

JUDGE DORSEY, TWICE GEORGIA GOVERNOR, 77

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

ATLANTA, Ga., June 11—Judge Hugh M. Dorsey Sr., retired judge of the Fulton County Superior Court and former Governor of Georgia, died today in a hospital. He was 77 years old. He retired recently because of ill health and was confined to the hospital for several weeks.

Born at Fayetteville, Ga., he entered law practice here in 1894. He was later elected solicitor general of Atlanta Judicial Circuit.

Judge Dorsey gained nation-wide fame as prosecutor of Leo M. Frank in the celebrated Mary Phagan murder case in 1913.

He received his A. B. degree from the University of Georgia in 1893, and attended law school the same year at the University of Virginia. He served two terms as Governor of Georgia, 1917-21, then resumed law practice and was appointed judge of the city court in 1926.

Surviving are his widow, the former Miss Adair Wilkerson; two sons, Hugh Dorsey Jr. and James W. Dorsey, and a sister, Mrs. Luther Rosser, all of Atlanta.

During his terms as Governor of Georgia, Judge Dorsey conducted a vigorous campaign against lynchings and for better treatment for Negroes. He published a "Black book" on Negro persecutions which raised a violent storm among his political opponents, and led to demands for his impeachment. These came to nothing, and when he retired in 1921 he reiterated his charges.

His "peonage pamphlet" as it was also called, cited "135 cases of peonage, cruelty, intimidation and unjust and unpunished lynchings." He pleaded in it for a state constabulary and legal backing which would enable him to deal more effectively with lynching.

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