

Pioneer Texan  
Dies At Home

All The News  
Without  
Fear or Favor

HOU

20TH. YEAR - NO. 41

## Pioneer Texan Dies At Home

HOUSTON -- Mrs. Jessie Covington-Dent, noted pianist and the wife of Dr. Albert Dent, president of Dillard University, arrived in Houston Thursday to accompany her aged and gracious mother, Mrs. Jennie Bell Covington, to attend the centennial of Antioch Baptist Church, but when she and members of the family assemble at the historic church Tuesday at 2:30 p.m. of this week, it will be to attend funeral services for Mrs. Covington.

Mrs. Covington died at her 2219 Dowling St. home Saturday, Oct. 8, and was scheduled to be funeralized from her beloved Antioch, where she and her late husband, Dr.



MRS. COVINGTON

Benjamin Jesse Covington, served faithfully for many years.

Mrs. Covington's death came as a complete shock to the city despite her age. She had played a noble role in contributing funds and hard physical effort in helping to develop some of the city's noteworthy and beneficial projects.

The Covingtons were regarded as a top domestic team. While Mrs. Covington was busy helping in the advancement of womanhood, Dr. Covington was busy serving the city's sick and establishing a niche for the Negro doctors that were to follow. He died at approximately 90 or more years of age.

The Covingtons came to Houston in 1903, and for half a century their home was a focal point not only for medical endeavors but also for educational, cultural, religious, and community-oriented efforts for a better life for Houston's Negro community and for the community as a whole.

Over the years Mrs. Covington served as hostess to many whose names are nationally known. Booker T. Washington, Marian Anderson, Roland Hayes, and others of equal renown stayed with the Covingtons when hotel facilities were not available. It was Mrs. Covington who brought Marian Anderson to Houston for her first concert here.

Mrs. Covington was long active in YWCA work. She was one of the founders and the first Chairman of the Board of the Blue Triangle YWCA, carrying this in-

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The Tuesday, Houston Informer,  
Tuesday, October 11, 1966

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Mrs. Covington was long active in YWCA work. She was one of the founders and the first Chairman of the Board of the Blue Triangle YWCA. Carrying this interest into city-wide and state programs, she participated in many interracial activities designed toward the improvement of racial relations.

Of unusual significance as we look back on her career was her leadership in the development of a home for girls, improved hospital facilities, and such other projects as are today known as community action programs. In recent years she received many honors in recognition of her services to various organizations.

Mrs. Covington was active in the Antioch Church for many years. She was well known for her activity in the YWCA Garden Club, and her own yard reflected the pride which she always maintained in her flowers. Scarcely 24 hours before her death she was seen trimming rose bushes in her garden.

She is survived by an only child, Mrs. Jessie Covington Dent; three grandsons and two great-granddaughters; one brother and two sisters.

Mrs. Covington's body lay in state at Fairchild-Purnell Mortuary from 7 - 9 p.m. Monday, Oct. 10; and will lie in state at Antioch from 1 - 2:30 p.m. Tuesday.

Prior to their Antioch membership, the Covingtons are accredited with having helped develop Beulah Baptist Church.