

deal." Workmen here who work steadily, avoid saloons and low women, buy homes and support their families are as well appreciated in Tacoma as anywhere, if not better. White neighbors notice the same and respect them.

The question of social equality can scarcely be said to arise here, for several reasons, one of which is that few people here have time to trouble about barring someone else from something. Life is strenuous and if a man takes any time from making his own living to intermeddle with such things he will find himself and family out of it. The majority of people here are workingmen, who are fairly sociable, and easily made friends of. Negro churches here could be improved very much by the advent of one or two educated preachers from the East, who are also religious, for education without religion makes things very bad. Schools are excellent and Negro children are given every opportunity with the whites.

I find that whites, who in their youth have attended school with Negro children are far less apt to give way to race feeling than others. Realty values are increasing rapidly, but there is land in plenty, and Negroes have equal opportunities to purchase. The advent of new railway lines is making this the queen city of the Pacific Coast, and it is confidently asserted that Tacoma will usurp the place of San Francisco as New York succeeded Boston on the Atlantic Coast. For the advanced type of Negro people, Tacoma has unrivaled opportunities.

The degraded Negro man, who dresses flashily or not at all, frequents saloons, and who is constantly in trouble about women is not wanted; it is to be hoped that some day not far distant our **Negro men** here will arise in their wrath and drive out all vicious characters, as are here now. There is no use to defend that sort. A few Sundays ago, my wife and I were on the streets of Seattle, our neighboring city, attending the Seattle Sunday Forum. At the intersection of Second Avenue and Madison Street car line, we noticed an ugly Negro man, dressed in the height of fashion, following and ogling a white lady. When the crowd gathered to enter the car, this **thing** deliberately elbowed the lady to attract her attention and then leered in her face with what he thought a smile. The lady turned pale and red by turns and reading his desire in his eyes, attempted to get away from him without creating excitement. Entering the car, she sought the farthest seat. My wife and I, feeling that indignation which comes over any one seeing such a thing, immediately sandwiched ourselves between the man and his would-be victim, so that he got no seat when he got aboard. The lady appeared to be a woman of refinement and culture and to be rather intelligent. The Negro man came as near her as possible and was soon seated beside her, crowding her. The lady quietly drew away,

three times, and the brute deliberately closed up to her each time, till other passengers, noticing him, invited the lady to exchange seats. All through this he showed his brutal desires in every move, not taking his eyes from her person for a moment.

Such men as these are the cause of sorrow elsewhere, and no mercy should be shown them. The lady showed no evidence of ever having known him and was evidently far beyond his reach in every way, even had she been as black as coal. There should be a Negro Civic Society to rid us of such men.

Openings exist here for Negro restaurants, caterers, physicians, druggists, fruit dealers, ice cream parlors, real estate men and divers other lucrative employments can be worked up by the Negro who respects himself and family. The people of Tacoma think well of their respectable Negro element, and every one who makes good finds his way into the hearts of the community. No one here expects Negroes to lick their feet, as elsewhere; the Negro who is a home builder, a family man, who pays his debts, works steadily, obeys the laws and uses good judgment can work out his salvation here. For such Negro people, Tacoma has the kindest welcome, and Tacoma and the West generally offer to them homes, the respect of neighbors, the equal protection of the laws and every opportunity of advancement.

HOMES.

No. 1 is the home of Jerry Flowers, one of the best known men in the city of Spokane. Mr. and Mrs. Flowers are pioneers in Spokane and he has been more or less prominent in the politics of this state for twenty years.

No. 2 is the store and residence of Mrs. Louise Donaldson of Everett. It is the pioneer store of that locality and the first owned and operated by a Negro in that city.

No. 3 is a splendid picture of the market owned by Wm. Hopkins of Spokane. Mr. Hopkins is one of the few Negroes of the state that struck boldly out in the business sea without fear as to the final outcome.

No. 4 represents the neat, cosy home of Frank A. Stokes and his family. Mr. Stokes is one of the thrifty, enterprising young men of Spokane and has other valuable real estate in and about Spokane, including a well furnished farm.

No. 5 is the home of J. T. Hatcher, one of Spokane's most enterprising Afro-Americans. Mr. Hatcher has held the position of messenger in one of the leading mercantile houses of Spokane for five years or more, and grows in grace with the firm each year. He is active in secret society and church circles.