



Mrs. Beulah West Johnson, Chief Clerk at the Frederick Douglass Senior-Junior High School, was born in Annapolis, Md., daughter of the late William and Kate West. She was reared and educated in this city, Baltimore, her parents having settled here when she was but an infant.

Mrs. Johnson, from the offset, was an unusually bright, energetic and conscientious pupil, graduating from the grammar school Valdictorian of her class. Entering high school in 1907, she finished the course in three and one-half years, a member of the memorable Class of 1911. This class is exceptional in that two-thirds of its members have and are making a creditable showing in the professional world. There are eight on the present faculty of the Douglass High School, among whom are the President of the Alumni Association, the Vocational Counsellor for the Senior High and the Librarian.

Mrs. Johnson finished training in 1913, receiving her appointment as teacher in the public schools of this city the same year. Her work was handled in such manner that her critics and observers were led to believe that she must have had previous experience. The news of her resignation was received by all concerned with deep regret.

Mrs. Johnson, since marriage, has devoted the most of her time to clerical work, due to the fact that the rules governing married women were not as favorable to teachers as of late. She started her career as clerk in the service of the United States Government, Washington, D. C., at the beginning of the World War and has worked in many departments. Her work on all occasions was considered highly efficient, and it was during her last appointment in the War Department Adjutant General's office that she was made temporary chief of her division, receiving a rating of 96.48%.

It was during this appointment that Mrs. Johnson left Washington to accept the assistant clerkship at the above named school. When in office but three months it became necessary for her to take over the entire responsibility, at which time she passed the examination for this position ranking ninth out of 500 and first among race competitors, making an average of 84.25%. Mrs. Johnson has unusual executive ability and has been adjudged by many prominent citizens as well as school officials a capable woman and one well fitted for the post she holds. Her charm and dignity add much to the tone of the school.

Mrs. Johnson is an ardent worker in the Baptist Church and is well recognized for her ability in public speaking. One of her most recent and creditable speeches was noted in her presentation of the Mayor of this city in a national convention held here during July of this year. Upon taking the platform the Mayor referred to Mrs. Johnson's speech as most eloquent. The Baltimore Daily Post (white), in its write-up, had this to say: "On the basis of grammar and vocabulary, there was no reason for her being ashamed of comparison with the speech which followed. Whatever differences there existed were entirely in her favor. Her talk was sensible, well delivered and pleasant."