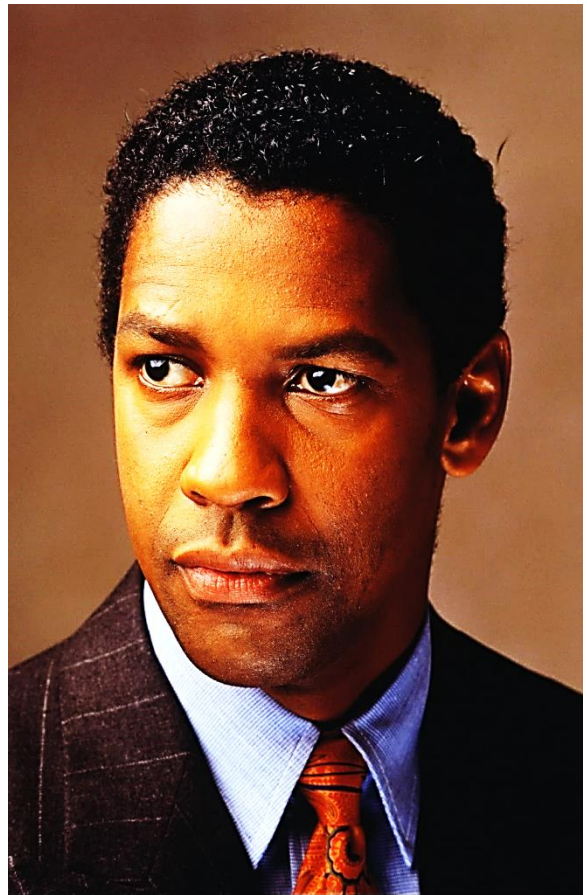


RONDOUT  LADIES

INTO THE SKY!

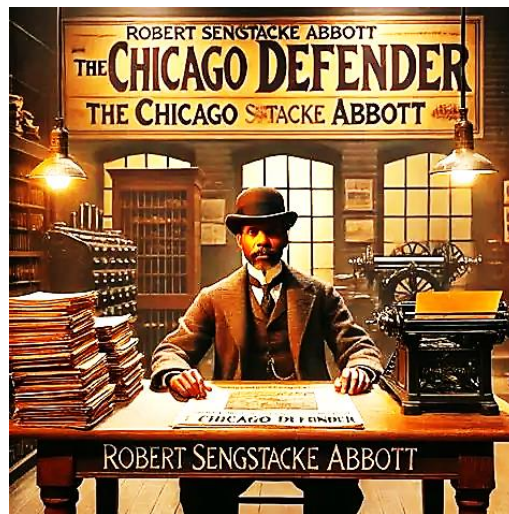
PART TWO



THE
Chicago Defender
WORLD'S GREATEST WEEKLY



ZENDAYA COLEMAN AS BESSIE COLEMAN



DENZEL WASHINGTON AS PHILLIP ABBOTT

PLUS AN ALL-STAR SUPPORTING CAST

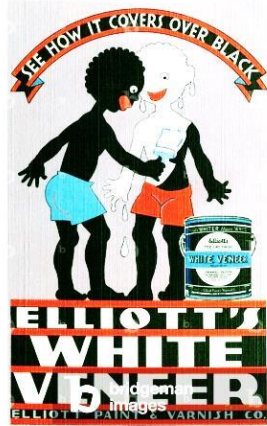


WRITTEN & PRODUCED BY KEVIN AHEARN

6/26 'INTO The SKY! 2' is legend
All references to actual persons, alive
or dead, made for a good story.

JIM CROW

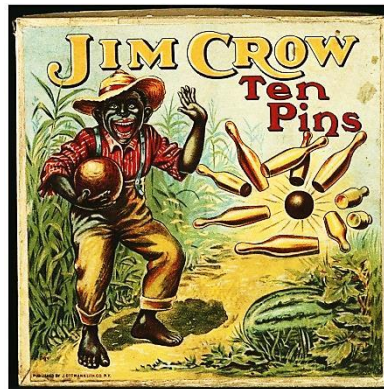
"Lights, camera, prejudice!"

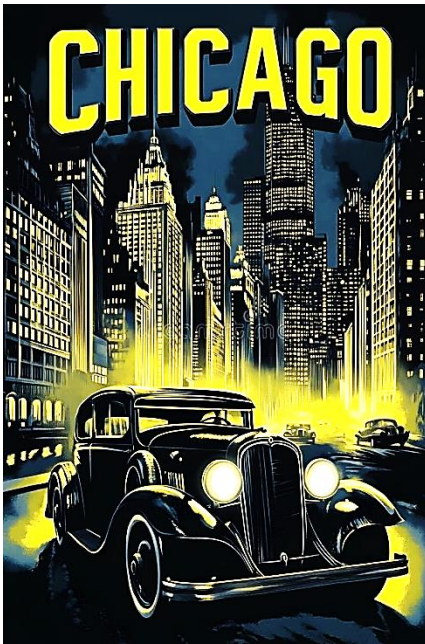


"Pickin' cotton, cleanin' clothes or makin' them. Opportunities end there, uppity nobody!"

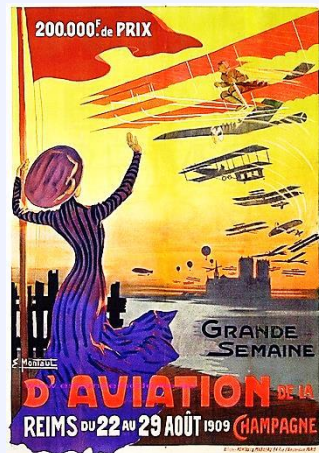
"I am going to fly, the first of the Race to do so!"

"A Nigga-woman fly? And after dear Bessie takes to the sky, an elephant will!"

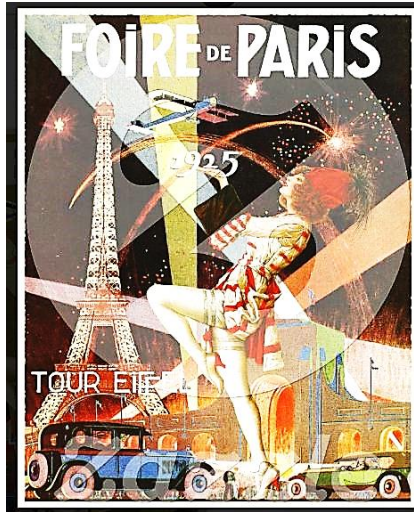




1920



“My ‘Windy City’ may be a dream come true for millions, but not me! Mine is way up high and won’t come true till I leave Chicago far behind,,and far below!”



“That silly flying dream of our favorite Texan nail-clipper persists!”

“But she’s got to get first to France. Foolish frogs, they’ve yet to find out how they are!”

“Look! She’s all spruced up. A job interview?”

“Somebody to look pretty and clean the toilets!”



“From here, my dream has got to take off!”

THE Chicago Defender

WORLD'S GREATEST WEEKLY

The very center of the Black American Universe! Word has it that Mr. Robert Abbott's office had an 'Open Door Policy'



EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

But would he be upset that a lowly manicurist thought she deserved a few minutes of his time? I entered his office praying he wouldn't throw me out!



"Miss Elizabeth Coleman, hardest working young woman in all of Chicago! Please, have a seat and tell me how I may help you."



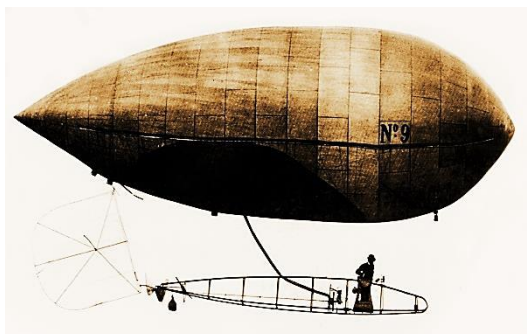
"Thank you, Mr. Abbott. I want to fly! The airplane is the future and the black race must be part of it!"



"A noble quest, Bessie. What have you accomplished so far?"

"Nothing! I applied to very flight school in America...REJECTED!"

"My borthers said France..."

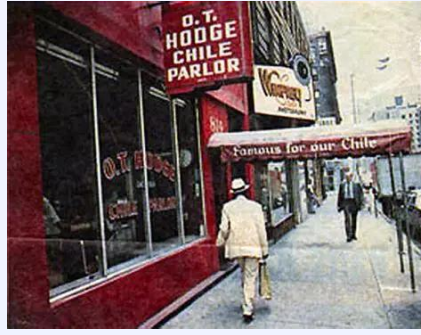
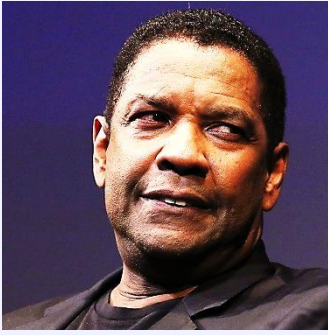


"Ah, France, the 'Cradle of Aviation'! More that a hundred years before the Wright Brothers took off, the French were flying high."

"And France has flight schools for everybody, including women and blacks!"

"I see. So you want to go to France to be the first black woman to earn an international pilot's licence?"

"Exactly. And then open my own flight school for women of every color!"



"On a manicurist's pay?"

"Well, Mr. Abbott, I..."

"An old friend is opening a chili parlor on State Street. You're honest and hardworking...do you want the job?"

"Oh, yes, YES!"

"And you'll have to learn to speak, read and write French!"

"I'll work very hard to do all three."

"There's a certified language school on Wabash Avenue. Five nights a week. Your pay increase should cover it."

"Yes, Mr. Abbott. But... WHY?"

80 million speakers	french is spoken all over the world	learn some french!
2 ND most spoken language in the eu		hello / bonjour goodbye / au revoir how are you? / quel de neuf? university / université i'm hungry / j'ai faim i'm tired / je suis fatigué
29 th # of countries with the official language in french		♥ french
3 RD most useful language in business	french is one of the six languages of the u.n.	is part of the romance language family along with french, spanish and portuguese
100 million students study french in the world	LA LANGUE FRANÇAISE the french language	

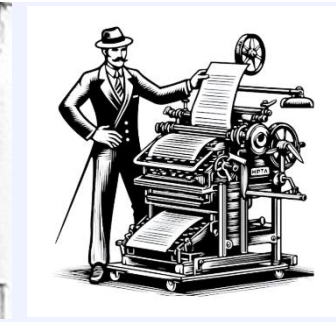


"It's a damn black conspiracy! We know how They are!"

"Sweet innocent pickaninny and a dirty old man!"

"Where we come from, that's 'lynch-worthy!'"

"And serve the eager audience American apple pie!"



“THE WORLD’S GREATEST WEEKLY”



“Miss Bessie Coleman, let us understand each other. I am a newspaper man and I always will be. And I see beyond pretty, young, light-skinned woman.

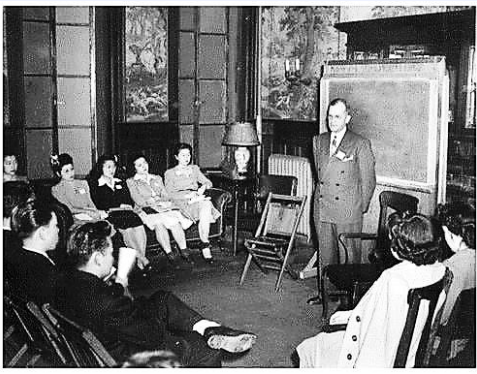
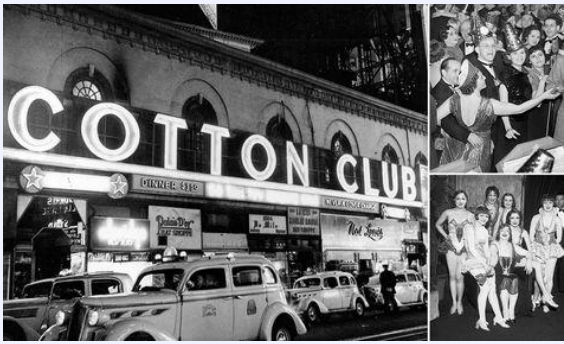
“You could be...a story!”

“You run that Chili Joint and really learn French. Then you go to France and against insurmountable odds, you earn an international Pilot’s Licence, and you will be bigger than a black story, but a “Red-White-And Blue” story whether America likes it or not!”

I was stunned, speechless. The most important man in Chicago believes in me! I can amount to something!

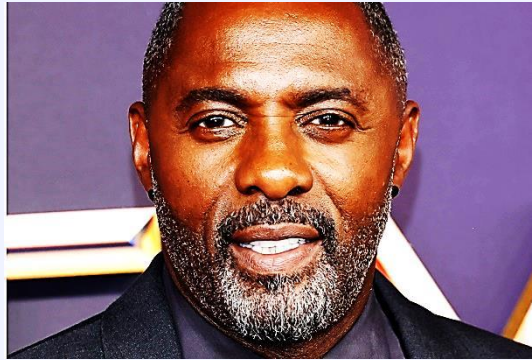


Chicago in the "Roaring Twenties"!



"And my life is roaring like never ever before!"

Six days a week, I get up before the sun, wash up, get dressed then catch a nickle bus to my chili joint, but only when it's raining. (Got to save evry penny!)



“Bessie, you’re the best! Your staff, the customeres, they love you. You’re a great manager! You’ve got a job here for life!”

My other “life” was at night school to learn French!

I only had to walk a mile to get there, but every time I felt like I was crossing the ocean. And that can't come soon enough!



“Parler, lire et écrire le français ne suffit pas!”

“Le français est une langue que vous devez ressentir !”

Mathematics and language – two subjects miles apart. Numbers are cold and still; words are alive. French is a living thing and the more I learn, I can feel it building up inside of me, longing to break out to be heard and respected!

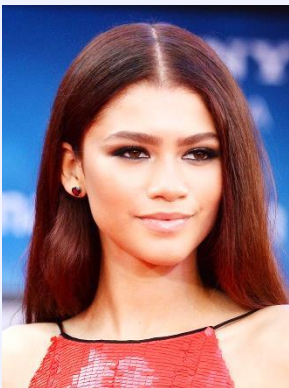


“Each day would drag, but the weeks went fast and the months flew by and finally I took my final French exams, oral and written and passed with flying colors indeed!

“Been promoted to a whole new school!”



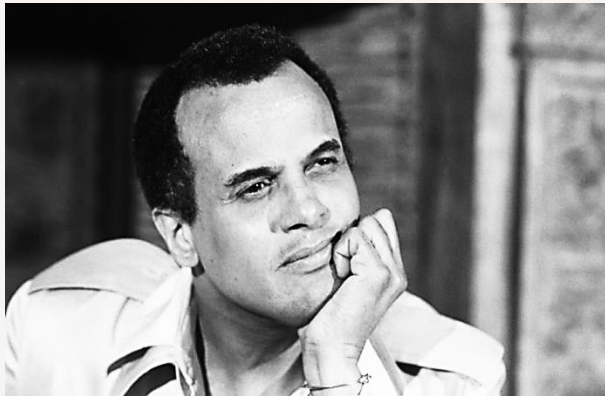
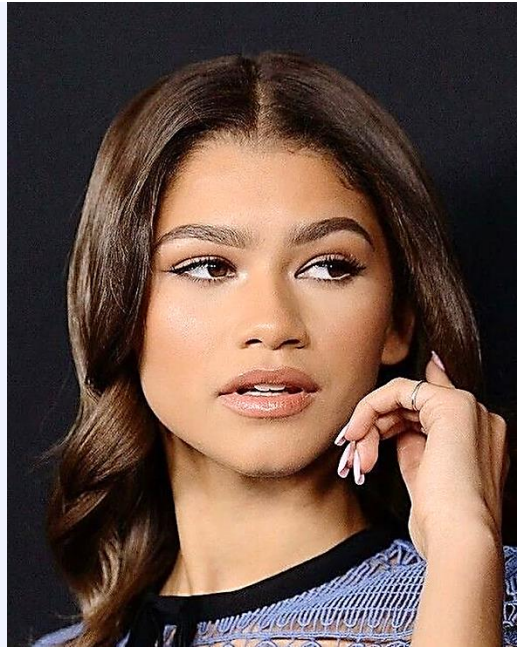
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF



“Miss Bessie Coleman, our 23-year old former cotton picker, manucurist, and chili joint manager... our investment in her education, transportation plus her room and board has born its first roots!

“This historic afternoon. Miss Coleman will take the New York Central to the Big City. And from there, a ship to France and flight school.

“Bessie Coleman will be the first colored woman to fly!”



“Our naïve former cotton picker off to another another world. God, how I envy her!”

“Really? That flight school she’s attending... students don’t just drop out – They crash, burn and die! What then?”





“Learn to fly? She’s never driven a car or ridden a horse! Not a chance!”

“Can’t wait to see her fail! No parachutes, please!”



“Bessie Coleman is a metaphor for the Race, rising up in this new ‘Air Age”!

“Let us celebrate her every step up! She’s the best of us since Sojourner Truth!”

“THE WORLD’S GREATEST WEEKLY”



“Gentlemen, when our ‘investment’ succeeds, and I have no doubt that she will, hers is not about the struggles of a lone colored woman and the persistant maltreatment of our race....

“No, this is about a determined woman who despite insurmountable odds and coast-to-coast rejection, stepped up and out to achieve her dream!

“Miss Bessie Coleman is...an American story!”

DEARBORN STATION (ALSO CALLED POLK STREET STATION)

My “investors” had arranged everything – transportation, housing, everything except how to say good-bye to my family.



“I’m not just taking a train to New York, and then a ship to France, I’ll soon be taking the Race into the sky!”



“Fly high. Fly right!”

“All the Race will be flying with you!”

“Bon voyage!”

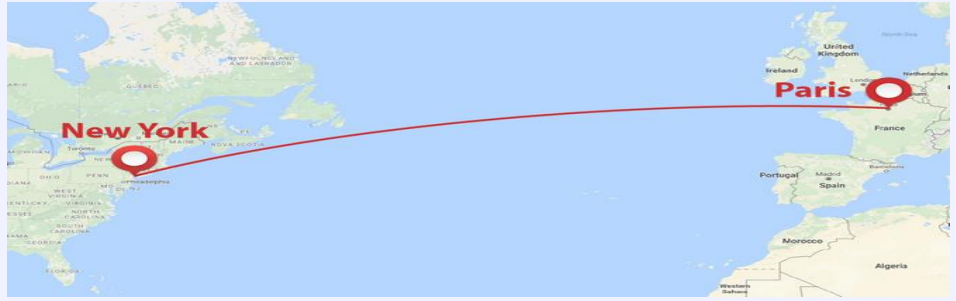
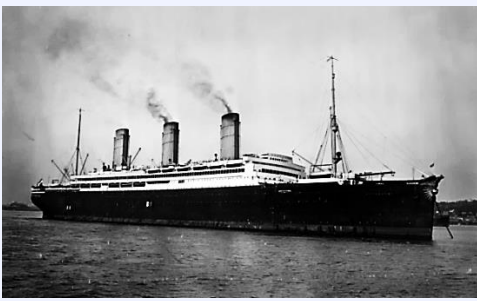


Riding the rails to the big city, I wondered how soon it would be that more people would be flying to New York than taking the train. Aviation was the future and the Race had to play a part in it!

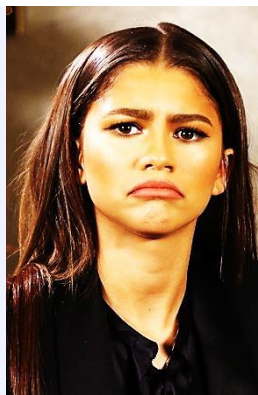


“So she learned French, and then she’ll fly...right into the ground!”

One needs two things to qualify as a pilot,, White Parents!”



My first trip on a boat going anywhere. I got seasick, then diarrhea. Every day was a torture. I was ready to quit, almost jumped overboard!



“The I thought of where my ancestors had come from and that so many had died horrible deaths even before they had become slaves!

“Not me. I’m going the opposite way to achieve a glorious freedom no colored woman has ever known...”



“This daughter of sharecroppers and a former cottonpicker...is going to fly!”



“Not a chance, tarbaby!”



“And after Miss Bessie crashes, burns and dies, no whites or blacks will remember her name!”



“You foolish birds sure about that or are you counting your crows before they hatch?”

(To be continued)

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