


Ida Bowman
BECKS
(1880-1953)

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As a renowned lecturer and suffragist, Ida Bowman Becks led the local African American community in the pursuit of equality. Born in Armstrong, Missouri, she showed promise as a student and graduated as class valedictorian. In 1908, she moved to Kansas City and became involved in charities and women's clubs. Ida's work led to the establishment of the Yates YWCA and the Kansas City Urban League, and her passionate speeches on suffrage were praised for their eloquence. She went on to become a delegate to the 1921 NAACP convention, a board member of Wheatley-Provident Hospital, and chair of the Negro Women's National Republican League.



"Her manner of address is direct, dramatic, and at times sensational, yet pleasing and intensely interesting. She is a fearless advocate for women's suffrage and is an uncompromising defender of the Afro-American race"

Samuel Bacote, *Who's Who Among the
Colored Baptists of the United States*