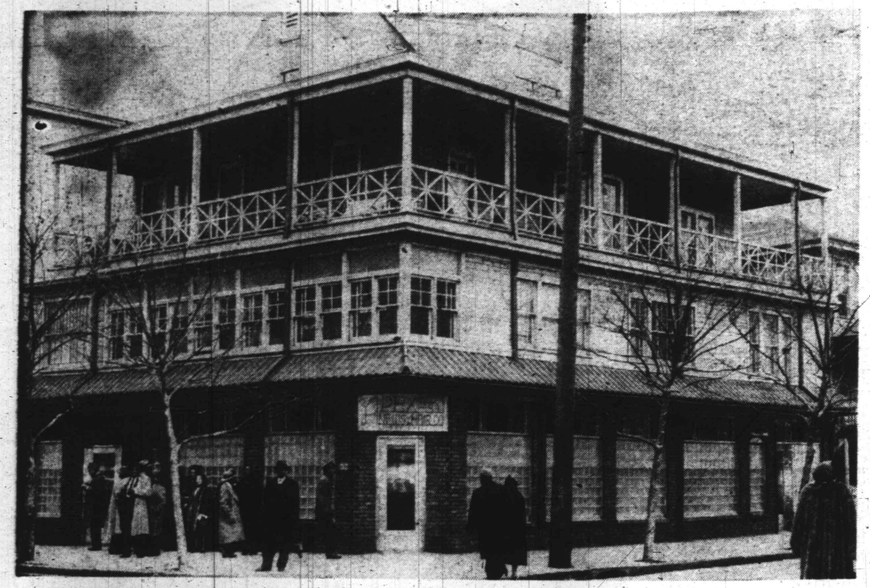

Mrs. Washington lived here, where the second and third floors were converted into luxurious suites. The first floor houses the Apex Company offices. It is valued at $50,000.

1940

1943

1946

1950

She Made Her Own Rules

You must eat three meals a day and sleep 8 hours every night.

If you are head of the biggest beauty products business in the East, you are expected to have an attractive "skin," pretty hair and a good figure.

Sara Spencer Washington played the game according to the regulations only up to a certain point.

Then she made her own rules.

"If I can't pay cash, then I won't buy."

"If I want a private marriage and a private funeral, that's my business, isn't it?"

"When I meet the public, I have to be fashionably dressed, but when I'm home I can wear the old things I like."

"This is a predomenantly white country, but I can be black and successful.

"Stay up late and sleep late is fashionable, but I like to get up in the morning."

"I like Father Divine, but there is no sense in eating so much or so often."

"I have been told that if I want to live, I have to slow down and watch my heart.

"What fun is there in living if I can't be busy?

"If my heart gets in my way, it had better watch out."

At the age of 72, Mrs. Washington died last week.

She overcame the starting handicap of a penniless girl with too little schooling to speak the English language correctly.

She was a homely girl at whom most people would not look a second time.

But she had great qualities: —tremendous energy, a determined will, and an extraordinary memory.

With these she put together a full life that gave her great satisfaction.

It gave us the Apex schools, which at their peak gave employment to 40,000 agents and improved the looks of a million women.

Would She Have Lived Any Longer?

(Continued From Page 1)

Citizens on the street talked in whispers "She can't make it," they said.

They Gave Her Up

Everybody gave her up. Radio stations reported her dead. But Sara . . . durable Sara Washington did what everybody said couldn't be done.

She regained her voice.

She regained the use of her arm.

She promised she would learn again to walk without a cane and she did.

Father Divine's "New Day" had prophesied that "Mrs. Washington's veins were drying up like dead leaves."

The prophets were wrong.

Sara recovered. She curtailed her activities in beauty schools but not in her manufacturing. She was still making 75 beauty preparations.

Christian Science

Then her attention was drawn to Christian Science.

She joined the church, became an ardent worker and contributor.

For a second time she forsook her medicines and doctors.

She read Mary Baker Eddy's "Science and Health" constantly and believed in it.

"It gives me spiritual power," she said.

The doctors were called in again this year. She died last week.

The $60 Question

Would she have lived longer if she had followed her doctors' advice as to diet, medicine, and rest?

Did her excursions into Father Divine's Heaven and into Christian Science prolong her life or shorten it?

After all Mme. Sara lived to the good age of 72.

She alone knew the answers.

She didn't say what she would have done had she the opportunity to make her decisions over again.

She Could Keep A Secret

Ordinarily, Mrs. Washington's marriage would have made page 1 in any newspaper, but it didn't.

Mrs. Washington left Atlantic City for New York in September, 1944, as though on a business trip.

She disappeared for three days. When she returned, she had wed the man with whom she had fallen in love, and his luggage was in the car.

Reporters learned of it a year later. They never found the little New York or Connecticut town where the ceremony was performed.

Education Of A Clerk

Sara Spencer Washington did not look like a woman who could afford to buy a mink coat.

The scene: Wanamakers, Philadelphia.

Mrs. Washington asked to see minks. The clerk, a substitute worker for the pre-Christmas season, showed her to a seat and left her to wait on a group of white women who had come in later.

An older clerk, who knew the Apex head, approached and greeted her effusively. "Glad to see you, what can I do for you?"

"Just a mink coat," was the reply.

While the substitute clerk gaped, Mrs. Washington selected a $3,000 garment and left the store with it over her arm.

Mrs. Sara Spencer Washington, for a while, sought guidance from Father Divine, later turned to Christian Science. She is shown at a Divine banquet. (A) Father Divine, (B) Mrs. Washington, (C) Mrs. Verna Cosnell, cousin of Mrs. Washington (D) Miss Alberta Norwood (E) Joan Washington, the Apex president's daughter.

Mr. Bradshaw · Mr. Reynolds · Mrs. Arrington · Dr. Jenkins · Judge Cobb · Bishop Walls · Mr. Henderson · Mr. Spingarn · Dr. Bond

18 Leaders Choose "Greatest Americans"

Frederick Douglass Is Unanimous Choice In Survey Made By AFRO Magazine

Eighteen prominent citizens asked by the AFRO to compile a list of the 13 greatest Americans for all time sent in their votes this week.

They had before them an original list of 13 great Americans which the AFRO compiled for its issue of March 21.

Sixteen responses rated Frederick Douglass and Booker Washington first and second respectively in their letters.

Fourteen picked Charles Houston for third place and 13 chose George Washington Carver for fourth.

In fifth place were W. E. B. DuBois, Carter Woodson, Charles Drew and Ernest Just, each with 12 votes.

In ninth place was Mary McLeod Bethune with 11 votes.

Ralph Bunche was tenth with eight votes.

In 11th, 12th, and 13th places were Percy Julian, Thurgood Marshall, and Bishop D. Alexander Payne with seven votes each.

Got Scattered Votes

Scattered votes were cast for the following:—

Richard Allen, founder of the AME church, received six; Dr. Gus Hinton, of Boston who invented the Hinton test for syphilis, five; Marian Anderson, the singer, and C. C. Spaulding of North Carolina Mutual, four each;

Paul Laurence Dunbar, Joseph C. Price of the AME Zion church and Harriet Tubman, 3 each;

Kelly Miller and John Hope, both educators; Sojourner Truth, Mary Church Terrell, Mordecai Johnson, William H. Hastie, Colonel Charles Young, Judge Armond Scott, Henry O. Tanner and James Weldon Johnson with two each.

One vote each was received by Robert Russo Moton, Benjamin Banneker, Marcus Garvey, William H. Lewis, Dr. Emmett Scott;

Ira Aldridge, Richard Allen, the author; Major R. R. Wright, J. Finley Wilson;

Carl Murphy, Bert Williams, Crispus Attucks, Joe Louis, Madame C. J. Walker;

Jackie Robinson, Nannie Burroughs, Duke Ellington, Phyllis Wheatley;

Brig. Gen. B. O. Davis, Prince Hall, founder of Freemasonry; Rev. Alexander Crummell, Harry T. Burleigh, Dr. Louis T. Wright, and Alonzo F. Herndon.

List Of Voters

Here is how the ballots read:

Dr. D. O. W. Holmes, president-emeritus, Morgan State college:
- Frederick Douglass
- Booker Washington
- Marcus Garvey
- W. E. B. Du Bois
- Ernest Just
- Percy Julian
- Mary McLeod Bethune
- George Washington Carver
- Carter G. Woodson
- Kelly Miller
- Charles Houston
- D. Alexander Payne

James A. Cobb, former judge, Washington, D.C.:
- Frederick Douglass
- Booker T. Washington
- W. E. B. Du Bois
- Carter G. Woodson
- Ernest Just
- Charles Drew
- William H. Lewis
- Emmett Scott
- Charles Houston
- George Washington Carver
- Mary Church Terrell
- D. Alexander Payne

F. D. Patterson, president, Tuskegee Institute:
- Frederick Douglass
- Booker T. Washington
- W. E. B. Du Bois
- Carter G. Woodson
- Ernest Just
- Percy Julian
- Gus Hinton
- Charles Drew
- Mary McLeod Bethune
- Thurgood Marshall
- George Washington Carver
- D. Alexander Payne
- Charles Houston

Hobson Reynolds, undertaker and former magistrate, Philadelphia, Pa.:
- Mary McLeod Bethune
- Major R. R. Wright
- Frederick Douglass
- Booker T. Washington
- George Washington Carver
- J. Finley Wilson
- Charles Drew
- Thurgood Marshall
- C. C. Spaulding
- Carl Murphy
- Ralph Bunche
- Richard Allen

B. T. Bradshaw, insurance executive, Richmond, Va.:
- Frederick Douglass
- Booker T. Washington
- W. E. B. Du Bois
- Ralph Bunche
- Carter G. Woodson
- Percy Julian
- Augustus Hinton
- Charles Drew
- Mary McLeod Bethune
- George Washington Carver
- C. C. Spaulding
- Charles Houston

Arthur B. Spingarn, president of the NAACP, New York:
- Richard Allen
- Frederick Douglass
- Prince Hall
- D. Alexander Payne
- Alexander Crummell
- Booker T. Washington
- James Weldon Johnson
- Harry T. Burleigh
- Charles Houston
- Ernest Just
- Louis T. Wright
- Charles Drew

"It is with great regret that the number 12 does not permit me to include John B. Lynch, Dunbar and the Grimkes. You will note that for obvious reasons I have not included the names of anyone now living."

John Wesley Dobbs, Grand Master, Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge, Atlanta, Ga.:
- Paul Laurence Dunbar
- James Weldon Johnson
- Richard Allen
- Joseph C. Price
- Alonzo F. Herndon
- C. C. Spaulding
- John Hope
- Marian Anderson

"I want to agree with your first selections of Frederick Douglass, Booker T. Washington, W. E. B. Du Bois, and Carter G. Woodson.

"You can't leave out George Washington Carver, nor should you leave out Charles Houston, the great lawyer."

Dr. Horace Mann Bond, president, Lincoln (Pa.) University:
- Richard Allen
- Ira Aldridge
- Frederick Douglass
- Joseph C. Price
- Booker T. Washington
- W. E. B. Du Bois
- Carter G. Woodson
- George Washington Carver
- Ernest Just
- Mary McLeod Bethune
- Charles Houston
- Thurgood Marshall

"Joseph C. Price, a better man than Booker T. Washington. A great pity he died so young at 40.

"Richard Allen, the historians have neglected his connection with the great radical revolutionaries of the American Revolution, especially Benjamin Rush, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence.

"Allen was Rush's intimate friend."

Bishop W. J. Walls, AME Zion church, Chicago, Ill.:
- Benjamin Banneker
- Frederick Douglass
- Joseph C. Price
- Booker T. Washington
- W. E. B. Du Bois
- Carter G. Woodson
- Charles Drew
- George Washington Carver
- Harriet Tubman
- Sojourner Truth
- Mary McLeod Bethune
- Thurgood Marshall

"We should be very careful about allowing famous ones of the past to be submerged by living persons, but we have not had time to become thoroughly vindicated and established.

The chief criteron of measurement of the greatness of a man is "What did he leave to grow."

A. W. Dent, president, Dillard University, New Orleans, La.:
- Frederick Douglass
- Booker T. Washington
- W. E. B. Du Bois
- Carter G. Woodson
- Ernest Just
- Percy Julian
- Gus Hinton
- Charles Drew
- Mary McLeod Bethune
- Thurgood Marshall
- George Washington Carver
- Alexander Payne
- Charles Houston
- Henry O. Tanner
- Marian Anderson
- Carter G. Woodson

Dr. J. M. Ellison, president, Virginia Union University, Richmond, Va.:
- Frederick Douglass
- Booker T. Washington
- W. E. B. Du Bois
- Carter G. Woodson
- Ernest E. Just
- Percy Julian
- Gus Hinton
- Charles Drew
- Mary McLeod Bethune
- Thurgood Marshall
- George Washington Carver
- Alexander Payne
- Charles Houston

Louis R. Lautier, chief, NNPA News Bureau, Washington, D.C.:
- William H. Hastie
- Richard Allen
- Marian Anderson
- Ralph J. Bunche
- W. E. B. Du Bois
- Paul Laurence Dunbar
- Ernest E. Just
- Charles Drew
- Charles H. Houston
- Frederick Douglass
- Booker T. Washington
- Colonel Charles Young

E. B. Henderson, director of physical education, Washington, D.C.:
- Ralph Bunche
- Colonel Charles Young
- Bert Williams
- Crispus Attucks
- Madame C. J. Walker
- Jackie Robinson
- Nannie Helen Burroughs
- Joe Louis
- Duke Ellington
- Phillis Wheatley
- Judge Armond Scott
- Brig. Gen. B. O. Davis

Dr. Martin D. Jenkins, president, Morgan State college.
- Frederick Douglass
- Booker T. Washington
- W. E. B. Du Bois
- Ernest Just
- George Washington Carver
- Ralph Bunche
- Mordecai Johnson
- Charles Drew
- Percy Julian
- Mary McLeod Bethune
- Richard Wright
- Charles Houston

Dr. Charles Thompson, dean of Howard University Graduate School, Washington, D.C.
- Paul Lawrence Dunbar
- Booker T. Washington
- W. E. B. Du Bois
- Frederick Douglass
- Ernest E. Just
- Mary Church Terrell
- Charles H. Houston
- Kelly Miller
- D. Alexander Payne
- Henry O. Tanner
- Marian Anderson
- Carter G. Woodson

Dr. J. M. Ellison, president, Virginia Union University, Richmond, Va.:
- Frederick Douglass
- Booker T. Washington
- W. E. B. Du Bois
- Carter G. Woodson
- Ernest E. Just
- Percy Julian
- Gus Hinton
- Charles Drew
- Mary McLeod Bethune
- Thurgood Marshall
- George Washington Carver
- Alexander Payne
- Charles Houston

Raymond Pace Alexander, attorney, Philadelphia, Pa.:
- Frederick Douglass
- Booker T. Washington
- W. E. B. DuBois
- Carter G. Woodson
- Ernest Just
- Percy Julian
- Gus Hinton
- Charles Drew
- George Washington Carver
- Harriet Tubman
- Sojourner Truth
- Henry O. Tanner
- Ralph Bunche

Furman L. Templeton, executive director, Urban League, Baltimore, Md.:
- Frederick Douglass
- Booker T. Washington
- George Washington Carver
- Percy Julian
- Charles Drew
- Charles Houston
- Ernest Just
- Ralph Bunche
- Mary McLeod Bethune
- Gus Hinton
- Carter G. Woodson
- William H. Hastie

AFRO READERS SELECT 13 GREATEST AMERICANS

FREDERICK DOUGLASS
BOOKER T. WASHINGTON
CHARLES HOUSTON
GEORGE WASHINGTON CARVER
W. E. B. Du BOIS
CARTER G. WOODSON
ERNEST JUST
CHARLES DREW
MARY McLEOD BETHUNE
RALPH BUNCHE
PERCY JULIAN
THURGOOD MARSHALL
D. ALEXANDER PAYNE

AFRO'S ORIGINALLY SUGGESTED LIST OF 13 GREATEST AMERICANS

FREDERICK DOUGLASS
BOOKER T. WASHINGTON
GEORGE WASHINGTON CARVER
W. E. B. Du BOIS
CARTER G. WOODSON
ERNEST JUST
GUS HINTON
CHARLES DREW
MARY McLEOD BETHUNE
PERCY JULIAN
THURGOOD MARSHALL
D. ALEXANDER PAYNE
CHARLES HOUSTON

Dr. Patterson · Mr. Templeton · Dr. Ellison · Mr. Dobbs · Mr. Lautier · Dean Thompson · Mr. Alexander · Dr. Holmes · Dr. Dent