

The original documents are located in Box 15, folder “National Negro History Week, 1971-1972” of the Stanley S. Scott Papers, 1969-1977 at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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History Week

Virginia school officials are cooperating with sponsors of Negro History Week, and we believe the result will be well worth the program. It would be disruptive, however, to recognize the role of black people in history and then deny them an opportunity to play an equal role in today's history.

Opponents of school desegregation are doing their best to relegate black teachers and principals in the public school system in the South, particularly in North Carolina and some other states, to an inferior position in the system and in some cases are dropping them altogether. This creates an ugly picture for the Negro history program.

But Negro History Week is important, and the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History deserves the full support of black people. Dr. Woodson, father of Negro history, was born in New Canton, Buckingham county, Va., and not at Canton as has been widely publicized. His book "The Miseducation of Negroes" is a classic.

masters of Western take place, the Russians seem to materialize where, hovering above everything. This is their proof, in my opinion, of the sinister, Soviet, surveillance. Never trust and never underestimate.

With one strike after hitting almost every country—who is really Nobody! What has been Only ninety-four cents after inflation has taken according to statistics the Department of Labor who should know by spite of incessant demands, more, more, the union factory workers power remains status because the second go up, so do prices, stand pattern. And run, nobody wins you consider \$4c a money. And at the temporary.

Today's guest editor distinguished American Hoover, Director of Bureau of Investigation nearly 50 years of the insurrectionists, I that Mr. Hoover's anti-Americanism none. To quote from "Communists labor to exploit the



Mankind lives in a changed world, and it is not safe for black people or white people unless we acquire a different measurement for determining the worth of all human beings. Negro History Week was intended to be a beginning to create

black people for use by pupils or supplemental reading on the background and program of black people.

JOURNAL AND GUIDE

REC

Left to Right: Robert J. Brown, Special Assistant to the President;
The President; Leroy Jeffries, Executive Vice President, Johnson
Publications; Dr. Charles Wesley, Director, The Association for
the Study of Negro Life and History; Alex Poinsett, Senior Editor,
Johnson Publications



January 25, 1971



MEMORANDUM FOR HUGH SLOAN

FROM: BOB BROWN

SUBJECT: National Negro History Week

I would recommend one or more of the following activities for Presidential involvement during Negro History week:

- 1. Meet with five or six of the top Black historians and poets. Example: Dr. John Hope Franklin, Chairman, Department of History, University of Chicago; Dr. J. Saunders Redding, Professor of History, Cornell University; Gwendolyn Brooks, poet laureate;**
- 2. Invite a well-known Black preacher to conduct the White House Sunday Service. The Howard University Choir could also be invited for this Service;**
- 3. An elementary school could be visited in the District of Columbia;**
- 4. An art exhibit consisting of the works of famous Black artists could be shown at the White House during that week;**
- 5. A special commendation could be made by the President concerning the contributions made by Blacks in various fields. Example: Dr. Charles Drew, blood plasma; Dr. George Washington Carver, the development of peanut products; Dr. Daniel H. Williams, performed first successful heart operation known to modern science in 1893.**

**cc: Pat Buchanan
Len Garment
Herb Klein
Bill Safire**

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

National Archives and Records Service
Washington, D.C. 20408



January 29, 1971

Honorable Robert J. Brown
Special Assistant to the President
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20501



Dear Mr. Brown:

We would be honored to have you with us at the National Archives for any of the special programs which we have scheduled in observance of Negro History Week, February 7-14, 1971.

Dr. Dalbert A. Williams, Professor of International Relations at Bowie State College, will speak on "The African Heritage" at 3:30 p.m. in our theater on Monday, February 8. Black history films will be shown in the theater Tuesday through Friday, February 9-12, in accordance with the enclosed schedule.

If you can attend Dr. Williams' address or any of the film performances, please let us know by telephone (13-33434) and we will reserve seating. Our fifth floor theater is reached through the Pennsylvania Avenue entrance.

Sincerely,

JAMES B. RHOADS
Archivist of the United States

Enclosure



UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

National Archives and Records Service
Washington, D.C. 20408



Announcement

Please Post

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OBSERVES NEGRO HISTORY WEEK

The week beginning February 7, 1971, has been designated Negro History Week.

The National Archives and Records Service of the General Services Administration is sponsoring an address and a series of film showings as part of the observance. All who wish to attend are welcome.

Dr. Dalbert A. Williams, Professor of International Relations at Bowie State College, will speak on "The African Heritage" at 3:30 p.m., Monday, February 8, in the National Archives theater.

Black history films will be shown in the National Archives theater at 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, February 9-12.

The film schedule is as follows:

✓ "Heritage of the Negro," narrated by Ossie Davis, 30 minutes.
(Tuesday morning, Wednesday afternoon, Friday morning.)

"Omowale - The Child Returns Home," a Mississippi-born Negro explores ancestral roots in Africa, 30 minutes.
(Tuesday morning, Wednesday afternoon, Friday morning.)

✓ "Black Men and Iron Horses," Black inventors and railroading, 18 minutes.
(Tuesday afternoon, Thursday morning.)

"Black History: Lost, Stolen, or Strayed," narrated by Bill Cosby, 40 minutes.
(Wednesday morning, Thursday afternoon, Friday afternoon.)

✓ "Our Country Too," 30 minutes.
(Tuesday afternoon, Thursday morning.)

THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES, PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE AT 8TH STREET, N.W.

February 3, 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR DAVID PARKER

FROM: BOB BROWN

Pursuant to our conversation this afternoon regarding Negro History Week, I feel very strongly that we should pursue the following items:

1. Exhibit significant pieces from the George Washington Carver Museum at Tuskegee Institute here at the White House. Dr. Carver, a former slave, was one of the foremost scientists in the country. I have talked with Dr. W. D. Mayberry, Vice President of Tuskegee and he indicated that the College would be more than happy to cooperate in such a project;
2. During that week, it would also be appropriate for Dr. Charles Wesley an authority on Negro history and Mr. John H. Johnson, Publisher of Johnson Publishing Company to present various volumes of their books on Negro History to the President for the White House Library. Dr. Wesley is Executive Director of the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History which was founded by Carter G. Woodson one of the foremost Negro historians in 1915.

Both of these projects would be highly advantageous to the President in view of the strong emphasis in educational circles at all levels on Negro history.

cc: Leonard Garment
Ken Cole



RJB:rm

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

February 8, 1971

TO: David Parker

FROM: Robert J. Brown

For your information.



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

February 5

Bob Brown -

Would you wish to
bring this to Chapin's attention?

Brad





NEWS

from the Office of Public Affairs
Smithsonian Institution
Washington, D.C. 20560

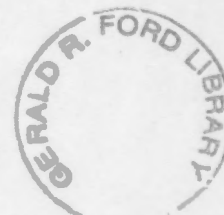
Telephone: (202) 381-5911

BAP - FYI
Lg

NOTE: Press coverage of Mayor
Washington's visit February 8
to the National Portrait Gallery
is invited.

Negro History Week Acknowledgement

MAYOR WASHINGTON TO VISIT PORTRAIT GALLERY



Mayor Walter E. Washington and two classes of Anacostia sixth graders will tour a special exhibition honoring the 45th annual Negro History Week in the Smithsonian Institution's National Portrait Gallery at 11 a.m. on February 8. The showing is of 11 powerfully rendered portraits of noted black leaders by Winold Reiss.

While in the Gallery, located at 8th and F Streets N.W., the group will also view a teaching exhibition on civil rights activist James Weldon Johnson and 25 portraits of black leaders in the permanent and study collections.

The pupils will come from Moten and Turner Schools.

The visit by Mayor Washington will constitute an official District of Columbia acknowledgement of Negro History Week, scheduled February 7 to 14. On his tour of the Gallery, the Mayor will be accompanied by aides and by school and National Portrait Gallery officials. Louise Daniel Hutchinson, a research historian at the Gallery, will give the commentary.

MORE

-2-

The portraits by Winold Reiss constituting the special one-week showing are of Alain Locke, Charles S. Johnson, Mary McLeod Bethune, Langston Hughes, W.E.B. DuBois, Jean Toomer, James Weldon Johnson, Paul Robeson, Roland Hayes, Countee Cullen, and Elise McDougald. Near life-size pastels under glass, they are on loan from the estate of the artist, who executed them in the 1920s.

The portraits may be viewed by the public during museum hours, 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. every day of the week. Admission to the Gallery is free.

X X X X X

1-29-71

SI-11-71

For further information contact:

Benjamin Ruhe 381-5503

Mary Krug 381-5911





NEWS

from the Office of Public Affairs
Smithsonian Institution
Washington, D.C. 20560

Telephone: (202) 381-5911

For Immediate Release

NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY EXHIBITION
WILL PAY HOMAGE TO NEGRO HISTORY WEEK



Eleven portraits of black contributors to American educational and cultural history will be put on special exhibition at the Smithsonian Institution's National Portrait Gallery from February 7 to 14, Negro History Week. The portraits, pastels under glass, are by the late Winold Reiss. They are on loan from the estate of the artist.

The subjects are poets Langston Hughes and Countee Cullen, singers Roland Hayes and Paul Robeson, writers Elise McDougald and Jean Toomer, cultural historian Alain Locke, educator Mary McLeod Bethune, university president Charles S. Johnson, author and educator James Weldon Johnson, and human rights leader W.E.B. DuBois.

The portraits were executed in the 1920s for an anthology, The New Negro, compiled by Alain Locke.

Marvin Sadik, Director of the National Portrait Gallery, says of the works: "They are excellent likenesses, done in the powerfully direct style typical of the visual arts in America in the 1920s."

MORE

By showing them for the first time in Washington, the National Portrait Gallery is hoping to elicit public interest in them here. "Because of the roles these people have played in our national life, their portraits belong more appropriately in our National Portrait Gallery than in any other place," says Mr. Sadik. "The Gallery is seeking a donor or donors to assist in acquiring these portraits."

The exhibition may be viewed by the public during museum hours, 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. daily. Admission is free. The National Portrait Gallery is at 8th and F Streets N.W.

Visitors to the Gallery will also be able to see 25 portraits of black leaders in the permanent and study collections, in addition to a teaching exhibition on James Weldon Johnson.

The portraits in the permanent collection are of Dr. Charles Drew, developer of blood plasma; George Washington Carver, the educator and inventor; Harriet Tubman, a 19th century abolitionist; Harry T. Burleigh, a musician; Walter White, an executive secretary of the NAACP; Alain Locke, a writer; and Mary McLeod Bethune, an educator.

The seven portraits of black leaders in the permanent collection and the 18 likenesses in the study collection are gifts to the National Portrait Gallery from the Harmon Foundation, a philanthropy that during its time of existence between 1922 and 1967 devoted itself to aiding black culture. Forty-five portraits in all were presented to the National Portrait Gallery. A number cannot yet be shown in the permanent collection because of a museum rule that a sitter must have been dead 10 years before his portrait can be hung.

Taken together, the Harmon Foundation paintings constitute a unique pictorial commentary on the important role black Americans have played in shaping this nation's culture.

X X X X X

1/29/71

For further information contact:

Benjamin Ruhe 381-5503

Mary Krug 381-5911



SI-10-71

February 3, 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR DAVID PARKER

FROM: BOB BROWN

Pursuant to our conversation this afternoon regarding Negro History Week, I feel very strongly that we should pursue the following items:

1. Exhibit significant pieces from the George Washington Carver Museum at Tuskegee Institute here at the White House. Dr. Carver, a former slave, was one of the foremost scientists in the country. I have talked with Dr. W. D. Mayberry, Vice President of Tuskegee and he indicated that the College would be more than happy to cooperate in such a project;
2. During that week, it would also be appropriate for Dr. Charles Wesley an authority on Negro history and Mr. John H. Johnson, Publisher of Johnson Publishing Company to present various volumes of their books on Negro History to the President for the White House Library. Dr. Wesley is Executive Director of the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History which was founded by Carter G. Woodson one of the foremost Negro historians in 1915.

Both of these projects would be highly advantageous to the President in view of the strong emphasis in educational circles at all levels on Negro history.

cc: Leonard Garment
Ken Cole



RJB:rm

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 1971

THE WHITE HOUSE
Office of the Staff Director to Mrs. Nixon

Mrs. Nixon will open the George Washington Carver Exhibit commemorating Negro History Week today, February 10 in the East Terrace of the White House at 4:00 p.m. Negro History Week began February 7.

Dr. Luther H. Foster, President of Tuskegee Institute since 1953 and a member of the American Revolution Bicentennial Commission appointed by President Nixon in July of 1969 will be at the opening. Also in attendance will be Mrs. Elaine Thomas, Curator of the Carver Museum at Tuskegee Institute.

The Exhibit includes pieces from Tuskegee Institute where Carver taught for more than forty years and managed the Agricultural Research Station. There are also pieces in the Exhibit from the Smithsonian Institution. The Exhibit was prepared under the auspices of the Smithsonian under the direction of Dr. John Schlebecker, Curator of the Division of Agriculture and Mining.

The items on loan for the Exhibit from Tuskegee Institute include Carver's painting "Four Peaches" which the Luxenberg Galleries showed in Europe, scientific tools including Carver's microscope, a picture of Carver at Simpson College when he was a student of art, and his palette and brushes.

Also a part of the Exhibit is the painting of George Washington Carver by Betsy Graves Reyneau on loan from the National Portrait Gallery.

#



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

ROUTING SLIP

DATE _____

____ ROBERT J. BROWN

____ PAUL JONES

____ BRUCE RABB

____ CECILIA FOREMAN

____ LUCY HARRIS

☒ ROSEMARY MANARIN

ACTION:

CC: *Connie Stuart*
Ken Cole
H. R. Halderman

Sent 2/16



LUTHER H. FOSTER, PRESIDENT

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A. G. GASTON
MELVIN A. GLASSER

Tuskegee Institute

FOUNDED BY BOOKER T. WASHINGTON, 1881

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE
ALABAMA
36088

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FOR BUSINESS AFFAIRS

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WILLIAM J. SCHIEFFELIN III
ERNEST STONE
JOSEPH F. VOLKER

February 12, 1971

Mr. Robert J. Brown
Special Assistant to the President
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Bob:

Mrs. Foster and I were pleased to share in the Carver Exhibit opening at the White House, under Mrs. Nixon's sponsorship, as were Mrs. Thomas and Dr. Henderson.

We are greatly heartened by Mrs. Nixon's interest in sponsoring the Carver Exhibit, for it brings to the attention of thousands of visitors to the White House the role of a great scientist and American citizen. We shall be very pleased to cooperate again if there are other opportunities you wish to bring to our attention.

May I add a note of special thanks and appreciation for your effective work in connection with this activity, as well as with so many others of vital concern to American citizens. You are helping greatly to articulate the concerns of the black minority as a part of the total interest of this nation.

Kind regards.

Sincerely yours,


L. H. Foster
President



LHF:p

GEORGE WASHINGTON CARVER EXHIBIT

In honor of Negro History Week, beginning February 7, Mrs. Richard Nixon opened a commemorative George Washington Carver exhibit in the East Terrace of the White House on February 10. opening of the Attending the/exhibit were Dr. Luther H. Foster, President of Tuskegee Institute since 1953 and Mrs. Elaine Thomas, Curator of the Carver Museum at Tuskegee I_nstitute. Dr. Foster is also a member of the American Revolution Bicentennial Commission appointed by President Nixon in July of 1969.

The exhibit included pieces ~~from~~ from Tuskegee Institute where Carver taught for more than forty years and managed the Agricultural Research Station. The exhibit was prepared under the auspices of the ~~Smithsonian Institution~~ Smithsonian Institution, from which ~~some~~ some for of the pieces ~~the~~/the exhibit were taken.

Items on loan for the exhibit from Tuskegee Institute included Carver's painting, "Four Peaches," which the Luxemburg Galleries showed in Europe, scientific tools including Carver's microscope, a picture of Carver at Simpson College when he was a student of art, and his ~~palette~~ palette and brushes.

Also included in the exhibit was ~~the~~ the painting of George Washington Carver by Betsy Graves Reyneau on loan from the National Portrait Gallery.



Negro History Week

Carver Research Foundation of Tuskegee Institute

ESTABLISHED, 1940 BY GEORGE WASHINGTON CARVER

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, ALABAMA, 36088

March 17, 1971

Miss Martha M. Doss
Administrative Assistant to the
Staff Director to Mrs. Nixon
The White House
Washington, D. C. 20000

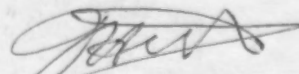
Dear Miss Doss:

Thanks for the photograph of the group at the White House with Mrs. Nixon on the occasion of the presentation of Carver memorabilia.

I would, however, be very grateful to you if you would ask the photographer who took the picture if--or how--the photo of Mrs. Nixon, Dr. Foster and I viewing the painting of Dr. Carver's *Amaryllis* flower came out. If at all possible, I would like a copy (or copies) of these photos if they are available.

Thank you for your kindness.

Sincerely yours,



J. H. M. Henderson
Director



JHMH:wmn

cc: Mr. Robert Brown
White House Assistant to
the President

March 18, 1971

Dear Dad:

I have indicated to you on a number of occasions that I feel that your idea for a Museum of Negro History and Culture is commendable. However, because of the many reasons which we have discussed from time to time over the last two years and, more importantly, because the Smithsonian is heavily involved in a wing to do exactly what your bill is intended to do, I feel that we cannot at this time support your proposal for a museum of this type in the Ohio area.

We want to be helpful in every way possible. If we can assist you by adding some of the top Negroes in your district to the invitation lists for White House functions, meetings, committees, etc., we would be happy to work with you.

We are deeply interested in Black Republicans and in all Republicans in your district and elsewhere across the country, and with the assistance of able men, like yourself, I know we can be successful in reaching them.

Please let me know how we can be helpful.

Sincerely,

Robert J. Brown
Special Assistant
to the President

Honorable Clarence J. Brown
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C. 20515

bcc: Clark MacGregor
William E. Timmons
Harry Dent

RJB:ljh





President Richard Nixon is shown with Black Leaders during Negro History Week. Left to Right: Robert J. Brown, Special Assistant to the President; The President; Leroy Jeffries, Executive Vice President, Johnson Publications; Dr. Charles Wesley, Director, The Association for the Study of Negro Life and History; Alex Poinsett, Senior Editor, Johnson Publications.

The New Observer - 3/20/71



MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

April 9, 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR DWIGHT CHAPIN

FROM: CAROL V. HARFORD *CVH*

On or about May 31 the Museum of African Art and the Frederick Douglas Institute of Negro Arts and History will open its new museum to the public at 316-318 A Street, N. E.

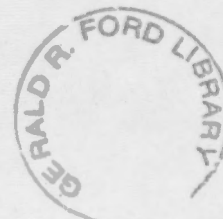
Prior to that date, there will be three special events in connection with the historic inauguration of the Museum. On May 24 Secretary Rogers will host a reception for the diplomatic community, with their opposite numbers in Federal Government being included. On May 25 Senator Hubert Humphrey will host a reception for art patrons, and on May 26 the Museum will invite persons to preview the new gallery.

Warren Robbins, Director of the Museum, suggests that if the President and Mrs. Nixon could attend the Reception being given by Secretary Rogers that it could benefit the President internationally and nationally, i. e., an opportunity to meet with the diplomatic corps in somewhat of an informal setting, with special emphasis on the Black ambassadors in Frederick Douglas' house and a setting particularly honoring art of their countries.

The President and Mrs. Nixon's visit could be unannounced and brief.

Should you wish additional information on the Museum/Institute I will be pleased to send it over. Primarily they are directed toward portraying, through educational activities, built around exhibit materials and publications, the two-fold Afro-American facet of the American heritage-- the remote but culturally rich African past (with its relevance to modern Western creativity) and the significant contribution of black Americans to the growth of the United States, which is generally missing from our history books. The National Endowment for the Humanities has been a consistent supporter of the Museum/Institute.

Bob Brown concurs.



DRAFT:RJB:WB:ljh--5/7/71

MEMORANDUM FOR WILLIAM E. TIMMONS

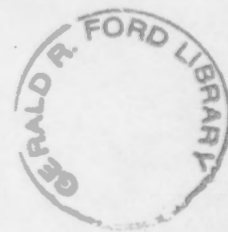
FROM: ROBERT J. BROWN

SUBJECT: Your Memorandum Regarding Congressman Brown's
Bill to Create a Negro History Museum in His Congressional
District

Please accept my apologies for the late acknowledgement of your memorandum.

We have, ~~subjs~~ subsequent to your memorandum, received a copy of the
C ongressman's bill and are working on an appropriate response.

Thanks.



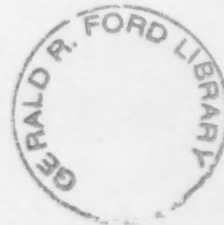
DRAFT 3/1/71

Thank you for your memorandum of February 16 on Rep. Clarence "Bud" Brown's Negro History Museum. This could prove to be a wonderful project.

We will give Bud a response as to our position as soon as we receive from you a copy of the reintroduced bill and have a chance here in the office to get the necessary information.

Again, thank you for your interest and assistance on this matter.

OK



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

February 16, 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR:

BOB BROWN

THROUGH:

CLARK MacGREGOR *CM*

FROM:

WILLIAM E. TIMMONS *WET*

You will recall conversations last year with Rep. Clarence "Bud" Brown (R-Ohio) about his bill to create a Negro History Museum in his Congressional district.

Bud has reintroduced the bill and seeks Administration support. He is sending me a copy which I shall forward to you.

Rep. Brown believes the Democrats will move on this and we'll be caught short if we don't lend support. Also, he reports that Ohio Democratic Governor John Gilligan has expressed interest in the museum.

When you get the bill could you start the staff work to give Brown an appropriate response?

Thanks, Bob.



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

January 28, 1972

1972 JAN 31 PM 3 50

MEMORANDUM FOR DAVE PARKER

TO: WILL
FROM: William Blair

SUBJECT: National Negro History Week

National Negro History Week begins February 13, 1972. On Monday, February 14, 1972 at 11:00 a.m., the National Capital Service, U. S. Department of Interior, will dedicate the Frederick Douglas Home. Among the platform guests will be Secretary Morton, Senator Philip A. Hart, Mayor Commissioner Washington, Congress Charles Diggs and Roy Wilkins.

This may be an event that Mrs. Julie Nixon Eisenhower may wish to attend. The purpose would be to indicate to the Washington, D. C. community, mainly black, that the Presidential family is not insensitive to minority members. I have attached hereto more detailed information.

Approve _____ Disapprove _____

*Julie will be in Fla. &
therefore not available
to do this.*



FREDERICK DOUGLASS HOME DEDICATION

PROGRAM

PRELUDE MUSIC.....D. C. Youth Symphonette
Lynn McLain, Director

PRESENTATION OF COLORS.....Anacostia High School Color Guard

WELCOME.....George B. Hartzog Jr.
Director, The National Park Service

INVOCATION.... REV. FAUNTROY
(Master of Ceremonies)

REMARKS.....Walter E. Washington, Mayor
District of Columbia

(Reading of a Poem).....Student, Frederick Douglass Club
Frederick Douglass High School

DEDICATORY ADDRESS.....Rogers C. B. Morton
Secretary of the Interior

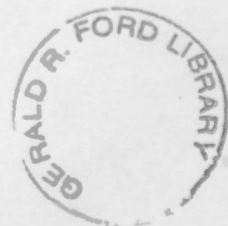
MUSICAL SELECTION.....Ketcham School Glee Club
John W. Gravitt, Director

DOUGLASS' FOURTH OF JULY ORATION.....Jay Williams

BENEDICTION.....The Rev. Channing Philips

RETIRING OF COLORS.....Anacostia High School Color Guard

IN FORMAL TOUR OF HOME



WORKING PAPER

PLATFORM GUESTS
FREDERICK DOUGLASS HOME
February 14, 1972

Mr. George B. Hartzog Jr.
Director, National Park Service

The Hon. Philip A. Hart
United States Senate

The Hon. Charles C. Diggs Jr.
U.S. House of Representatives

The Hon. Walter Fauntroy
U.S. House of Representatives

Mrs. Mary E. C. Gregory
President, Frederick Douglass Memorial and Historical Assn.

Mrs. Myrtle Olison
President, National Assn. of Colored Women's Clubs

The Hon. Rogers C. B. Morton
Secretary of the Interior

The Hon. Nathaniel Reed
Asst. Secretary of the Interior

Mr. Abner M. Bradley
Superintendent, National Capital Parks-East

The Hon. Walter E. Washington
Mayor-Commissioner, District of Columbia

Howard Robinson
Executive Director, The Black Caucus

Dr. Rosa Gragg, National President-Emeritus
National Assn. of Colored Women's Clubs, Detroit, Mich.

Mr. Russell E. Dickenson, Director
National Capital Parks

Dr. Joseph Douglass

Mrs. Fannie Douglass

Roy Wilkins, Executive Secretary
National Assn. for Advancement of Colored People

Vernon E. Gordon
Executive Secretary, Washington Urban League Inc.

Mrs. Gladys Parham, Caretaker
Frederick Douglass Memorial and Historical Assn.

Rev. Channing Phillips

Jay Williams

Shirley Kyle, Special Assistant To
Secretary of the Interior (D.C. Affairs)

?



DEPARTMENT of the INTERIOR

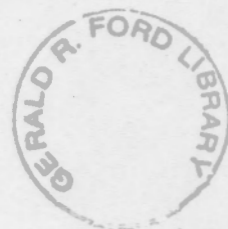
news release

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
National Capital Parks

For Immediate Release

Cedar Hill in Washington
DEDICATION CEREMONIES SET FEB. 14th
TO OPEN THE FREDERICK DOUGLASS HOME

Event Among Major Milestones
During Park Service Centennial



The Frederick Douglass Home, undergoing restoration since 1970, will be formally dedicated and opened to the public at ceremonies scheduled at 11 a.m. February 14.

In making the announcement, Secretary of the Interior Rogers C.B. Morton said the home's dedication honors the internationally known 19th-century statesman, equal rights leader, orator and educator, as well as officially opening the home as a unit of the National Park system.

"Frederick Douglass' achievements in his prophetic vision made him one of the great Americans whose heritage all of us share," Secretary Morton said.

"Under President Nixon's mandate to promote the preservation of our historic legacy, it is appropriate that all Americans now will be able to visit the home of a man who never hesitated to remind us that our future demands that we strive constantly to be a united people," the Secretary said.

Also known as Cedar Hill, the 19-room home overlooks the Anacostia River, and much of the Nation's Capital can be seen from its eight-acre site at 14th and W Streets, Southeast.

The dedication ceremony is being conducted cooperatively by the Department of the Interior's National Park Service, which administers the site, and the Frederick Douglass Memorial and Historical Association.

add one--Douglass Home Dedication

Participants will include Mrs. Mary E. Gregory, president, Frederick Douglass Memorial and Historical Association; Mrs. Georgia Anderson, president, Washington-Area Chapter of the National Association of Colored Women's Clubs; and other local and national "friends of Douglass."

Cedar Hill, purchased by Douglass in 1877 and built in stages from about 1855 to 1892, became a part of the National Park system in 1962 through an Act of Congress (PL 87-633). Full-scale restoration of the home and its furnishings began in 1970 after Congress authorized over \$400,000 for this purpose in November of 1969.

Douglass spent the later years of his life there until he died in 1895.

To preserve the home in honor of Douglass, Helen Pitts Douglass, the orator's second wife, organized the Memorial and Historical Association, chartered by Congress in 1900.

In 1916, the association joined with the National Association of Colored Women's Clubs, and the estate and house were opened briefly to the public. Continued preservation of the house was assured in 1962 by Congress when it entrusted the National Park Service with the care of the home and its contents.

Restoration of the two-story brick home and many of Douglass' furnishings and personal belongings was done by the National Park Service.

The dedication ceremonies and opening of Cedar Hill come as one of the first major milestones during the Centennial Celebration of the National Park Service which is celebrating its 100th anniversary during 1972.

-30-

January 5, 1972

Editor's Note: Reporters and Photographers are invited to cover the dedication ceremonies. For further details, directions to the site, and a media information kit, please contact the Office of Public Affairs, National Capital Parks, 1100 Ohio Drive S.W., 20242. Phone (202) 426-6700.



February 8, 1972

Dear Mr. Badillo:

I would like to thank you for writing to the President concerning Negro History Week which will be observed during the week of February 14.

I have been informed that this observance is under the auspices of the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History. Annually, the Association contacts the State Governors and officials of local governments requesting that a proclamation be issued to mark Negro History Week. There has been no Presidential proclamation at any time since its inception in 1926. In connection with the observance of Negro History Week in 1971, a group of Negro publishers and authors called on the President to present a number of books for the White House Library.

As you may know, it is not customary, except in unusual circumstances, for the President to issue a proclamation setting aside a particular period for special observance unless authorized to do so by the Congress. I am told that there is no record of such a resolution regarding a Negro History Week having been adopted by the Congress. Should such action be taken by the Congress with respect to such an observance, the matter would, of course, receive most careful attention.

With cordial regards,

Sincerely,

William E. Timmons
Assistant to the President

Honorable Herman Badillo
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

bdc: w/incoming to Bob Brown - FYI
1st para. - input from Ma. Blair

WET:EF:VO:vo



1
HERMAN BADILLO
21ST DISTRICT
NEW YORK

310 CANNON BUILDING
(202) 225-4361

COMMITTEE ON
EDUCATION AND LABOR

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

2-1
DISTRICT OFFICES:
840 GRAND CONCOURSE
BRONX, N.Y. 10451
(212) 665-9400

31-13 DITMARS BLVD.
ASTORIA, N.Y. 11105
(212) 626-6000

219 EAST 116TH STREET
NEW YORK, N.Y. 10029
(212) 831-9285

Post 1-31
January 28, 1972

B1
The President
The White House
Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

2/9
In 1926, President Carter G. Woodson (supported by the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History -- which he founded in 1915) first set aside a date for a national observance and recognition of the Black man's contribution to America. Succeeding Presidents have proclaimed the week surrounding February 14 as Negro History Week.

The fabulous history of the Negro in America is amplified by the fact that he contributed and excelled at a time when not only the body, but the very soul of Black men was being tortured and oppressed by slavery. Up from bondage -- Dr. George Washington Cargher (born around 1864) is illustrative of such Negroes.

Contributions of modern-day Negroes such as Dr. Charles Drew, Dr. Ralph Bunche and others appear in history books and are aired by the news media -- thanks to the Black movement. However, many white, and for that matter, Black Americans recognize the names of notable Americans of color, but still are not aware that they are Black or what their contributions are.

The responsibility of educating America about the contributions of Black men is shared by us all, but the major burden is being undertaken by various racial and interracial organizations, societies, etc. While this process is on-going, efforts are accelerated this time of year as Negro History Week approaches.



DISTRICT OFFICE
840 GRAND CENTRAL
STATION, N.Y. 10017
(212) 692-6000

31-43 CHAMBERS STREET
NEW YORK, N.Y. 10013
(212) 692-6000

210 EAST 17TH STREET
NEW YORK, N.Y. 10003
(212) 692-6000

WHITE HOUSE
MAIL ROOM

House of Representatives

Washington, D.C. 20515
1972 FEB 1 AM 9 15

HERMAN BADILO
21ST DISTRICT
NEW YORK
210 CANTON BUILDING
(212) 212-1311
COMMITTEE ON
EDUCATION AND LABOR

January 28, 1972

The President
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

In 1928, President Carter G. Woodson (supported by the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History -- which he founded in 1915) first set aside a date for a national observance and recognition of the Black man's contribution to America. Succeeding Presidents have proclaimed the week surrounding February 1 as Negro History Week.

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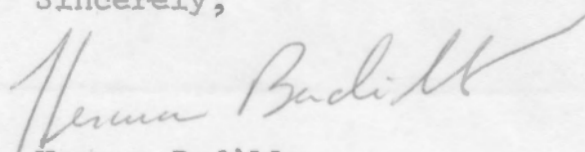


2.

The President

In making your official proclamation, I urge you to emphasize the role of Black men in the building of this country -- urging full national participation in observances and recognitions honoring Negro-Americans.

Sincerely,



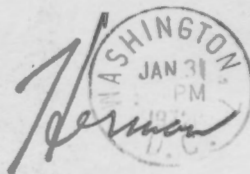
Herman Badillo
Member of Congress

HB/djl



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

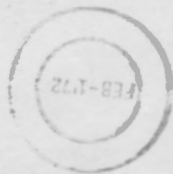
OFFICIAL BUSINESS



Bedell

M.C.

The President
The White House
Washington, D. C. 20500





LIST OF BY-PRODUCTS MADE FROM THE PEANUT BY GEORGE WASHINGTON CARVER

Beverages	Butter from Peanut
Blackberry Punch	Milk
Evaporated Peanut Beverage	Caramel
Cherry Punch	Cheese Cream
Normal Peanut Beverage	Cheese Nut Sage
Peanut Lemon Punch	Cheese Pimento
Peanut Koumiss	Cheese Sandwich
Beverage	Cheese Tutti Frutti
Peanut Orange Punch #1	Chili Sauce
Peanut Punch #2	Chocolate Coated Peanuts
Plum Punch	Chop Suey Sauce
	Cocoa
Cosmetics	Cooking Oil
All-purpose Cream	Cream Candy
Antiseptic Soap	Cream from Milk
Baby Massage Cream	Crystallized Peanuts
Face Bleach and Tan Remover	Curds
Face Cream	Dehydrated Milk Flakes
Face Lotion	Dry Coffee
Face Ointment	Evaporated Milk
Face Powder	Flavoring Paste
Fat Producing Cream	Golden Nuts
Glycerine	Instant Coffee
Hand Lotion	Lard Compound
Oil for Hair and Scalp	Malted Substitutes
Peanut Oil Shampoo	Mayonnaise
Pomade for Scalp	Meal Substitutes
Pomade for Skin	Milks (82)
Shampoo	Mock Chicken
Shaving Cream	Mock Goose
Tetter and Dandruff Cure	Mock Mear
Toilet Soap	Mock Oyster
Vanishing Cream	Mock Veal Cutlet
	Oleomargarine
Dyes, Paints and Stains	Pancake Flour
Dyes for Cloth (30)	Peanut Bar #1
Dyes for Leather (19)	Peanut Brittle
Paints	Peanut Bisque Flour
Special Peanut Dye	Peanut Butter, regular (3)
Wood Stains (17)	Peanut Cake #1 and #2
	Peanut Chocolate Fudge
Stock Foods	Peanut Dainties
Hen Food for Laying (Peanut Hearts)	Peanut Flakes
Molasses Feed	Peanut Flour (1, 2)
Peanut Hay Meal	Peanut Hearts
Peanut Hull Bran	Peanut Kisses
Peanut Hull Meal	Peanut Meat Loaf
Peanut Hull Stock Food	Peanut and Pop Corn Bars
Peanut Meal	Peanut Relish #1
Peanut Stock Food #1, #2 and #3	Peanut Relish #2
	Peanut Sausage
Foods	Peanut Surprise
Bar Candy	Peanut Tofu Sauce
Breakfast Food #1	Peanut Wafers
Breakfast Food #2	Pickle
Breakfast Food #3	Salad Oil
Breakfast Food #4	Salted Peanuts
Breakfast Food #5	Shredded Peanuts
Bisque Powder	Substitute for Asparagus
Buttermilk	Sweet Pickle
	Vinegar
	White Pepper, from Vines
	Worcestershire Sauce

Medicines
Castoria Substitute
Emulsion for Bronchitis
Goiter Treatment
Iron Tonic
Laxatives
Medicine similar to Castor Oil
Oils, Emulsified with Mercury for venereal disease (2)
Rubbing Oil
Tannic Acid
Quinine
General
Axle Grease
Charcoal from shells
Cleanser for hands
Coke (from hulls)
Diesel fuel
Fuel Bricketts
Gas
Gasoline
Glue

Illuminating Oil
Insecticide
Insulating Boards (18)
Nitroglycerine
Paper (colored) from skins
Paper (Kraft) from vines
Paper (White) from vines
Printers Ink
Plastics
Rubber
Shoe and Leather Blacking
Sizing for Walls
Soap Stock
Soil Conditioner
Wall Boards (from hulls) (11)
Washing Powder
Wood Filler

Household Products
Laundry Soap
Sweeping Compound

LIST OF PRODUCTS MADE FROM THE SWEET POTATO BY DR. CARVER

Foods	Synthetic. Ginger
After Dinner Mints #1, #2	Tapioca
Bisque Powder	Vinegar
Breakfast Food (5)	Yeast
Candy, 14 varieties	
Chocolate	Stock Food
Coffee, dry	Hog Feed
Dried Potatoes #1 and #2	Stock Feed Meal (3)
Dry Paste	
Egg Yolk	General
Flour (4)	Alcohol
Granulated Potatoes	Dyes (73)
Instant Coffee	Fillers for Wood (14)
Lemon Drops	Library Paste (5)
Meal (4)	Medicine
Mock Coconut	Paints
Molasses (3)	Paper (from vines)
Orange Drops	Rubber Compound
Potato Nibs	Shoe Blacking
Sauce	Stains
Spiced Vinegar	Synthetic Cotton
Starch	Synthetic Silk
Sugar	Writing Ink

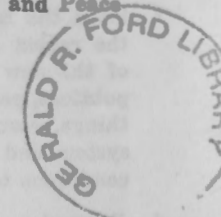
The listing of products is not complete; it has been compiled as accurately as possible from records left by Dr. Carver.

None of the Carver Products is manufactured by Tuskegee Institute. The only samples of these products are in the permanent Carver Collection at the Carver Museum and cannot be rented or lent.

For further information about Dr. Carver's products consult the Carver Classified Bibliography by Jessie P. Guzman. A limited number of bulletins edited by Dr. Carver is available at the Carver Museum:

- No. 31 How to Grow the Peanut and 105 Ways of Preparing it for Human Consumption
- No. 35 How to Grow the Cow Pea
- No. 38 How the Farmer Can Save His Sweet Potato
- No. 40 The Raising of Hogs
- No. 41 Can Livestock Be Raised Profitably in Alabama
- No. 43 Nature's Garden for Victory and Peace

Price per bulletin—\$1.00

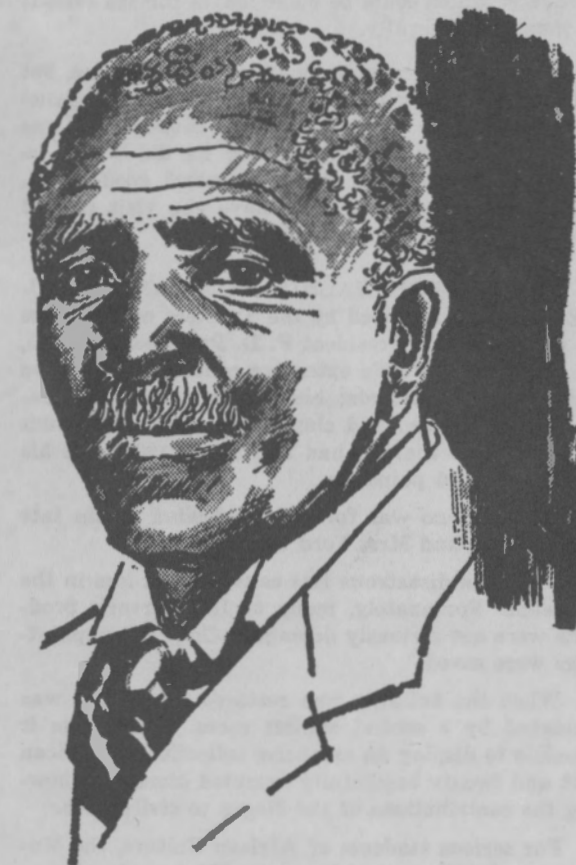


MUSEUM HOURS

10:00-12:00 a.m. _____ Daily excluding Sunday
1:00- 4:00 p.m. _____ Daily including Sunday

George Washington Carver Museum
Tuskegee Institute, Alabama
Elaine F. Thomas
Curator and Director of Museum

GEORGE WASHINGTON CARVER MUSEUM TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE



"Without God to draw aside the curtains, I would be helpless."

George Washington Carver
1864-1943

GREETINGS

We heartily welcome you to the GEORGE WASHINGTON CARVER MUSEUM. For more than sixty years Dr. Carver labored at Tuskegee Institute in ceaseless effort to improve the living conditions and surroundings of rural and farm people—particularly those who lived in the South—and to extract from nature through scientific research those elements and resources which could be made useful for the benefit of mankind generally.

Many honors came to him during his lifetime, but none gave him more genuine pleasure and satisfaction than the setting up of this Museum. It was always his wish that everything he did would be available to the public for the general good of all. We are therefore pleased to have you visit us and see some of the work of Dr. Carver.

THE GEORGE WASHINGTON CARVER MUSEUM was authorized by the Trustees of Tuskegee at the request of President F. D. Patterson, in 1938, to house Dr. Carver's extensive collections of native plants, minerals, birds; his products from the peanut, sweet potato, and clay; the permanent exhibit of vegetables that he had started in 1904, and his more than 100 paintings.

The Museum was formally dedicated by the late Henry Ford and Mrs. Ford in 1941.

In 1947 a disastrous fire caused great loss in the Museum. Fortunately, many of Dr. Carver's products were not seriously damaged. Only a few paintings were saved.

When the building was restored in 1951, it was enlarged by a second exhibit room. This made it possible to display an extensive collection of African Art and twenty beautifully executed dioramas showing the contributions of the Negro to civilization.

For serious students of African Culture, the Museum is fortunate to have over 300 bound volumes and rare pamphlets on South, Central and West Coast Africa and more than a thousand photographs of life in Ghana and Nigeria in the Etta Moten African Literature Corner adjacent to the African Art Collection.

The art gallery on the lower level is a recent addition to the Museum. Outstanding traveling exhibits of contemporary and traditional paintings and sculptures, as well as a permanent collection, are shown.

Thousands visit the Museum each year to study the exhibits and to pay tribute to the memory of Dr. Carver and Dr. Booker T. Washington.

The Museum exhibits have been arranged to show:

1. *The meager beginning of what is now the George Washington Carver Museum.* Using crude equipment Dr. Carver set up his first laboratory and began his research. It was necessary for him to salvage parts from the discarded materials, out of which he fashioned the needed apparatus and equipment to do the work that he had in mind.
2. *Specimen results of the labors of Dr. Carver to improve rural and farm life.* Finding the people in this vicinity impoverished and with no money, but with unused natural resources all around them, he attempted to show them how these things could be made to serve useful purposes. The exhibits of rugs, table mats, scarfs, made from burlap, rags, string and the like, hats and other articles made from feathers, fruits and vegetables grown on native soils, all resulted from these efforts.
3. *Specimen results of his research in agriculture, chemurgy and chemistry.* Dr. Carver felt that the ravenous one-crop system not only impoverished the fast-eroding soils, but the people and the region as well. The exhibits showing some of the new uses he developed for cotton, sweet potatoes, peanuts, and even the clay, among other things, resulted from his efforts to change the system and bring new wealth and better living conditions to his beloved South.
4. *Examples of his hobbies which served useful purposes.* The exhibits of paintings, embroidery and needlework resulted largely from the way he used his time while he relaxed and pondered the problems which confronted him.
5. *Evidences of honors which came to him during his lifetime and since his death.*

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Though born a slave, George Washington Carver, through genius and perseverance, was an outstanding servant of humanity.

Later to be called "The Father of Chemurgy," and "The Peanut Wizard," he was born of slave parents on a farm near Diamond Grove, Missouri, about 1864.

In his infancy, he lost his father, and was an orphan by the time he was three or four years of age: with his mother, he was kidnapped and carried into Arkansas where he was ransomed for a horse valued at \$800, and where he saw and heard the last of his mother. He was returned to the plantation of Moses and Susan Carver in Missouri where he—a physically weak child—was to be reared.

Although need required that much of his time be devoted to various jobs during his academic career, he was, nevertheless, a brilliant scholar. His early training was in a small, one-room school at Neosho, Missouri, about eight miles from the Carver Plantation. He continued his education in Minneapolis, Kansas, where he received a high school diploma.

His continuing thirst for knowledge led him to enroll at Simpson College, at Indianola, Iowa, to study piano and art. The following year, he transferred to the State Agricultural College at Ames, Iowa, and received the bachelor's and master's degrees in agriculture from Iowa State College in 1894 and 1896, respectively.

In 1896, Dr. Carver was on the faculty of Iowa State College when he accepted the invitation of Booker T. Washington to join the faculty of Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute in Alabama. He began his work at Tuskegee on October 8 of that year as director of the Department of Agriculture. He served also as director of the Agricultural Experiment Station which had been authorized for Tuskegee by the Alabama Legislature.

Too, he taught chemistry and biology, made extensive experiments in soil building, cotton-growing and developed by-products from the peanut, the sweet potato and other southern plants. His investigations yielded nearly 300 products from the peanut, 100 from the sweet potato and scores of others from Alabama's red clay. An authority on plant diseases—especially of the fungus variety—Dr. Carver sent hundreds of specimen to the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

The peanut industry—in this country and around the world—is indebted to Dr. Carver for demonstrating the commercial possibilities of peanuts for many of the products on the world markets today. Similarly, his genius with the sweet potato was internationally acclaimed.

Frequently he did not accept money in return for suggestions he gave and the scientific problems he solved for various industrial concerns and individuals the world over. At the peak of his career, his fame and influence were known in every continent. People, far and near, wrote thousands of letters asking his opinion on scientific questions, requesting his financial assistance, seeking advice concerning physical disabilities and seeking the privilege of working with him in his laboratory.

Dr. Carver received many medals, scrolls, citations, and honorary degrees for his achievements in creative scientific research and for his contributions to the improvement of health and living conditions of the southern farmer. In 1948, the United States honored him with a three-cent postage stamp.

His prize-winning art, mastery of the piano and several other musical instruments, and creativity in such crafts as knitting and weaving attested to his phenomenal versatility. Many critics believe that had he chosen to do so, Dr. Carver could have had a distinguished career in art. As evidence, two of his paintings were exhibited at the World's Fair in Chicago, in 1893.

Deeply religious, Dr. Carver became a Presbyterian when he was a high school lad. A thorough student of the Bible, he taught Bible classes on the Tuskegee campus, and sang in church choirs. Yet, a deep quality of self-reliance was reflected in the fact that he mended his own clothes, fashioned his own neckties and laboratory aprons, and even made the needles and looms he used to crochet and weave.

A few years before his death, Dr. Carver used his life savings (about \$33,000, later supplemented by royalties and other interests to total about \$62,000) to establish the George Washington Carver Foundation for the perpetuation of his work in creative research.

Dr. Carver died January 5, 1943, at Tuskegee where he was buried on the campus near the grave of Booker T. Washington, the school's founder. Never married, he left no known relatives. On January 5, 1945, the United States Congress gave national recognition of his birth.

In 1956, Simpson College dedicated a new science building in his honor. His Diamond Grove, Missouri, birthplace is a national monument. It seems likely that despite his unfailing modesty, the tributes paid to his genius and humility would have pleased Dr. Carver greatly.

Perhaps his greatest gift was that he gave the poor of the war-ravaged South something to live for. And certainly the gentleness and compassion which he instilled in his many thousands of students affected the American attitude for all the decades that were to follow.

Tuskegee
Institute
about
1920



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the Cowpea and Forty Ways of
s a Table Delicacy and *How to Grow*
nd 105 Ways of Preparing It for
mption. Few farmers raised any pea-
se who did had them only as treats
But Carver listed recipes for protein-
ups, cakes, mock chicken, veal, liver,
usages. In other bulletins he listed
ing dandelions, pokeweed, sour grass,

lucrative and prestigious positions. Though flat-
tered when asked by Thomas Edison to join his
staff, Carver declined. In 1937 he met Henry Ford
at the third Farm Chemurgic Council meeting in
Dearborn, Michigan. The following year, Ford
visited Tuskegee and offered to set up a special
research laboratory if Carver would come to Dear-
born. Carver declined even this attractive offer
and remained with Tuskegee earning the same
salary he received when he started in 1896. He
accepted an appointment as collaborator with the
Bureau of Plant Industry, United States Depart-
ment of Agriculture, for work at Tuskegee in
mycology and plant diseases. His talents lay pri-
marily in plant science, and in that field he made
a considerable contribution.

Still other awards came to Carver. In 1939 he
received the Theodore Roosevelt medal for out-
standing contributions to agriculture, and three
years later the *Progressive Farmer* named him
“Man of the Year in Southern Agriculture.” Honor
societies elected him to their membership and other
organizations awarded him numerous certificates,
plaques, and trophies for distinguished services in
research and teaching. He received honorary de-
grees from his alma mater, Simpson College
(1928), the University of Rochester (1941), and
Selma University (1942).

On 5 January 1943, Carver died at his home
in Tuskegee. Friends buried him on the campus
near the grave of Booker T. Washington. Messages
mourning his passing came from around the world,
and President Roosevelt led the nation in paying
him honor. In April, Senators Dewey Short and
Harry S. Truman from Missouri introduced legis-
lation creating the George Washington Carver
National Monument in Diamond Grove, Missouri.
Governors from seven states proclaimed the week
of 5 January in the following year as “Carver
Week” in his memory. Under President Truman
the Post Office Department issued a commemora-
tive postage stamp in honor of George Washing-
ton Carver which was first placed on sale 5 January
1948 at Tuskegee Institute.

Visitors to the Carver National Monument or
the Carver Museum at Tuskegee Institute learn
about the man's distinguished contributions as
teacher, scientist, and humanitarian. For his stu-

dents, he left the legacy of practical self-reliance
that characterized his life. As a research scientist
he made numerous discoveries for substituting
common products for scarce resources. The peanut
industry, which hardly existed in 1896, arose almost
directly as a result of Carver's work. For poor
farmers—white and black—he offered extension
services to improve their agricultural productivity
and their lives. Carver saw poverty's heartaches—
among sharecroppers in the South and among
southerners in the Nation—and he cared enough
for the poor to give his talents to solving their
problems.

SOURCES

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SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

National Museum of History and Technology

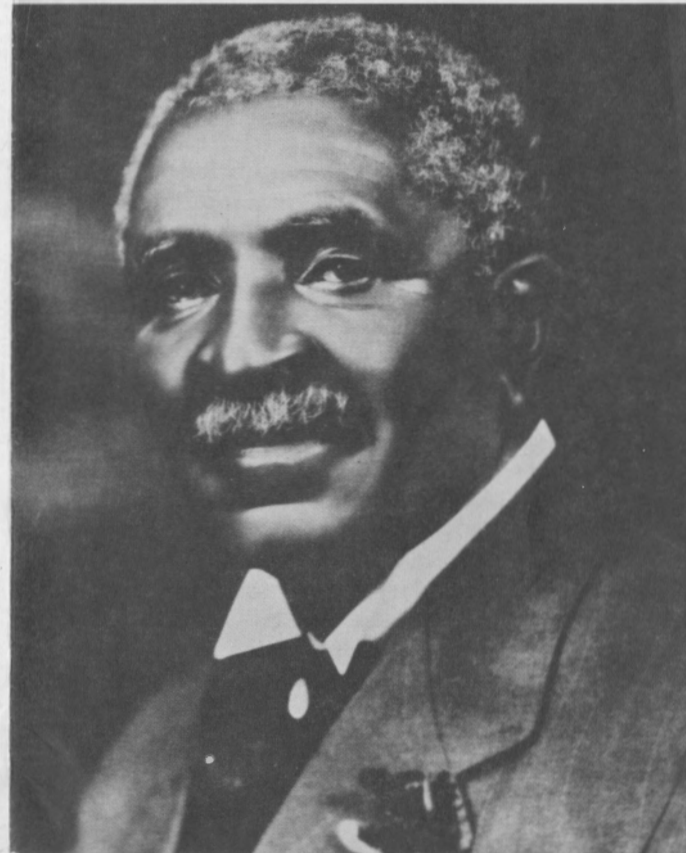
Washington, D. C.

* U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE : 1970 O-402-082

For sale by the Superintendent of Documents
U.S. Government Printing Office
Washington, D.C. 20402 - Price 10 cents

George Washington Carver

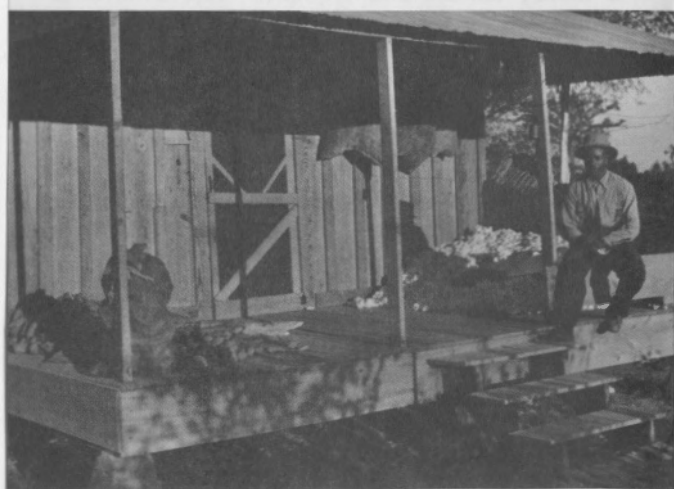
BY GEORGE TERRY SHARRER



soap, linoleum, medicinal oils, and cosmetics. From Alabama clays he derived paint pigments and face powder. His clay dye pigments became important during World War II when Germany cut off the supply of aniline dyes. From cotton waste and other native materials he made paving blocks, rope, a synthetic marble, insulating board, and scouring powder. He showed that agricultural products offered a wide variety of uses.

In January 1921, the United Peanut Association asked Professor Carver to appear in Washington before the House of Representatives Ways and Means Committee hearing on the forthcoming agricultural tariff. He accepted the offer and agreed to demonstrate his discoveries from the peanut. When Carver arrived, he found that the committee would allow him only ten minutes to say what he had come to say. He started the demonstration by showing how peanut powder mixed with water produced a cream indistinguishable from a dairy product. Then he showed dyes and stains. The committee chairman, Joseph W. Fordney, urged him to go on. For two hours Carver demonstrated vanishing cream, rubbing oils, a flour high in protein and low in carbohydrates for diabetics, and other peanut derivatives. He impressed the committee by showing them a way of escape from the cotton complex, which injured both landlords and

A Southern sharecropper



Tuskegee
Institute
about
1920



sharecroppers. When Congress approved the Fordney-McCumber tariff in the following year, it included a three- to four-cent duty on unshelled and shelled peanuts. Carver's demonstration helped to firmly establish the peanut industry.

He continued research and lecturing in chemistry and received recognition from many quarters. As early as 1916 the London Royal Society for the Encouragement of Arts, Manufactures, and Commerce had elected him a fellow of the Society. In 1921 the North Carolina Negro Farmers Congress awarded him a special trophy for distinguished scientific research. The following year, he received the Spingarn Medal for service to science from the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

As Carver experimented with various crops for food, he publicized his findings in the Experiment Station's bulletins. He produced a harvest of 265 bushels of sweet potatoes per acre—more than six times the usual yield. Having established what good farming could do in the field, he then explained how these foods could be used. He wrote *How to Grow the Cowpea and Forty Ways of Preparing It as a Table Delicacy* and *How to Grow the Peanut and 105 Ways of Preparing It for Human Consumption*. Few farmers raised any peanuts, and those who did had them only as treats for children. But Carver listed recipes for protein-rich peanut soups, cakes, mock chicken, veal, liver, sauces, and sausages. In other bulletins he listed ways of preparing dandelions, pokeweed, sour grass,

red and white clover, and milkweed as edible vegetables. In more than forty pamphlets, Carver told farmers how to use plants that normally were considered weeds. Landlords could not seriously object to the use of weeds for food, even under the old sharecropping system.

Although food products improved living standards for farmers, Carver knew that—because of the peculiar social and economic conditions of the South—cotton would continue as an important commercial crop. He experimented and improved local varieties and managed to produce an unprecedented yield of 500 pounds of cotton per acre. Carver explained that he had simply matched the needs of the plants with what the soil had to give—the results spoke for themselves. In this endeavor, at least, landlords could join tenants and sharecroppers, for all could obviously benefit.

During the Great Depression, from 1929 to about 1940, conditions in Southern agriculture grew increasingly worse. Banks foreclosed farms when owners failed to make mortgage payments. The bottom fell out of the cotton market, vindicating Carver's view that too many people in too small an area depended too much on this single crop of uncertain price. For years Carver had lectured on diversification as the foundation of the agricultural economy. Bad times caused others to heed his contention that everyone might benefit from crop diversification.

During the agricultural depression Carver had many opportunities to leave Tuskegee for more

lucrative and prestigious positions. Though flattered when asked by Thomas Edison to join his staff, Carver declined. In 1937 he met Henry Ford at the third Farm Chemurgic Council meeting in Dearborn, Michigan. The following year, Ford visited Tuskegee and offered to set up a special research laboratory if Carver would come to Dearborn. Carver declined even this attractive offer and remained with Tuskegee earning the same salary he received when he started in 1896. He accepted an appointment as collaborator with the Bureau of Plant Industry, United States Department of Agriculture, for work at Tuskegee in mycology and plant diseases. His talents lay primarily in plant science, and in that field he made a considerable contribution.

Still other awards came to Carver. In 1939 he received the Theodore Roosevelt medal for outstanding contributions to agriculture, and three years later the *Progressive Farmer* named him "Man of the Year in Southern Agriculture." Honor societies elected him to their membership and other organizations awarded him numerous certificates, plaques, and trophies for distinguished services in research and teaching. He received honorary degrees from his alma mater, Simpson College (1928), the University of Rochester (1941), and Selma University (1942).

On 5 January 1943, Carver died at his home in Tuskegee. Friends buried him on the campus near the grave of Booker T. Washington. Messages mourning his passing came from around the world, and President Roosevelt led the nation in paying him honor. In April, Senators Dewey Short and Harry S. Truman from Missouri introduced legislation creating the George Washington Carver National Monument in Diamond Grove, Missouri. Governors from seven states proclaimed the week of 5 January in the following year as "Carver Week" in his memory. Under President Truman the Post Office Department issued a commemorative postage stamp in honor of George Washington Carver which was first placed on sale 5 January 1948 at Tuskegee Institute.

Visitors to the Carver National Monument or the Carver Museum at Tuskegee Institute learn about the man's distinguished contributions as teacher, scientist, and humanitarian. For his stu-

dents, he left the legacy of practical that characterized his life. As a researcher he made numerous discoveries for common products for scarce resources. The industry, which hardly existed in 1896, grew directly as a result of Carver's work. To his fellow farmers—white and black—he offered services to improve their agricultural practices and their lives. Carver saw poverty's hand among sharecroppers in the South and among southerners in the Nation—and he cared for the poor to give his talents to solve their problems.

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George Washington Carver

BY GEORGE TERRY SHARRER

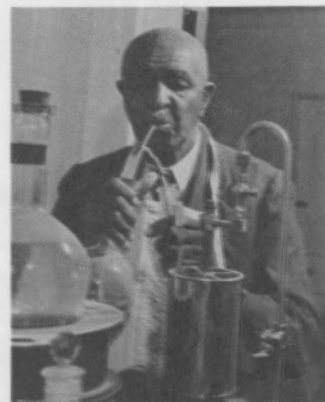
GEORGE WASHINGTON CARVER, scientist, teacher, and humanitarian strove throughout his life to ease the burdens of the poor in America. He saw that the poverty cycle of too little money, too little food, too little education, and too little income left its victims not only miserable and helpless, but often ignorant of the extent and hopelessness of their situation. Carver especially sought to correct rural poverty by showing Southern sharecroppers how improved production methods and different food crops could lessen their hardships, and on this same principle, he tried to help the South share more equally in the wealth of the nation.

Born a slave, sometime in 1860, on a small farm near Diamond Grove, Missouri, Carver knew poverty firsthand. His mother, Mary, belonged to Moses Carver. She named her baby George and, according to custom, gave him her master's surname. (He later chose Washington as his middle name.) The baby's father probably belonged to another nearby slaveowner; but that, like much of Carver's childhood, is uncertain. In 1863 or 1864 kidnappers stole Mary and her son and sold them to traders in Arkansas. Moses Carver tried to ransom his property, but succeeded in getting only the child in exchange for a good riding horse. George Carver never saw his mother or father again.

After the Civil War ended, even though legally free, George Carver stayed with his former master. Moses Carver took care of him until he reached school age. At that time, George went to live with a Negro couple, Andrew and Mariah Watkins, in Neosho, about eight miles from Diamond Grove. The Watkins sent him to elementary school, but since the town had no grades beyond that level, George had to move to Minneapolis, Kansas, to complete high school. He lived with friends of the Watkins, but made frequent trips back to Neosho to visit his beloved adopted family, whose kindness and religious inspiration he never forgot.

Before he had finished high school, George Carver knew his interests lay in botany and art, but in either field he needed still more education. After working several years and saving enough money for college tuition and expenses, he enrolled at Simpson College, in Indianola, Iowa, in 1890, determined to study art. He excelled in painting, especially still-life plant studies. With much encouragement from his teachers, George entered two canvases in the Chicago Columbian Exposition in 1893 and won an honorable mention for his "Yucca, Angustifolia, and Cactus." (The Luxemburg Galleries eventually showed his "Three Peaches" in Europe.) He might have well become an accomplished artist in either the United States or abroad, but he found other interests pushing him into plant science.

In 1891 Carver transferred from Simpson College to Iowa State Agricultural College in Ames,



Professor Carver
in his laboratory
at Tuskegee

where he studied botany and mycology under Professor Louis Pammel. Carver also took classes from Professors James Wilson and Henry C. Wallace, two future Secretaries of Agriculture. He completed requirements in agriculture at Iowa State in 1894 and graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree. For the next two years, he remained at the college and worked as Assistant Station Botanist, while completing the requirements for a Master of Science in agriculture.

Well before completing his graduate work at Iowa State, Carver received offers to teach. The Alcorn Agricultural and Mechanical College in Mississippi asked him to join their faculty, among others, but he postponed all offers until he completed his studies. In 1896 Booker T. Washington asked him to serve as director of the newly formed Department of Agriculture at the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute in Alabama. The position paid fifteen hundred dollars a year and Carver immediately accepted. In a letter to Booker T. Washington, he observed that although work in art and research could benefit his people, teaching offered the best opportunity to help the greatest number. Shortly after he joined the faculty at Tuskegee, the Alabama legislature designated the school an Agricultural Research Station. Carver assumed the job of director, in addition to his teaching duties. For more than forty years, Professor Carver taught at the Institute and managed the research station at Tuskegee.

When Carver organized the school's Department of Agriculture, he began with practically nothing. The college had no funds for laboratory equipment or agricultural implements, so he simply had to make do with what he could scavenge. He and the thirteen students in his first class collected old jars, boxes, and pots from the school dump. Teacups became mortars, jam jars made beakers and retorts, discarded kerosene lamps served as Bunsen burners. The amazed students learned from their professor how to make scientific equipment from junk. This resourcefulness, making useful the seemingly useless, marked his entire career. Neither Carver nor Tuskegee had the resources available to most other scientists and institutions of learning.

The work load of a typical day at Tuskegee



Carver's alma mater -- Iowa State College of
Agriculture and Mechanic Arts. Circa 1895

would have dismayed most college teachers. Carver wrote "today my classes run thus: from 8:00 to 9:00, agricultural chemistry; 9:20 to 10:00, the foundation and harmony of color to the painters; 10:00 to 11:00, class of farmers; and one period more in the afternoon. In addition to this I must try—and rather imperfectly—to overlook seven industrial classes scattered here and there over the grounds. I must test all the seed, examine all the fertilizer based upon the examination of the soil of the different plots. I must also personally look after every operation of the experiment station. I must endeavor to keep the poultry yard straight. In addition to the above I must daily inspect 104 cows that have been inoculated, looking carefully over the temperature of each one, making comparisons and prescribing whatever is necessary, besides looking after the sickness of other animals."

Carver's various plots covered twenty campus acres that the college allowed him for practical

demonstrations for students and local farmers. He taught that better farm products could be produced "doing common things uncommonly well." He showed the value of fertilizer and urged that farmers could not buy chemicals to make money. Cotton culture produced little animal product, one made do.

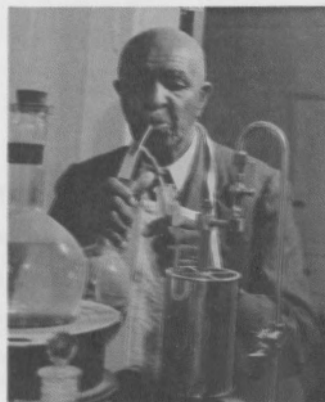
During his life Carver taught and mentored a long line of first-class scientists and farmers. Among those in his first class were students who remained at Tuskegee after graduation, teaching and continuing further research. Thomas Cambell, who learned his horticulture at Tuskegee and became the first African American agent in the United States Department of Agriculture. Many other students came to Tuskegee, and Professor Carver's influence spread far from Tuskegee—and for a long period.

Through the Research Station Extension, Carver directly tried to help poor farmers

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During his life Carver taught and sent forth a long line of first-class scientists and teachers. Among those in his first class were J. H. Palmer, who remained at Tuskegee after graduating—teaching and continuing further research—and Thomas Cambell, who learned his basic agriculture at Tuskegee and became the first Negro field agent in the United States Department of Agriculture. Many other students came after that first class, and Professor Carver's influence radiated far from Tuskegee—and for a long period of time.

Through the Research Station Extension Service, Carver directly tried to help poor farm families in

Alabama and throughout the South. He insisted that cotton, the area's major cash crop, depleted soil fertility and resulted in diminishing returns for farmers who grew it year after year. The sharecropping system, based on cotton production, tended to keep families dependent on the landlord and the country store. When the boll weevil added still more misery to cotton farming, poverty deepened throughout the South. Carver believed that this poverty could end if sharecroppers would grow high-protein foods. Peanuts, cowpeas, and soybeans, since they belonged to the legume family, would not rob the soil of nitrogen. Unlike cotton, they actually helped maintain soil fertility and, furthermore, provided the proteins essential for better health.

When cotton prices fell, farmers could do little except sell their crop at a loss. If peanut or soybean prices fell too low, farm families could either eat the harvest or feed it to livestock. In this way, food crops could nourish the families and at the same time reduce their dependence on the landlord and the country store. In order to make the shift to food crops attractive to land owners, however, Carver had to show that their cultivation could generally be profitable. Otherwise no change could be expected in crop patterns.

Besides freeing the sharecroppers from the tyranny of cotton culture, less dependence on cotton offered other results. Carver knew that diversification in Southern agriculture was possible only if money lenders and landlords were assured of profits which more than compensated them for their loss of power over the labor force. As early as 1896, therefore, Carver had been working on what came to be known as chemurgy, or the science of finding non-agricultural uses for farm products. Many scientists looked for industrial products from agriculture; they formed the "chemurgic" movement. William J. Hale's books, *Chemistry Triumphant* (1932) and *The Farm Chemurgic* (1934), popularized what Carver had long preached.

Carver's chemurgic discoveries formed an impressive list. He found that sweet potatoes—in addition to their value as food crops—could yield vinegar, ink, a synthetic rubber, and postage stamp glue. From peanuts he made plastics, wood stains,