

# ARKANSAS BLACK HISTORY



Courtesy of Library of Congress Prints and Photographs Division

**Robert Lee Hill (1892? – 1963) was born in Dermott. Hill was an African American leader who was forced to flee Arkansas during the bloody Elaine Massacre of 1919. Also, Hill was a grand counsellor, with the authority to pay for legal advice in the Progressive Farmers and Household Union, an organization that angered white plantation owners when it suggested that black sharecroppers in Arkansas hire legal representation to get fair prices for their cotton. He spent the rest of his life in Topeka, Kan., repairing freight cars for the Santa Fe Railway. To find out more about Robert Lee Hill or to find more examples of black excellence, visit the Mosaic Templars Cultural Center.**



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