

Title: Lulu Anderson

Subtitle: Racial Segregation in Canada

Duration: 1 class

Best Courses Fit: Law, History, English

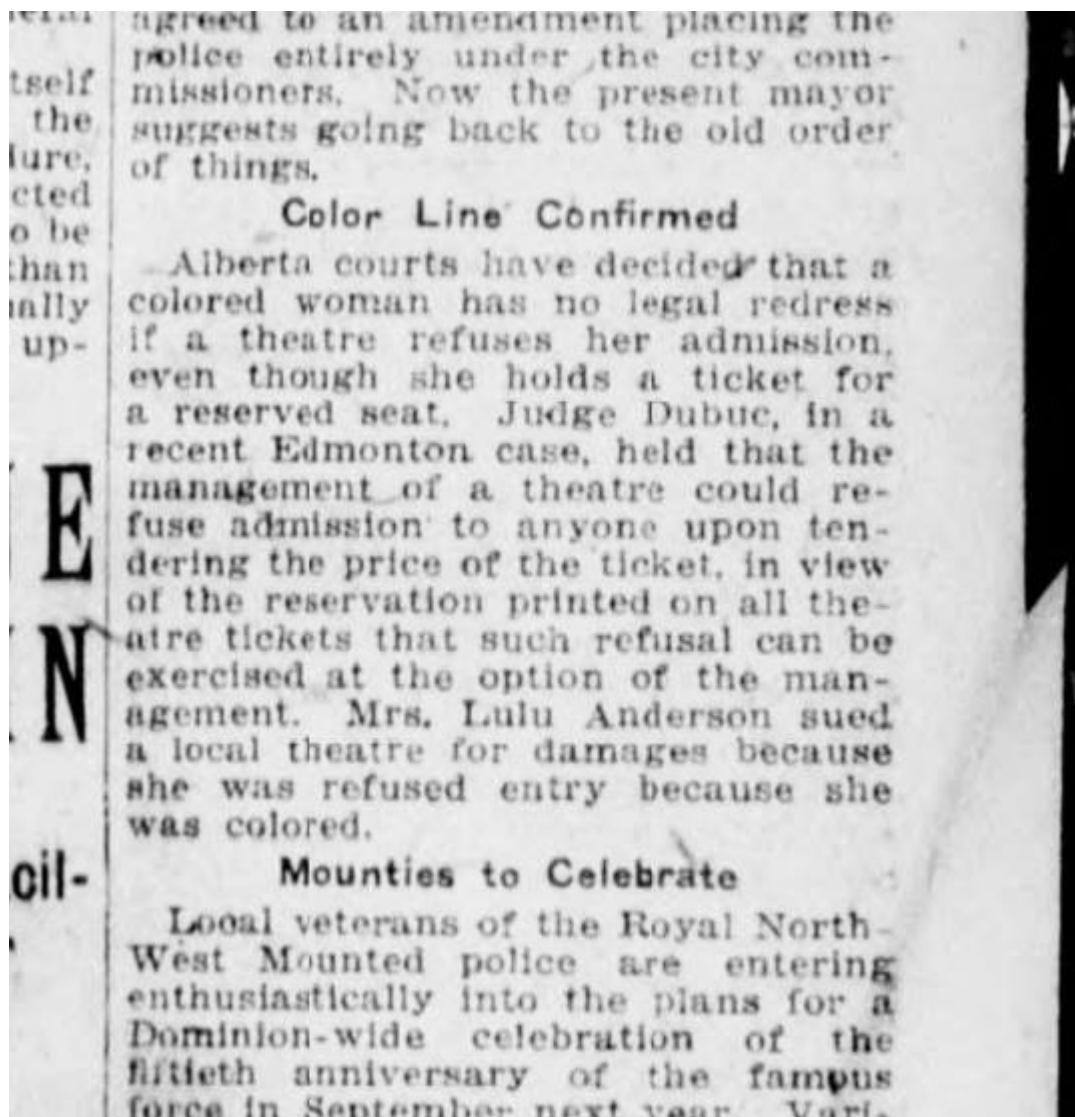
Background Knowledge

On May 12, 1922, Lulu Anderson attempted to purchase a ticket to watch *The Lion and the Mouse* at the former Metropolitan Theatre on Jasper Avenue in Edmonton, Alberta. Lulu was a 36 year-old Black woman who enjoyed going to the theatre. Although she had visited the Metropolitan on many occasions before, on this particular day, she was denied entry.

Courageously, Lulu decided to stand up to the racial injustice she experienced. This was over 20 years before the Viola Desmond case and over 30 years before Rosa Parks took a stand in the United States. Considering the racism of this time period speaks to the courage of Lulu Anderson.

On May 26, 1922, Lulu Anderson filed a suit against The Brown Investment Company (owner of The Metropolitan Theatre) for denying her entry due to the colour of her skin. The case lasted a little more than five months. On November 3, 1922, Judge Lucien Dubuc ruled against Anderson. Dubuc argued that The Metropolitan Theatre was justified in refusing entry because “[M]anagement could refuse admission to anyone upon refunding the price of the ticket,” he reportedly said in his ruling.

Document



Source: *Winnipeg Evening Tribune* 25 November 1922, 47.
Courtesy of University of Manitoba Libraries (digital collection)

Lulu Anderson

Sourcing

What is it about this source that makes it good evidence that racial segregation was a reality for Black Canadians?

Contextualization

Given this article, do you agree or disagree that Lulu Anderson was denied entry because she was Black? Explain your position.

What does this article suggest about Lulu Anderson?

Corroboration

What information in this article contests previous information you learned about race relations in Canada?

Close Reading

According to the headline, what happened?

According to the article, why did Lulu Anderson lose her case?