

Jones sang before President Harrison in 1892 and completed a successful European tour in 1893. Upon her return, she formed Black Patti's Troubadours with whom she sang operatic arias and enjoyed continuous acclaim until her retirement from the concert stage in 1910.

During the almost four decades that eclipsed the period from the end of the Civil War to the Twentieth Century, we have seen that the Black musician's talents encompassed the broad spectrum of musicianship from the harmonies of simple folk music to the complexities of classical scores.

During the latter third of the century were born composers who have come to be called Black Nationalists, chiefly because Black folk music became their *raison d'etre*. Although most were well-trained at various schools of music or conservatories and knew well how to write or perform in the traditional (i.e. classical) style, (and often did so in order to support themselves) they consciously drew upon their heritage in their compositions.



HARRY T. BURLEIGH

HARRY THACKER BURLEIGH (1866 - 1949) was the grandson of a runaway slave who was blinded in slavery but fled north with his wife and family. Their destination was Canada, but the imminent birth of a daughter (Harry's mother) caused them to settle in Erie, Pennsylvania.

As a child, Harry led his grandfather on the latter's rounds as a lamplighter, all the while listening to his grandparent's plantation stories and songs. In school, he exhibited a good voice and ear, but it was not until his mother's employer noticed his avid interest in music that his abilities were encouraged.

He sang in Church Choirs and it was at the age of twenty-six that his formal music education began with a scholarship to the National Conservatory of Music in New York. He came to the attention of Antonin Dvorak, a Czech composer, who taught at the Conservatory, and was through Burleigh that Dvorak composed his *New World Symphony*, for Harry sang and played spirituals for the Czech composer.

In 1894, his career as a singer began in earnest when he applied for and received the position of baritone soloist at St. George's Episcopal Church in New York. He became the soloist at Temple Enanu-El in New York in 1900. He also taught voice at the Conservatory in his senior year.

After completing his studies, he began concertizing in the states and Europe. The tour included a command performance before King Edward VII. The last two years of the century found Burleigh beginning to compose ballads and a position as music editor for G.

Ricordi and Company in New York allowed him the freedom to write.

Burleigh is perhaps best known for his arrangements of spirituals for concert singers. *Deep River* was arranged and published in 1917, and has been performed by artists for decades. He wrote about his arrangement of spirituals: "My desire was to persevere them in harmonies that belong to modern methods of tonal progression without robbing the melodies of their racial flavor."

His compositions total more than 250. Among the

ballads were: *The Prayer, Little Mother of Mine, Dear Old Pal of Mine, Just You, Under A Blazing Star, and The Great Somewhere*. He set poems to music: Robert Burns' Johnson's *The Young Warrior*, and Walt Whitman's *Ethiopia Saluting The Colors*. He wrote for solo, quartets, and choruses and composed for minstrel troupes.

Honors, such as the Springarn Achievement Medal (1917) a masters degree from Atlanta University and a Doctor of Music from Howard, were awarded Burleigh. He was a charter member of ASCAP.

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THE MOORE ST. COMMUNITY CENTER ADVISORY COUNCIL Pays Tribute to: Pastor Edgar Jackson

1895- 1972

Pastor Edgar L. Jackson was born in Martin Ferry, Ohio on September 16, 1895. He departed this life April 4, 1972. He came to Portland, Oregon in 1945. He was Pastor at All Nations Nazarene Church for 14 years, after which he became Pastor of All Nations Community Church for 7 years, without salary and suffering many times in order to help other people.

Pastor Edgar L. Jackson lived his Christian life by serving God through serving his neighbors. He was instrumental in serving with many Community Organizations long before government programs began. He was found trying to meet the needs of those who were less fortunate than he. He not only wore a suit on Sunday, but often times found himself in coveralls, helping to meet needs where he found them.

He served on the original War on Poverty Committee, on the Model Cities Committee, Metropolitan Steering Committee, Police Community Relations, Elliot Neighborhood Community Association and he served as Secretary for the Albina Ministerial Alliance. He was instrumental in getting the first Black man hired in the Fred Meyer Corporation.

His life touched the lives of not only those



who were members of his church, but also the common man on the street. He served for 4 years on the Welfare Commission, but also touched the lives of City Commissioners, Mayors, Governors and Senators.

Rev. Jackson was very dedicated to the Adult Senior Citizens Program. He was the originator and helped to organize this program and then served as Director of the Handy Man Department after it was organized. It was through his efforts that many Senior Citizens are receiving Outreach Counseling, Food, Care and Jobs through this program. He also helped to organize Life Center which is still serving the needs of People in this area.



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