Cheney M.D., New York City; Dawson, Cincinnati, Ohio; Du Sah! bands, Captain Walter H. Dyett, bandmaster, Chicago.

Audrey L. Edwards, Chicago; James W. Gleichberger, Chicago; Officer and Mrs. William Franklin, Chicago; Graciosa Star Social club, Mrs. Aey Flowers, president, Chicago; Madam Consuela Fletcher, Chicago; Alderman and Mrs. Benjamin A. Grant, Chicago; Frank H. Gray and Theodore E. Samuels, Louisville, Ky.; Mr. and Mrs. Henry H. Gray, Chicago; Chicago Council of Negro Organizations, Irene M. Gaines, president, Chicago; George Garner, Pasadena, Calif.; Mr. and Mrs. Wendell E. Green, Chicago; the Gladstone Circle club, Clinton A. Brown, president, Chicago; Dr. Roscoe C. Giles, Chicago; Peggy Galloway, Chicago; Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Grinnell, Chicago; Pullman Porters Benefit association, E. M. Graham, grand chairman, Chicago; Leroy and Lillian Henry, Chicago; Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin H. Huguenin, Chicago; Dr. and Mrs. L. B. Howell, St. Louis, Mo.; the George L. Giles Post No. 57, Robert S. Harrison, commander, Chicago; Executive Order Police club, Elavatha Reid, president, Chicago; Mr. and Mrs. George E. Hall, Franklin, Ohio; the Hardy family of Chicago; the Louisville Defender of Kentucky; Rev. Clarence Lowery, Chicago; Attorney and Mrs. George W. Lawrence, Chicago; George P. Lebrundi, Chicago; Mattie F. Love, Chicago; G. L. Burke, secretary to Col. McCormick of Chicago; Officer William Davis, Chicago;

Charles C. Dawson, Chicago; Dr. and Mrs. Darnell, Middleton, Ohio; Anna H. Davis, Chicago; Captain F. L. Drye and family of Tuskegee, Ala.; Dr. and Mrs. Clifford Doyle, Chicago; Col. and Mrs. Spencer V. Dickerson, Chicago; Hortense and Hugh Doran, Chicago; Mr. and Mrs. Charles S. Duke, Washington, D. C.; The Stagners of Western Union, J. J. Durbey, Chicago; Don Oscar DeBriest, Chicago; R. P. Dally, Savannah, Ga.; M. A. Davies of Hart, Mich.; Mr. and Mrs. Charles H. Evans, Tuskegee, Ala.; Committeeman and Mrs. William L. Dawson.

Alumni Kappa Alpha Psi, Louisville, Ky.; Katherine Kent Lambert, Birmingham, Ala.; Vera Lynch, Chicago; Lois and Walter Lowe, Chicago; Mr. and Mrs. Frank A. Arks and daughter, Chicago; the More the Merrier Bud Billiken branch of Chicago; the Matchless Society club, Chicago; Roy Masena, Chicago; Marie McLeary, New York City; Mr. and Mrs. Elias A. Morris, Chicago; Eugene M. McCoy, Chicago; Han-dolph Abbott and family and A. B. McFarland and family of Brunswick, Ga.; Al Monroe, New York City; E. H. Moyam, Chicago; Leon L. Morris, Chicago; Morgan Park Billiken club, Muriel Henderson, president, Chicago; Ferns and Victor Moore, Chicago; Walter L. McCoy and family, Chicago; Elmer and Susie Myers, Chicago; Dr. L. E. Martin, Savannah, Ga.; W. H. Marshall, Detroit, Wis.; Mildred Moore, Chicago; Clarence Muse, Los Angeles, Calif.; Mr. and Mrs. James C. Martin, Maywood, Ill.; Pauline Mussey, New York City; Beallite school faculty, H. Mondel-zohn, principal, Chicago; Mt chapter Phi Delta Kappa, Chicago; Mr. and Mrs. Thomas C. McGee, Chicago; James A. Mundy and Elizabeth Mundy, Chicago; National News company, Carroll M. Ellis, Chicago; Mr. and Mrs. S. C. Overstreet, Chicago; National Mrs. Abbott, Chicago; Annie E. Oliver, president, Chicago; Leonard G. Outlaw, Los Angeles, Calif.; Roosevelt L. Robertson, Chicago; Andy Rantz of New York City; Dr. and Mrs. David C. Rodgers of Chicago; Mr. and Mrs. John Roxborough, Detroit, Mich.; Mrs. N. Clark Smith, Kansas City, Mo.; the Stanley, Louisville, Ky.; Jasper Tappan Phillips M.D., St. Louis, Mo.; Ada W. Parish, Chicago; Aaron and Evelyn Payne, Chicago; Francis Bud Billiken club, Millie Whitlow, sponsor, Chicago; American Legion Auxiliary, Mrs. Emma Patterson, president, Chicago; South Side Merchants association, Leo C. Pliner, secretary, Chicago; Mr. and Mrs. Seth B. Ray, Los Angeles, Calif.; Roosevelt L. 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