## Wenona Grace Robinson 1908

BLACK HISTORY



Bermuda, S.S. "Bermudian" passing through "Two Rock" passage.

#### Travel from Bermuda to Albert College

Wenona sailed from Hamilton Bermuda on the S. S. Bermudian. She arrived at the Port of New York August 25, 1905, aged 14. Her destination was "New York on route to Toronto Canada". Her twoday passage was paid by her father Samuel David Robinson. She carried over \$50 on her person. **1906-1908**—Wenona was a student at Albert

College in Belleville, Ontario, where she graduated with a diploma in speech.





#### 1906 Albert College Commercial Students

Wenona Grace Robinson in front and her sister Annie Pauline Robinson at the end of the middle row on the right side.

Quote — "This is a plea for good clear speaking—oh we do murder the English language, which is one of the most beautiful, most musical languages in the world when well spoken. Yes, pronunciation, lessons in clear reading and good speaking should be taught in every school." — Wenona Robinson

#### Fun Facts about Albert in 1906

Albert Tuition – the school year consists of 4 terms of ten weeks each – cost per course was  $\sim$  \$10 / term

Residence – was \$27.50 per term of ten weeks – rooms were neatly furnished, and each room was provided with an electric light and steam radiator.

					-	-		AIFESTED.	_	List G	2
2 . 15	ST OP MANIFEST (	DE ALTEN DASSE					100.001	OFFICER AT PORT OF	DDIVAL		1
29 11	of or annui Lor o	A ALIEN LAGOL	MULICOTO	K THE U	. 5. 101	mon	artion	OFFICER AT FORT OF 2	INNIVAL		1 10
Required by the reg	julations of the Secretary of Com	merce and Labor of the Unit	ted States, under /	Act of Congres	s approved	March 3	1903 to	be delivered to the U.S. Immigration O	flicer by the Co	mmanding	6
	4	Officer of any vessel h	having such passer	engers on board	d upon arris	al at a po	ort in the l	United -States.		135	1
2	S. S. Barnen dem	tailing from Maa	milles Forman	0. fog 23	1905 A	mining a	t Port of	marford aug 25th, 19	05	7.04	1
1.										н н	
No	Age Moriel Colog All In Mar. Sugh Despation Fuel	No to - Record to. General data - Namero Progra		The functions when the functions with the function of the func- tion of the o	a find prompt paint		Mather new University Default Balan and Paul	Whether points to job a relative or filesh, and if us, adult whether or filesh, and the name and complete address.	Anter Water		Grantel
himina Robins	. 1	Bernanda afriga	~ a *	newsfort.	bath	ner	le	4 5 M Sain the			-
		eque Ordies. Talas					40	sold from Couche	to to L	he book	ho
2 Marie Dosting	3 a a Stating		d Corrende	- 1º 1	+ all	ner	++++++			4 and	1.
	, and my house the	The Brilie English	Cormada)	Brukert .	2. Lachers		al AU	Garantur Cotto	4 10 10	the Good	*
. alongo Venist	in 19 the perpadente.	no Quities Euglis	a commany	M. Pert		1247	Fring	of all alt the parton	how we	no stra	- a
sharek quieto	m t g & some the	The childen ungha	an identities	Bills of			12th	With great way by the	to ter to		
· Shulles Talbos		yo Quelich English	a comuna	amer he		ner	( iget	hidgo.	hourse		ter,
James Stone		ogo British Engliss	in Germada	these for	1 well	m	2354	Maine that	he to the		
" Grmand guil	1 37 N J Bleek the	upor Intica Suglia		ALLOWITH !	sell	nor	1992	homaley and smaker forth	to to the	ter Good	ko
Ane Timunghe	and mis status the	you Jukin higher	in Mature :	Autor y	all	our	19ist	many of the strent	to to to	no ber	1 40
Janus Harnett	37 A J Sugar The	19. British English	Chillero C	chighto 14	+ Sell	1141	7sty Auro	Palace Sent	As As the	to Greek	he
" budly Holles		194 Busin Euglis	a Bund	here for g	a self	nu	Thursday		he up la	to Greek	1 ho
12 adelie handy			& Semede	Rucht 1	6 selly	our	The star	my Rugueters Burnham	he he he		
1 hillian louns		you Quitina English		Baltimore to	e sell	1151	the with	16 23 Narleen are	the tay to		
" Cinest hattanche		194 - Butien Enclis		Hotoren 1	a sell	cun	gesty.		he as no		ant
. Eunas Valia	B & a same the	op Sulian Buffers		Arthon the		0191	They	of Bredities Litter to	loto to .		
" Edita Trott		w But of "Etca		hen yothing yo			1.1.4		Euroner		
v Requald apples	is fit nome yo					Over	4 my	To Harry . Catholige			
			4 Kermunder he		to sell		4xx	10 B Kelling Roy	ho to to		
" Shippen Milkins		4 94 Bretin Emples	A Romak				disn	hen gill At hurdent	ho the he		
" Theodor Mellin				Smolant /	severy	0000	se nor				
n alexander Doope		y Balach Inglest			4. all	and	ut the	13 Walnut Race London by	hourse	ter grad	teo .
21 Mary Higenboth				Bleethery		ousi	1. Stery	differ here "	to to to		
2 William Boyle			6 lanna h			tve/	1596	306 Prospect Blace	harvered		
		to Stepish Super				mer	19in	201 Brochlat Clear	he he he		
» makel meale	la to 1 a some to	44 Eschier high	in Sermute	I worth yo the go	in sell	nu	yor Kay	Browning Ally 1.9.	to teo to		
2 George Buchop	47 An anistrential yes	yes trates long link	i tamal	Beels here 4	to sig	our	Amoos	Barton Hunes	hereno	the going	1
2 Burnings Cha					11		1			4	£
2 Burbridge Mis				1	n						
a Bur ways be.			-11/1	1	/						
a Bird Harry	E H - M M Cour Mur 4		15/6	N	1					1	
	10 46 7 24 Ann p		-101	1					1997		

#### Wenona's Life Story

Wenona Robinson was an elocutionist who took her training in public speaking on stage and into the classroom.

Wenona was the first captain of the Second Excelsior Girl Guide Company. It was Bermuda's second black Girl Guide Company, formed in response to growing demand, around 1935 — Wenona would stay involved until the early 60s.

Wenona's sister Agnes May founded the Sunshine League. This family centre endeavored to provide services that demonstrated care and concern for children. Wenona served under Agnes May as president, as a member of the League's first committee of management and its treasurer for 28 years.

Robinson was a member of the Bermuda Civic and Political Association. In 1944 women won the right to vote – this association was formed to help get women elected to Parliament.

She also ran the School of Expression, a speech school. She gave "courses of study" to children and adults in vocal expression, physical expression and mental expression.

In 1945, she became the first speech teacher at Central School (now Victor Scott), remaining on staff until her retirement in 1955.

World History 1905 - 1907

1905

June 30 » Albert Einstein publishes the article in which he introduces special relativity.

July 5 » Black residents of Nashville boycott streetcars to show their disdain for racial segregation. 1906

April 7 » Mount Vesuvius erupts and devastates Naples. May 22 » The Wright brothers are granted U.S. patent for their

"Airplane or Flying-Machine". Sept. 18 » A typhoon with tsunami kills > 10,000 people in Hong Kong.

Sept 22 » Atlanta Georgia Riot

Nov. 9 » US President Theodore Roosevelt inspects the progress on the Panama Canal.

Dec 4 » Seven African American Cornell University students establish the Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity – it is the first college fraternity for Black men in the U.S. 1907

Jan. 14 » An earthquake in Kingston, Jamaica kills more than 1,000.

1907 – Madam C.J. Walker, a washerwoman, will become a famous entrepreneur who revolutionizes the hair care and cosmetics industry for Black women, and one of the first Black American women to become a self-made millionaire. 1908

Jan 12 » A long-distance radio message is sent from the Eiffel Tower for the first time.

**Oct 1** » Ford Motor Company puts the Ford Model T on the market at a price of US\$825.

**Dec. 28** » A magnitude 7.2 earthquake rocks Messina, Sicily, Italy killing over 75,000.

# Wenona Grace Robinson 1908

Bermuda, S.S. "Bermudian" passing through "Two Rock" passage.





### Travel to Albert College

Wenona sailed from Hamilton Bermuda on the S. S. Bermudian. She arrived at the Port of New York August 25, 1905, aged 14. Her destination was "New York on route to Toronto Canada". Her two-day passage was paid by her father Samuel David Robinson. She carried over \$50 on her person. **1906-1908**—Wenona was a student at Albert College in Belleville, Ontario, where she graduated with a diploma in speech.

After two years at Albert College, Wenona returned to Bermuda and became a respected teacher, charity worker, women's rights advocate and Girl Guide leader.