

SEATTLE

Seattle—the twenty-first city in the United States and the third city in rate of growth during the ten years covered by the last Government census—was first settled sixty-four years ago, in September, 1852. The activities of the little frontier town were centered about the saw mill of Henry L. Yesler, the first mill on Puget Sound, erected in April, 1853, at the foot of Mill Street, now Yesler Way. The lumber industry formed almost the sole support of the town during the first twenty years of its life. In 1870 the first real estate boom was started by the news of the coming of the Northern Pacific Railway to the Coast. In 1873, Tacoma was chosen for the terminus of the railroad, and for some years Seattle had to fight for its very existence. In 1883 the railroad was built into Tacoma, and in 1885 was extended to Seattle. As a result of this connection with the outside world, the city enjoyed its first period of rapid growth, rising in population from 3,500 in 1880 to 42,800 in 1890.

The population of Seattle in July, 1916, is estimated by the Census Bureau at 348,639. The city comprises 58.56 square miles of land lying between Puget Sound on the west and Lake Washington on the east, being approximately twelve miles long and nine miles in width at the broadest part. This site is made up of hills bordering the Lake and Sound and enclosing Lake Union. The hills make street grades expensive, but they also make splendid home sites, and make the scenic boulevards what they are. The city has 682 miles of graded streets, 242 miles of paving, 495 miles of sewers, 665 miles of water mains, 254 miles of street railway. The assessed valuation of the city is \$212,868,707.00.

The Puget Sound climate is one of the most pleasant to be found anywhere. On account of the proximity of the Japan Current, the winter temperature is so warm that freezing weather is rare and zero weather unknown. The summers are cool; a temperature above 80 degrees is seldom experienced. Largely due to the equable climate and the purity of the water supply Seattle is and has been for some years the healthiest city in the United States as shown by the death rate, which was 7.06 per thousand in 1916. The beauties of the Sound and mountains and the delightful climate are making Seattle a favorite summer resort—the waters of Puget Sound and Southeastern Alaska, with the mountains coming directly down into the water, are like the Norwegian Fjords in scenic beauty, and form the finest cruising grounds in America.

WATCH IT GROW—TACOMA

While Tacoma is rated as the second city of Washington and perhaps of the Northwest, yet in importance it is equal to the first city of the state. A score or more years ago it was world wide famous for its lumber industry and its Oriental trade. More recently it became famous as a manufacturing center and the terminus of all the trans-continental lines that tapped the great Northwest. Whether it was by accident or by some slight legerdemain is not known, but it became the political center of the state, and at present the governor, the lieutenant governor, the secretary of state, the speaker of the house of representatives and the national Republican committeeman all live in Tacoma. So many important things in connection with the affairs of the state are bivouaced in Tacoma that, if the city should suddenly fall out of existence, the balance of the state would be at a loss as to how to get along, at least for a season. In enumerating important things that have gone to Tacoma in recent years the state training military camp at American Lake, which is but a Tacoma suburb, has not been mentioned, and if all of the good

things that have come her way this is the best, for it has been converted into a national training camp and already the U. S. soldiers are beginning to assemble there, and when all of those that have been ordered thither arrive there will be something like 20,000 on the grounds, which will mean an additional 100,000 citizens to that city, each one of whom will be a spender. For the past three months about 7,000 workmen have been on the jump getting the camp ready for occupancy and that army of workmen has left in Tacoma multiplied thousands of dollars, that it otherwise would not have had. The man in Tacoma that is not at work at wages, which in comparison to former days, are like unto the wonders of Aladdin's lamp, is because he is afraid of work and manages to dodge it every time it tries to overtake him. As said in another column hereof, Tacoma has a general population, according to the last U. S. census of 110,000 (this does not include the present army of floaters) and of that number about 1,500 are colored folk.

From a colored person's view point Tacoma is the ideal city of the Northwest and even the Pacific Coast. The white citizens come nearer fraternizing with the colored citizens than in any other place in the West and the colored man is made to feel race discrimination less here than anywhere else. The city has few, if any, places of accommodation and amusement that are not as free to colored as white citizens. Like Seattle, it has a heavy suburban population and the colored man is to be found in those semi-rural localities the same as the white man. In them you get more land for less money and on better terms than in the city proper.

Horace P. Lawhorn is the colored real estate dealer and his efforts along that line have been crowned with more or less success. It is said of him that he controls a greater amount of real estate than any other colored man in the Northwest.

The white citizens of Tacoma have always given the colored man a better opportunity to earn a dollar than any other city in the state, but while they are not able to give him any better opportunity than any other at present, yet they have more work to offer him and the pay as good if not better.

There are three regularly organized churches among the colored citizens of Tacoma—the African Methodist Episcopal, and two Baptist churches. The membership of the A. M. E. church is perhaps larger than either of the others and may be as large as the two combined, as the two Baptist churches is a result of a split in the original.

Among the heavy property owners of Tacoma are H. P. Lawhorn, H. J. Asberry, John H. Ryan and wife, E. F. Edsen and others. There are still many others, who own beautiful homes and suburban acre tracts, which they keep in a more or less high state of cultivation.



MT. RAINIER, (Seen from Seattle)
MT. TACOMA, (as seen from Tacoma)