

Judge William A. Smith to Senator Arthur Capper

In this letter to Senator Capper, Judge William A. Smith of the Kansas Supreme Court informs Capper that Miss Majorie Bradshaw of Topeka, Kansas, was offered a job with the Civil Service in Washington D.C. and, when she arrived, was kept from taking the job because they discovered that she was an African American.

Creator: Smith, William A.

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CHAMBERS OF
WILLIAM A. SMITH
JUSTICE

THE SUPREME COURT
OF THE
STATE OF KANSAS
—
TOPEKA

January 12, 1942

Honorable Arthur Capper,
United States Senator,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Senator Capper:

I am writing you about the welfare of Miss Marjorie Bradshaw, a colored girl, who is a sister of Clarence Bradshaw, who worked in Alf Landon's office when he was governor and who now works for the highway commission.

Marjorie was a school teacher and was on the faculty of some negro school in Tennessee. It seems as though within recent months she took a civil service examination and passed it. She was placed on the eligible list and some weeks ago was called back to Washington to take a job in the war department.

Clarence advises me that when she reached Washington they told her that they did not know she was a negress and that they had no place for her at that time and she should wait and see if they could not find a place for her. He tells me that she has waited for some time now and they keep putting her off from day to day. He tells me also that there are a number of young colored girls who are beginning to get quite worried about their future at Washington and who also passed the examination.

Clarence called me and asked me to write you because I have been his father confessor and friend through the years.

His sister is a fine girl, not bumptious or overbearing at all, but well educated and refined.

If you could use your good office to help her get located you would be doing a worthwhile

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thing.

Her address at Washington is 68
"Q" Street, Northwest, Washington, D. C.

I know you will do whatever you can
for her.

WAS:H

Very truly yours,

