

1940

57

ROBERT N. DETT

Director of Music
Bennett College
Greensboro, N. C.

Music - Composition

Interesting case
an established musician - composer
But he is so very old (for fellowship
purposes) that an award would
be far afield from our original
purpose of "developing young talent"
Still (for whom we made an
age exception) was only 44 and
a man of finer talent

X

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Music

This man is far too old to
be considered for our fellowships
which are for development
not for pensions

Dett holds a high place among
Negro musicians, but it isn't up
to us to make possible an autobiography

Name Robert Nathaniel Dett **Field:** Music

Director of Music
Bennett College, Greensboro, North Carolina

Plan of Work

An autobiography showing the development of the Negro idiom in the higher forms of music.

Wishes to work at Library of Congress. Probable duration of work one year, June 1942.

Applied 1940.

Personal Data Born Niagara Falls, Ontario, October, 1882. Married, **Age:** 59
two children. Wife teaches.

Undergraduate Work Oberlin College, Bachelor of Music, 1908.

Graduate Work Columbia University, summer, 1916
Harvard University, 1919-20.
Eastman School, University of Rochester, Master of Music, 1931.
Nadia Boulanger, Paris, summer 1928.

Experience Director of music, Lane College (Jackson, Tennessee), 1908-11, \$650; director of music, Lincoln University (Missouri), 1911-13, \$1100; director of music, Hampton Institute, 1913-31, \$1850-\$4000; teacher, private studio (Rochester, N.Y.), 1931-35; director, American Choir, Station WHAM-R (Rochester, N.Y.), 1931-32, \$1200; director of music, Bennett College (Greensboro, N.C.), 1935-42, \$3100.

Accomplishments Numerous published and performed musical works.

References

William Fay, Station WHAM, Rochester, New York.
Frank Shaw, director, Oberlin Conservatory of Music.
Peter W. Dykema, Teachers College, Columbia University.
Alfred Spouse, director of music education, Eastman School.
D. D. Jones, Bennett College, Greensboro, North Carolina.
J. F. Lane, Lane College, Jackson, Tennessee.
F. D. Patterson, Tuskegee Institute.

Budget Summary

Total Amount Needed	\$2,650.
From Applicant	- - -
From Fund	\$2,650.

Sent to Committee

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AMOUNT GRANTED