

Yohana Kitchen

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Sharron Greaves

Informative speech

Link: <https://youtu.be/iUpGB7Y4EIM>

Hello everyone my name is Yohana King and today on black history month I will be sharing an amazing story of an African American legend called Oscar Depriest. Oscar Depriest is considered a legend amongst the African American community because he was the first African American person to serve for the United States congress. He was born in Alabama to slave parents that got their freedom in their latter years. His father owned a business and his mother worked as a laundress. However, like many black people moved north to escape the economy ups and downs and financial struggles that all black people were having. Having studied in many prestigious schools Oscar moved to Chicago. He became talented in so many areas. First he was living as a painter, decorator, plasterer, and eventually, a realtor. DePriest became affluent through his real estate business and investments in the stock market. Oscar then got married to a music teacher Jessie De Priest. As a music teacher myself I think he made a great choice. Oscar DePriest's career in public service began with his 1904 election to the board of commissioners of Cook County, Illinois. He then served on the Chicago City Council from 1915 to 1917 as alderman from Ward 2. But you can be asking yourself what is an alderman? An alderman is a member of a county or borough council, next in status to the Mayor. Look at the importance and impact he is making as an African American in the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

DePriest founded a powerful political organization called the People's Movement Club. We have to understand that in those times and era during the late 1880's and early 1900's it was hard for African Americans to be anything and help their communities with basically anything.

## Works Cited

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