

Name: _____

Date: _____

Robert Sengstacke Abbott

Robert Sengstacke Abbott was born on December 24, 1870, in Georgia. His parents were slaves. He became a lawyer in 1899.

In May of 1905, he started writing for the *Chicago Defender*, a newspaper. He would go door-to-door selling the paper. The paper spoke about racial injustice, especially in the Southern states where slavery was still active.

He encouraged slaves to move north and used the railroad to transport his paper to the Southern states. The paper was banned from many of the states but he kept sending it there for the African Americans to read.

He would publish articles about freedom, job openings that were available, and even included the train schedule so people could leave. At the paper's highest point, it is estimated that nearly 500,000 people were reading it.

Robert became one of the first African American millionaires when the paper became so popular and advertising was growing. Robert died in 1940. The *Chicago Defender* is still in publication in an online format.

Who is this passage about?

What is he famous for?

What did he do to help other African Americans?

