



*William Jackson and
Sanders children*

seeing the Sanders children with both mother and father dead, he adopted the four of them and began to instill within each of them a desire to learn music and professional barbering skills.

The children became excellent musicians, playing the piano, the trumpet and singing. Mr. Jackson owned and operated a first class downtown barbershop in the Yakima Hotel. Even though Jackson himself was black the barbershop could only cater to whites because of existing Jim Crow laws in the City of Yakima.

Both young Ben and his sister, Margaret, became very capable in the barbering profession. Young Ben also had the privilege of shaving presidential candidate, William Jennings Bryant, who was on a presidential campaign that came through Yakima.

It is said that young Ben was also the first black male to attend the Yakima Public Schools; the old Central School which later became Yakima Valley Community College.

In later years young Ben and Chester Malone teamed up and opened their own barbershop. Ben also owned and operated a billiards parlor.

The Amos Spearman Family

Amos Spearman, a carpenter by trade, originally came to Washington State to work in the Pacific Exposition in Seattle. He had to pass through Eastern Washington on the train to Seattle. He liked Yakima so much that when his work in Seattle was completed, he returned to Cleveland, Ohio, got his family and moved back to Yakima in 1903.