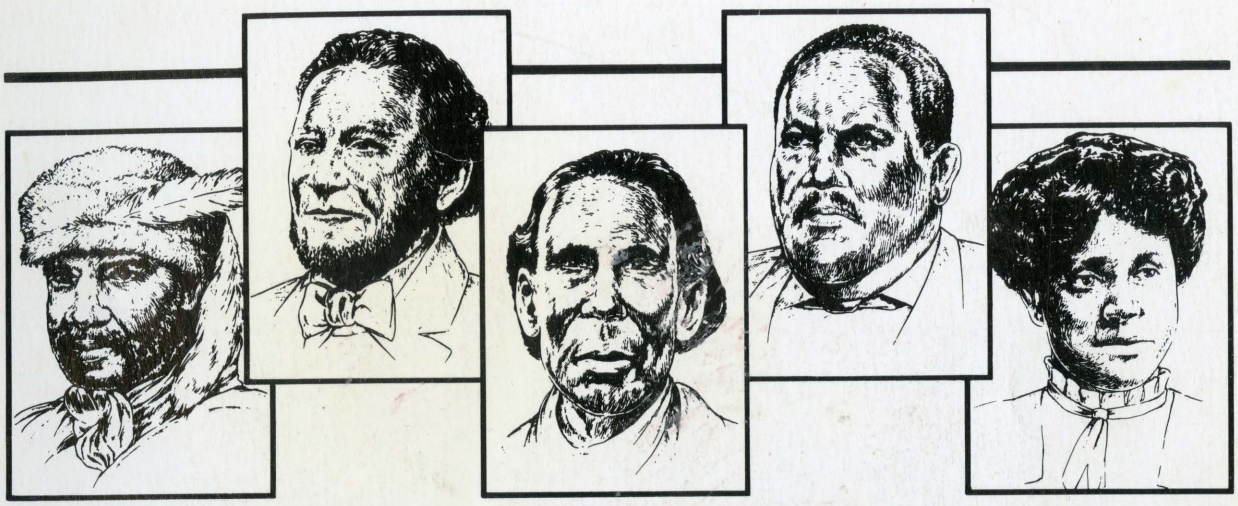


NORTHWEST BLACK PIONEERS

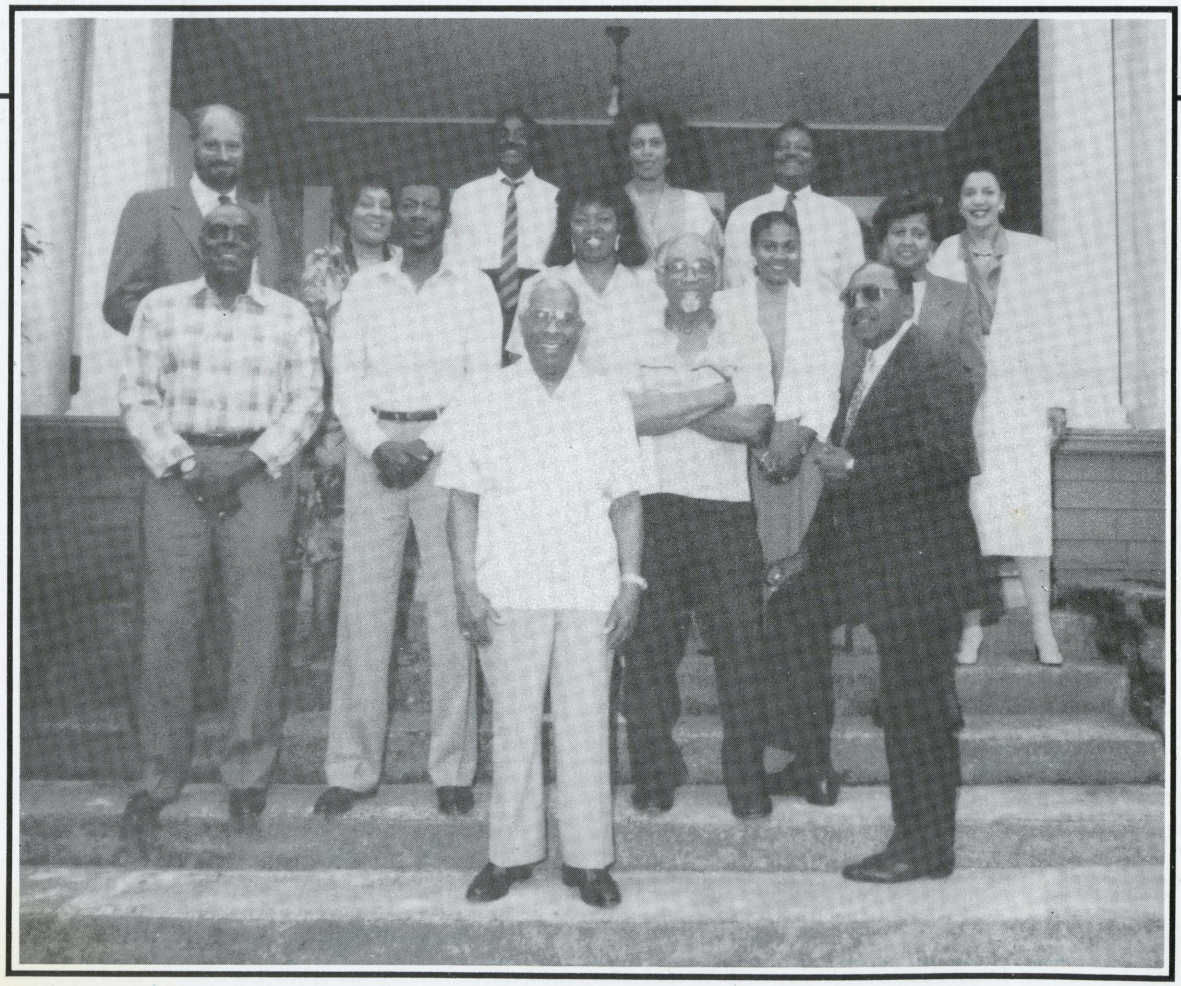
A CENTENNIAL TRIBUTE

This Steering Committee was formed in June, 1987, for the purpose of considering suggested approaches to engage the Bon Marche Department Store in making a tangible contribution to the black community. It was mutually agreed by the Steering Committee and the Bon Marche that **A Tribute to the Northwest Black Pioneers** would be an excellent way to educate the community relating to the unique historical contributions of early Black Pioneers. With diligence, hardwork, and dedication (all on a voluntary basis) a spectacular Exhibit was created.

Beginning on February 17-22, 1988, the first Exhibit was displayed in the Bon Marche Department Store, in Seattle. During the 1989 observance of Washington State's Centennial, the Exhibit was displayed in the branch stores located in Tacoma, Silverdale, Longview, Everett, Northgate, Bellingham, Bellevue, Alderwood, Spokane, Yakima and the Tri-Cities. Each community created a local committee to work with the Steering Committee in the planning and presentation of its Exhibit. The additional entries profiled significant historical contributions of Black Pioneers and their descendants in each community.

The final Exhibit for the Northwest Black Pioneers will be displayed in Seattle. The Steering Committee and the Bon Marche take pride in making it possible to share these historical treasures. From this venture it may stimulate interest to plan and to develop a Black Historical Museum.

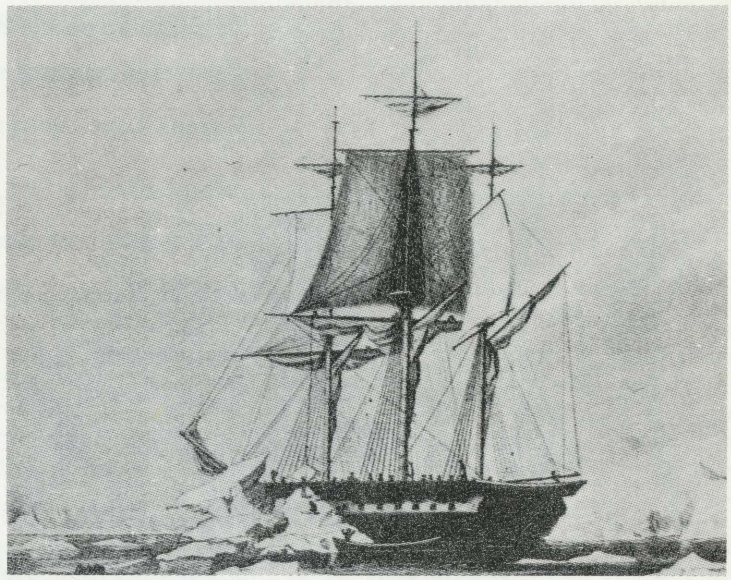
The Steering Committee and the Administrative Staff of the Bon Marche Department Store express their thanks to the members of the Planning Committees, the guest presenters and to the diverse populations who viewed these historical treasures relating to the black citizens of Washington State.



Left to right, back row: John Buller, Louise Thompson, Paul Mitchell, Dawnmarie Cooper, Robert Gary, S. Young
Middle row: O.L. Mitchell, Elmore Williams, Barbara Jarrett, Nanette Mitchell, Bea Cox
Front row: Spencer Show, Ralph Hayes, Burl Garnett.
Not shown: Pat Stewart, Ralph Ruff, Dell Durden.

BLACK HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVES IN THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST

Up until 1788 the Pacific Northwest region was occupied mainly by Native Americans and a few British and French fur traders. The first American explorer of the region, Captain Robert Gray, sailed around Cape Horn, at the tip of South America, to make his way to the Pacific Northwest Territories. A trickle of explorers started to arrive in the area in the early 1800s, followed closely by settlers interested in farming the fertile land north and south of the Columbia River. By the late 1800s there were several thriving towns, including Olympia, Centralia, Tacoma and Seattle, all vying for access to the railroad that became the area's lifeline for growth and prosperity.



The ship Columbia commanded by Captain Robert Gray.

The black population grew along with the development of the state of Washington. Black explorers gave way to black settlers, and finally black urban pioneers made their mark on the development of many cities and towns in Washington, particularly in Seattle.

The Explorers

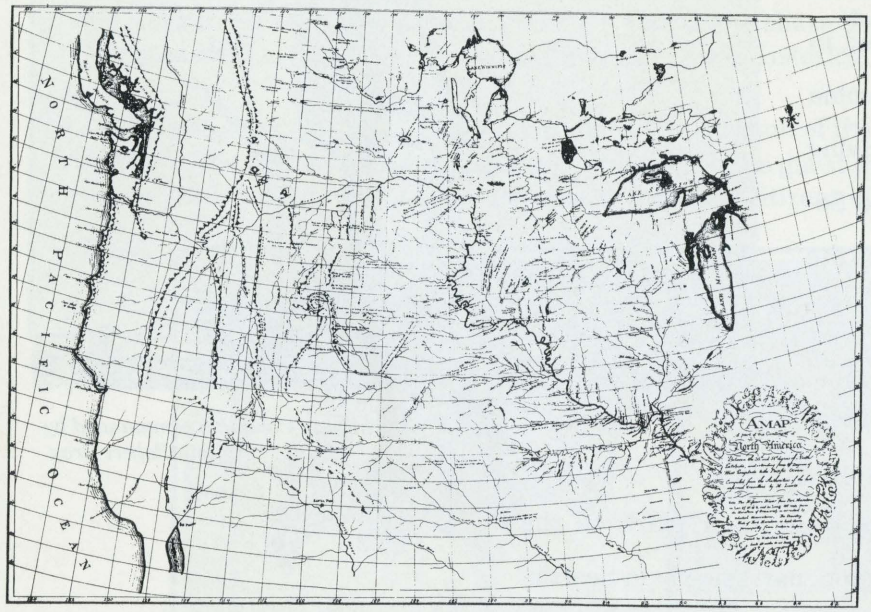
Captain Robert Gray set out for the Pacific Northwest fueled by stories told by hunting and fur trading adventurers about the richness of game in the region. Trade with China was the ultimate goal of his first expedition, and to that end he sailed from New England around the Horn of South America to reach the Pacific Ocean. Finally, he landed in what is now Tillamook, Oregon, in late summer of 1788. Accompanying Captain Gray was a young man named Marcus Lopez, a native of Cape Verde Island near West Africa. Lopez started off as a cabin boy and was promoted to crew member by the time the sloop "Lady Washington" pulled into shore.



Captain Robert Gray American Trader and Explorer.

Marcus Lopez became the first black man to set foot in the Pacific Northwest. Unfortunately, his visit was a short and fatal one.

The Native Americans around Tillamook seemed to be friendly when they first met up with Gray's party. Later, some equipment from the explorer's camp was discovered missing, and it was assumed that the Native Americans had taken it. Marcus Lopez volunteered to meet with the Native Americans to negotiate a return of the goods, but he was later discovered dead by fellow shipmates.



Tracing copy of the original map by Meriwether Lewis to President Jefferson from Fort Mandan, April 7th, 1805.

Captain Gray continued on to China with his cargo of valuable furs. He eventually returned to the Pacific Northwest in 1792, where he discovered the mouth of the Columbia River and its entry into the Pacific Ocean. While Gray was trying to find a route by water to the Pacific Northwest, Thomas Jefferson was concerned with an overland route. He had just negotiated for one of the largest land acquisitions in history, the Louisiana Purchase. Jefferson had heard rumors about the rich resources of the area and assigned Meriwether Lewis and William Clark to head an exploring party. In 1804 the Lewis and Clark Expedition left Missouri with a group of about thirty men, including Clark's black servant, York.

Because York was a slave, there is not much information available about him. In the diaries of the expedition Clark makes mention of York's abilities as a hunter and his general resourcefulness on the trail. Legend has it that York was very popular with the Native Americans, particularly the women, who were fascinated with the color of his skin and his sense of humor. The Lewis and Clark party arrived at the mouth of the Columbia River in the winter of 1805, camped

for several months, and then traveled back to Missouri. The expeditions were considered a tremendous success and York was given his freedom in 1806. He soon left Missouri for parts unknown, but rumors from native Americans at the time indicate that York went back west and lived with the various tribes he had met during the expedition.



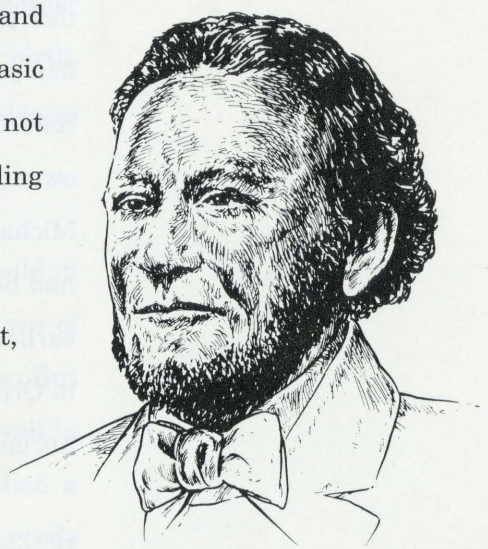
York of the Lewis and Clark Expedition.

Marcus Lopez and York are the only black explorers we know about during this time. It is safe to assume that others probably existed, as the area was popular with fur traders, sailors and other adventurers.

The Settlers

In the early to middle 1800s, the United States did not offer much opportunity for black people. Slavery was still in existence in the South and blacks were not considered citizens, even if they were born free. The basic rights to own land, travel freely and pursue a chosen profession were not widely available to blacks. In fact, Missouri had a law on the books forbidding blacks to settle in the state for more than six months.

The West, with its wide open spaces and lack of structured government, held great appeal for many pioneers. From the early 1800s on, caravans of settlers made the long, perilous journey across the country, seeking land and opportunity. Many followed the Oregon Trail, ending up at the Columbia River.



George Bush, Early Settler

Among the steady stream of immigrants to the area were a number of black men and their families, including George Bush. Born in Pennsylvania a free man, Bush moved to Missouri and married Isabell, a white woman. In 1844, at the age of fifty, Bush, his wife and five children left Missouri with 800 others.

Bush was considered one of the wealthiest members of the expedition and used his wealth to help several other families emigrate. The group spent seven months on the Oregon Trail before reaching their destination, a settlement on the south side of the Columbia River called The Dalles.



The home of George Bush (Backside).

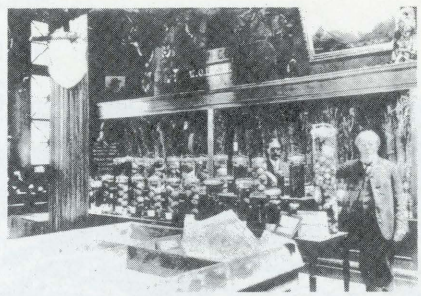
But the freedom Bush was seeking eluded him in Oregon. The Provisional Government had recently passed anti-black laws that were as repressive as those he had left behind in Missouri. Gravely disappointed by what he found, Bush, his family and several others crossed the Columbia River into what would become the state of Washington and formed the first American community there. He settled in what was "Bush Prairie," which later became Thurston County. Bush was among many settlers trying to take advantage of the Homestead Act. The act stated that if an American citizen took possession of unsettled land and showed improvement on that land within four years, the land would legally belong to that person -- without putting out a cent of cash to purchase it. Because blacks were not American citizens, land ownership was still a dream for them. Bush's friend, a white man named Michael T. Simmons, helped Bush obtain ownership of his homestead. Bush had helped Simmons and his family immigrate to Washington several years earlier. One of the first acts of the Provisional Government in Olympia was to approve George Bush's petition to own his land.



William Owen Bush

In spite of his difficulty in obtaining ownership of land, Bush did very well in the Northwest. He was well known as an excellent farmer and was so prosperous that he purchased the first ship owned by the early settlers. This ship, "The Orbit," cost $35,000 and was used to ship wood products to ports in California.

George Bush's family also prospered. His eldest son, William Owen Bush, surpassed his father's farming abilities to the extent that he exhibited his produce at the Philadelphia Exposition during the Centennial Celebration. William Owen was also elected to the first state Legislature after Washington became a state in 1889. His greatest accomplishment there was to help pass legislation establishing a college for the study of agricultural science. This college later became Washington State University at Pullman.



William Owen Bush and his produce exhibit at the Philadelphia Exposition during the Centennial Celebration.

During his lifetime, George Bush established a good life for himself and his family. But he never became an American citizen with full rights. He died in 1863, five years before passage of the 13th and 14th constitutional amendments, which gave black men full citizenship.

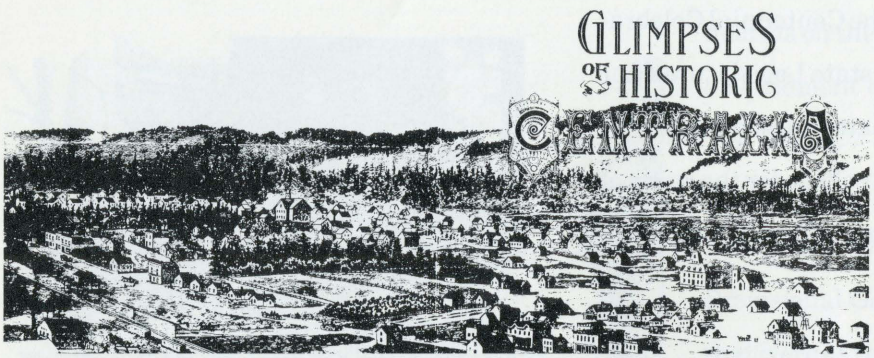
Born a slave in Virginia in 1817, another black pioneer to brave trials of the Oregon Trail was George Washington. Legend has it that Washington's mother was an English woman and his father a slave. Shortly after his birth, Washington was adopted by a white couple, James and Anna Cochran.



George Washington, Founder of Centralia

Washington did as well as a black man could in Missouri. He even was made a legal citizen of Missouri in 1843 by an act of the legislature. But Missouri citizenship did not help him prevail in the federal court system. Washington had a business in Missouri, where he gave people goods on credit. One of his customers, a white man, refused to pay his debt. Washington took the customer to court, where he found that he was unable to prosecute because he was not considered an American citizen. The injustice of this case was the final event that turned Washington's thoughts westward -- to land where he thought life would be filled with more opportunity.

Washington and the Cochrans headed for the West Coast in 1850, following the same route as George Bush and many other pioneers. Washington arrived in Oregon and remained there for nearly two years. He probably experienced the same disillusionment that George Bush suffered from the repressive anti-black laws. He decided to move north to an area called Centerville, which later became Centralia. A few years later, in 1853, the geographic area that would become Washington state had become a separate territory from Oregon, paving the way for statehood in 1889.



Panoramic view of early Centralia.

Washington, like Bush before him, found that he couldn't own land because he wasn't a citizen. In 1852 the Cochrans deeded Washington some land, for which he paid them $2,000. This was the beginning of his considerable landholdings. A few years later the Cochrans deeded him an additional 640 acres, for which he paid $3,200. He was now a large landowner.



Portrait of George Washington.

George Washington was particularly interested in developing the town of Centralia. The town was on the railroad line, and this advantage gave him faith that the town would flourish and grow. To that end, he donated land for the construction of several churches. In 1891, as a symbol of his public spirit, Washington platted and designated a block of land as a public square.



George Washington and his first wife Mary Jane Cooness.

Washington's first wife, Mary Jane Cooness, was a Jewish black woman from Portland. They were married in 1869 and lived happily for the next 20 years until her death. He married again some years later, and his only child was born when Washington was 73. His second wife, who was white, left him and their young son two years later.When Washington died at the age of 88 in 1905, his property was worth $150.000. He was buried in the cemetery he had donated to the city and all of his property was left to his second wife, whom he had never divorced.

The Urban Pioneers

While some blacks were proving themselves able farmers and ranchers, others were drawn to a more urban lifestyle. The railroads played a role in attracting emigrants to the Pacific Northwest by offering discounts to the various towns on the line. Until 1893 the terminus for the state of Washington was Tacoma; Seattle and Spokane played second fiddle to this prosperous town. When the Great Panic of 1893 hit, the railroads went bankrupt along with many other businesses. When the time came to refinance the railroads with Eastern money, those investors looked with great favor upon the bustling town of Seattle. Seattle was in the midst of a construction boom as a result of being burned to the ground in the fire of 1889. In 1895 the Northwest terminus of the railroad was moved to Seattle, and Seattle's economic success was assured.

Blacks traveled by foot, train and boat to the Pacific Northwest, seeking what one new arrival referred to as "free air." These families came in search of a new life free of discrimination. They came to the cities to work as waiters, porters, barbers and laborers. Many later pursued careers as publishers, attorneys and businessmen.

SEATTLE

The earliest black urban pioneer, Manual Lopes, was born in Africa in 1812 and was believed to have been kidnapped and enslaved before arriving in Massachusetts. He probably worked as a sailor in New England before making his way to Seattle. Lopes arrived in Seattle in 1852 and promptly started a barbering business, complete with the first barber chair brought to Seattle via Cape Horn. He also operated a restaurant in the same building that housed his barber shop on First Avenue South. Well known for his generosity towards working men, Lopes often gave them meals and lodging even if they were unable to pay.

Lopes was unique in Seattle even by official standards — the 1860 census listed him as the sole black resident of King County. But his personality was also unique. Lopes was known to be a devoted snare drummer who announced mealtimes at his restaurant with drum solos. Even though he was foreign born, he was an avid patriot. He was renowned for his Fourth of July celebrations, where he and a fife player named Kelly marched around town playing patriotic tunes. In 1859 Lopes sold his business to Dexter Horton and moved to Port Gamble, where it is assumed that he lived until his death.

More blacks moved to Seattle during the next two decades, increasing King County's black population to 22 according to the census in 1880. William Grose was one of those black immigrants.

William Grose was nicknamed "Big Bill the Cook," an apt description as he was 6 feet, 4 inches tall and weighed close to 400 pounds. In spite of his bulk, he led a very active and adventuresome life prior to arriving in Seattle. He served in the Navy for four years, traveling to Japan and taking part in a rescue mission in the Arctic. He went to California to join the Gold Rush and formed a west coast branch of the Underground Railroad. Because he spoke Spanish, Grose was sent as a delegate to Panama to persuade the governor there to halt the return of escaped black slaves who had traveled to Panama via the Underground Railroad.



William Grose, Urban Pioneer

In 1860 Grose and his wife Sarah arrived in Seattle. He worked at the trade he knew best — cooking. In 1876 he opened his own business, a combination inn and restaurant named "Our House." In 1883 he expanded his business by building a three-story hotel on Henry Yesler's wharf. Grose also bought 12 acres of land from Yesler for $1,000 in gold. This land was rolling farmland in what is now the Central District.

It may be hard to imagine farmland in what is definitely the urban area now, but many parts of Seattle in Grose's day were isolated rural communities, inhabited by wild animals such as bears. Black urban pioneers settled all over the city, from Queen Anne to Green Lake, and very often they had cows, chickens and large gardens to sustain themselves. The most urban part of Seattle was the Pioneer Square area, and many black families started out there. Later on, particularly after the fire of 1889, black families bought land in the heavily wooded and undeveloped outlying parts of Seattle.

"OUR HOUSE."

WM. GROSS & SON, Props.,
Mill Street, Seattle, Wash. Ter.

This hotel is located on the steamboat wharf, and is the best and cheapest hotel in the city for workingmen. ☞Table always supplied with the best the market affords.

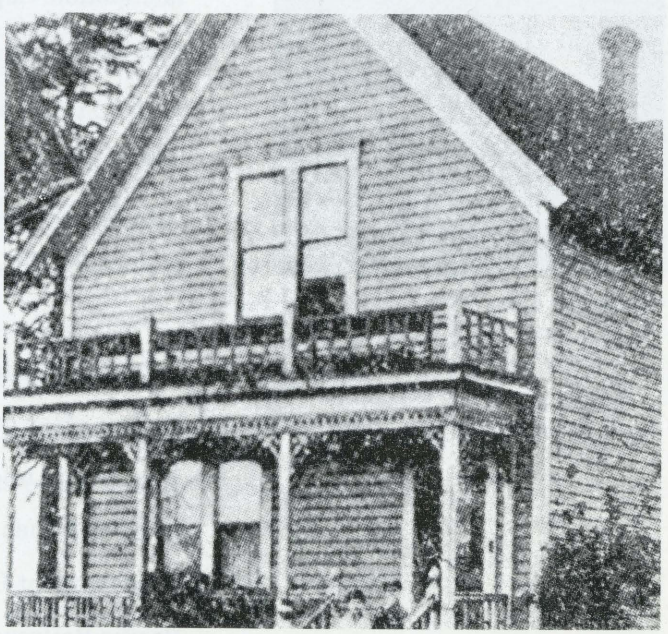
Board and Lodging $5.00 Board, per week $4.00 Meals 25 cents Beds 25 cents.

☞Baggage conveyed to and from the house free of charge.

Advertisement for "Our House," a hotel owned and operated by William Grose.

William Grose followed this same pattern, first buying a lot on Sixth and James and developing it, and later buying the acreage from Yesler in what would become the Central District. He became a prosperous rancher as well as a restaurateur. Despite the fact that the fire of 1889 destroyed his restaurant and hotel, he still remained a wealthy man. In 1891, the *Seattle Post-Intelligencer* reported his assets at $250,000.

William Grose and his family played a key role in the black middle class in the late 1890s. Their house was the center of social life, and Grose sponsored the first black grand ball. In their leisure time, members of the black middle class participated in musical programs, picnics, barbecues, balls and excursions. An all-black performance of Shakespeare's *Richard the Third* and *Macbeth* was presented at the Seattle Opera House. While some members of the white community were experiencing the age of opulence, wealthier blacks were also enjoying luxuries and entertainment.



The Grose family home, around 1893

William Grose appreciated the finer things in life, but his concern for those less fortunate remained. Like Manual Lopes before him, Grose never turned away a person in need. Legend has it that Grose sold his restaurant business to two young men just prior to its destruction in the fire of 1889. The business was

uninsured, and the two men would have been instantly bankrupt had Grose not quietly returned the purchase money to them and sustained the loss himself.

The love and respect his fellow men held for Grose were clear when he died sometime around 1898. It is reported that so many people attended his funeral that sixteen carriages were insufficient to carry all of them to his burial plot at Lakeview Cemetery.

Once in Seattle I. F. Norris, with the help of sons, became successful in two types of businesses: one, ownership of a chicken farm which was located roughly where the West Seattle High School gym is now. The other was the owner-operator of a transfer company, which at one time consisted of five motor trucks. Horse drawn wagons were replaced in 1917.

Ishman Norris arrived in Seattle in 1898, a man of considerable reputation. He had served in the Tennessee Legislature, and in the Oklahoma Territorial Legislature before reaching Seattle and Sound Country as it was called then. Economic success not only meant graduating from horse drawn transportation to motorized ones; it also meant being able to afford a home on Seattle's fashionable Capital Hill. The Caytons were the only other black family living on that Hill. And both lived on Federal Avenue.

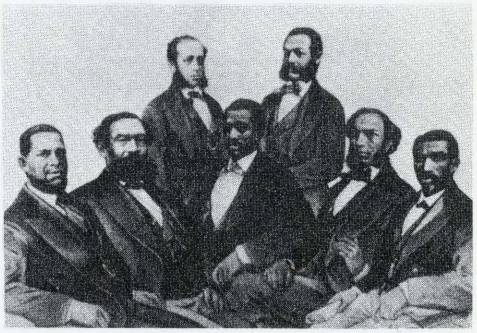


Claude and Lydia Norris

One of Mr. Norris' sons, Claude, became a Seattle policeman and also a county sheriff, as his father before him had been. After retirement Claude became a trainer for the Athletic Department, Seattle University.

Long before that happened, however, he married Lydia Green who came from Roslyn. Her grandfather even pre-dated the black miners in arriving there. Mrs. Norris told of her grandfather owning his own team of horses and because he owned that team was hired to perform various jobs for the Northwestern Improvement Company, the organization that ran the mines for the Northern Pacific Railroad Company.

Another early urban pioneer, was Horace Cayton. Born a slave in Mississippi in 1859, Cayton was sent to school by his father after emancipation. He continued his education at Alcorn College, where he studied under Senator Hiram Revels, a renowned black Senator. Senator Revels daughter, Susie, also went to Alcorn College, where it is assumed she met Horace.



Senator of the United States, H. R. Revels of Mississippi, Susie Cayton's father. (sitting far left)

It was very unique for a black man to rise from slavery to a college education, but it was doubly unique for a black woman to have a higher education. Most women were caught up in the demands of day to day survival. During slavery women had suffered severe exploitation. After emancipation they faced the dual tasks of rebuilding their broken self-esteem and surviving in a generally hostile environment.

Many black women earned money at home, taking laundry. This was an arduous task, all done by hand. A woman would boil huge vats of soapy water, soak clothes in them, scrub stains away on a washboard and put the clothes through several rinses after lifting them out of the boiling water with long sticks. The laundry would be wrung by hand and then hung out to dry on a clothesline. This process would invariably take an entire day.

Washing was only one time-consuming task for a black woman of that era. All food preparation, ironing, housecleaning, etc., was done by hand with no labor-saving devices. In addition to keeping the house in order and raising the children, black women were expected to help their husbands in their professions. Women were encouraged to bring home additional income as well.

Most black women led lives of unrelenting drudgery, unappreciated for their hard work and perserverance in keeping the family together. Socially, they were at the bottom of society, regardless of their marital status. This is one reason that Susie Cayton was truly special in her time.



Susie Revels Cayton

Susie Cayton received a college degree in journalism and wrote stories, one of which was published in the *Seattle Post-Intelligencer* in 1900. The *Sydney B.C. Independent* described her as a "writer of force and ability." She was prominent in the upper segment of the black social set and active in community affairs and charities. But her most unique position was that of associate publisher of *The Republican*, a black newspaper she ran with her husband Horace.

Horace Cayton came to Seattle in 1894, interested in pursuing a journalism career. Shortly thereafter, he became a political reporter for *The Seattle Post-Intelligencer.* But his true desire was to publish a newspaper for the black community. To that end, he leased the only black newspaper in Seattle, *The Standard*, which had been published by Britt Oxendine. As soon as Cayton started printing *The Standard,* a barrage of attacks against state and local officials began. The local black population was so alarmed by the virulence of Cayton's editorials that it drew up a set of resolutions to publicly disavow him and his policies. Oxendine took direct action against Cayton by pulling the lease out from under him and removing the printing equipment.



Senator Hiram Revels

That just spurred Cayton on to start *The Republican* in 1894. This paper was a forum for his pro-civil rights and staunch Republican political viewpoint. In the 1800s the Republican party -- the party of Lincoln -- was the voice of liberation for black people. As a result, blacks almost unanimously voted Republican.



Horace Cayton

Susie Revels Cayton was also strongly committed to equality for blacks. Some believe she was the driving force behind her husband's political fervor. In a practical sense, Susie and Horace's marriage was mutually beneficial. Horace provided Susie a means of escaping the South, and Susie, the daughter of a senator, gave Horace social status. Together they were a formidable team as publisher and associate publisher of *The Republican.*

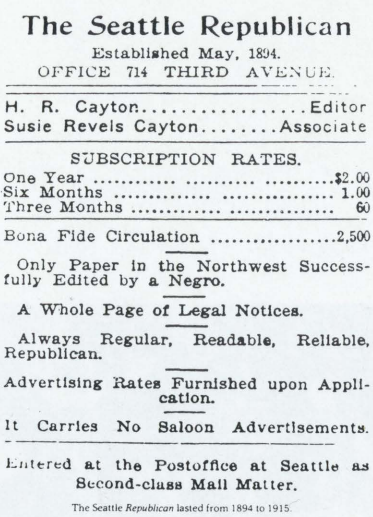
The Republican was published for 21 years, most of the time as a weekly newspaper. Its short stint as a daily in 1896 lasted for only a few months, but its influence on the black community was considerable. *The Republican* gave validity to the activities of the community and encouraged black participation in ongoing issues of the day. Its influence in Republican politics was considerable, and Horace Cayton was even a delegate to the Republican National Convention in 1898.

The paper had its financial ups and downs, particularly due to Cayton's lack of restraint when describing local figures. For instance, he referred to a local black barber who refused to serve blacks as "a puke of the lowest ilk."

Cayton was arrested for libel twice. The more notorious case took place in 1901. He had mocked the chief of police and accused the chief of graft. Cayton was arrested at home, carried off to jail and locked up with a hobo, refused bail and denied communication with his lawyer and friends. The uproar surrounding Cayton's treatment was considerable, and *The Seattle Post-Intelligencer* noted, "[That]...no case has attracted more attention from the public than this." The trial ended in a hung jury, but *The Republican* gradually began to lose its advertisers.

The paper finally folded around the time of World War I after Cayton wrote a series of anti-Ku Klux Klan editorials that completely dried up revenues.

The Caytons did thrive, however, during the good years of *The Republican.* They were so well off that they owned a large house near Volunteer Park on Capitol Hill and had at least two servants, one Swedish and the other Japanese. They participated in various cultural activities and were members of a number of clubs. Horace and Susie Cayton were widely considered the best-known blacks in Seattle at the turn of the century.



The Seattle Republican

Established May, 1894.

OFFICE 714 THIRD AVENUE.

H. R. Cayton.....Editor
Susie Revels Cayton.....Associate

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

One Year $2.00
Six Months 1.00
Three Months 60

Bona Fide Circulation 2,500

Only Paper in the Northwest Successfully Edited by a Negro.

A Whole Page of Legal Notices.

Always Regular, Readable, Reliable, Republican.

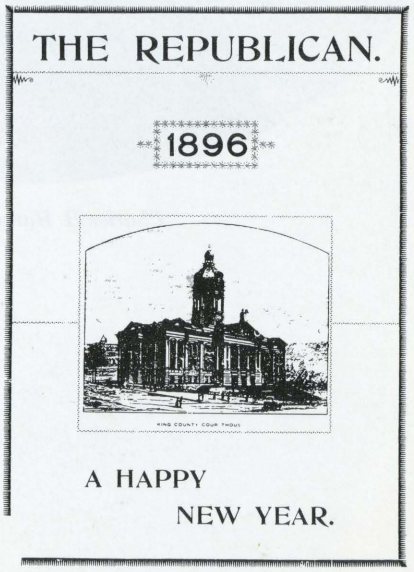
Advertising Rates Furnished upon Application.

It Carries No Saloon Advertisements.

Entered at the Postoffice at Seattle as Second-class Mail Matter.

The Seattle *Republican* lasted from 1894 to 1915.

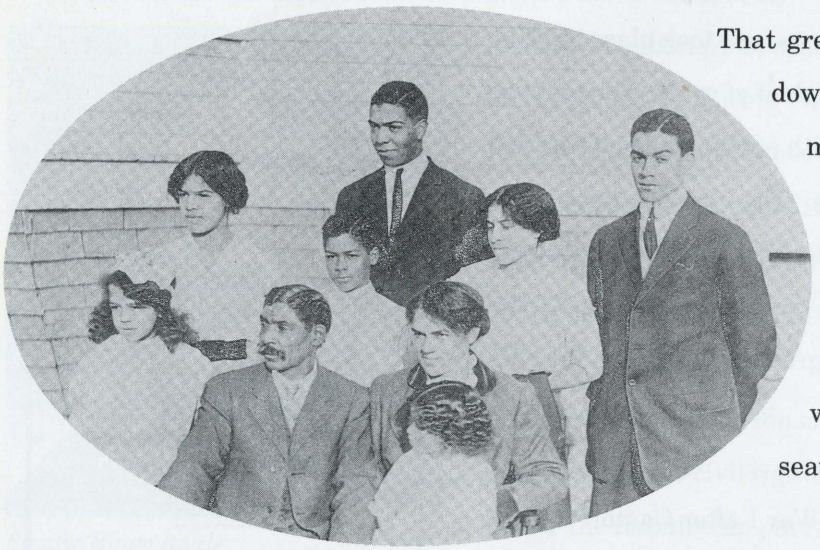
The Republican newspaper founded by Susie and Horace Cayton



The Republican Centennial Edition

First among black residents now living in Seattle in terms of continuity, the Charles H. Harveys arrived back in 1887. He was a veteran of the Union Army during the Civil War but arrived out here with his wife Evalina (Eva), a happy couple of less than a year in matrimony.

Attracted to the Sound Country and its weather through railroad travels, Charles and Eva first lived in Belltown. Nevertheless, their first child, a girl named Gertrude, was born where the Arcade Plaza now stands. Born on October 4, 1888, Gertrude was the first black girl born in Seattle. But her sister Irene Harvey Alexander, is the oldest living descendant, age 90, of the Urban Black Pioneers Families.



Charles H. Harvey Family

That great fire of June 6, 1889, which destroyed much of downtown, was watched by baby Gertrude and her mother from the front porch of their home. Father Charles was at work on Queen Anne Hill; he ran all the way home to look after the safety of his family only to find they had a front row seat, in a manner of speaking, watching the fire burn and burn. He was really shocked to find them in their front row seats, watching, watching.

In addition to Gertrude, the Harveys gave birth to seven other children. The youngest two were born at 308 29th Avenue East, in the home built by Charles Harvey himself. In fact, construction work is where he made his mark upon Seattle. In the vicinity of 29th Avenue East stand three other homes built by him. In this same vicinity stands a beautiful home built by his oldest son George Robert (Bob); directly across the street is the home of Charles and Eva's youngest daughter, Corinne Marie Harvey Taylor.

And there is line of Harvey descendants to watch and help Seattle continue to build, whether from a fire, population expansion, or whatever.

Listed among single men in Seattle in 1889, was John Thomas Gayton. But he soon found it was better to live a shared existence, thus he married. He and his wife Louise became the parents of four children - three sons and a daughter. Their daughter was also named Louise and would become the mother of Dr. Donald Phelps, former Chancellor of the Seattle Community College System with three campuses. He is currently Chancellor of the California Community System.



The John Thomas Gayton Family

More than any other pioneering urban family in Seattle, the Gayton family, through its three sons, John, Thomas and Leonard, through more grandsons and great-grandsons, and granddaughters and great-granddaughters, there is no genealogical tree that has the branches and stems as the Gaytons.

Four grandsons, John, Phil, Gary and Carver have become very successful as professionals and businessmen. So, too, have some Gayton women, including Guela, Sylvia and daughter-in-law, Willetta, especially. These types of successes are directly attributable to the standards set by Papa John Thomas whose record of employment went from waiter to librarian in the Federal Courthouse.

Looking toward the future again, one is compelled to observe, come Washington State's Bicentennial Celebrations, there will be many, many, many John Thomas and Louise Gayton descendants here to provide leadership and numerical support.

The first stop out West was in Southern California for Isiah Allen and his wife. It was from there they moved to Washington Territory early in 1889. He came first, liked what he saw, then sent for his wife Mary. They soon became active in helping establish the African Methodist Church. Coming from the wife's side of the family that helped establish the first such church ever in America, back in Pennsylvania in 1794, it was only natural to participate in Seattle.

Bringing the Allens closer to present day Seattle, the mother of Constance Pitter Thomas was Marjorie Allen Pitter, the side of the family with the direct lineage from Richard Allen. Marjorie Allen married Edward A. Pitter who came to Seattle from Kingston, Jamaica in 1909. Edward helped write *Who's Who in Washington,* published in 1926. Edward and Marjorie gave birth to three girls: Constance's sisters are Maxine and Marjorie. All three yet live and are pillars in Seattle's black community.



The Pitter Family

Maxine Pitter Haynes is a graduate nurse, active in the Mary Mahoney Registered Nurses Club. One goal of the Club is to work for the equal status of black nurses in this profession. It will be interesting to note the number of black nurses in Seattle and Washington State and their relationships to white nurses over the next 100 years.

And there are other Allen-Pitter relations in Seattle, Washington...

Mrs. Homer (Mattie) Harris, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Nelson Vinyerd, grew up on another of Seattle's seven hills: Queen Anne. In an interview over a decade ago, at the age of eighty-one, she reminisced about her father's arrival in Seattle in 1889, about attending Broadway High where she traveled a great distance to get there; and about observing the brutal strike on Seattle's waterfront at the close of World War I. After marrying, she told of difficulties in buying a home. Bank loans were not available, purchases had to be made through face-to-face negotiations with sellers.

Mrs. Mattie Vinyerd Harris gave birth to a son, whose name is also Homer; he later became and remains one of Seattle's outstanding dermatologists. Unlike his mother, he attended Garfield High as his family had moved away from Queen Anne Hill.

Near the foot of that Hill stands the High School Memorial Stadium. Dr. Homer Harris is one of several prominent Seattleites active in attempting to convince the Seattle School Board to rename the stadium to include the name of Leon Brigham in honor of his great high school coach.



John and Louise Cragwell

Coach Brigham was much more than just a coach interested in the athletic success of his students. He was interested in them as persons becoming outstanding human beings. His concerns obviously left lasting impressions upon Dr. Homer Harris. In addition to his athletic achievements, including All-American in football and team captain of a Big Ten University, he aimed high in his chosen profession as a dermatologist.

From Washington, D.C., to Seattle, Washington, both places named for the first United States President, James F. Cragwell brought parts of the other Washington with him to Seattle when he arrived in 1892. His little appointment book contained such names as Teddy Roosevelt and James G. Blaine. Back there, Mr. Cragwell had been an accomplished barber.



John Cragwell

Out here he was soon to do the same thing. He became the barber to Colonel Alden Blethen, Seattle *Times* publisher.

His grandson, Letcher Yarbrough and his wife Arline are very fond of the scrapbook started by Mr. Cragwell. This book is being constantly added to as only the Yarbroughs can. Included in Mr. Cragwell's scrapbook are pictures pointing up the genealogy of his family. President Washington owned many slaves, one of whom, according to the Cragwell family tradition, provided some of the ancestry of the Cragwells.

As was the case with other urban blacks in this source, hard work and determination to succeed became a part of the Cragwell tradition. It continued through the grandson and his wife. And it continues through Mr. Cragwell's great-grandson.

James (Jim) Yarbrough was appointed in July, 1987, Deputy Executive Secretary, Centennial Commission, Washington State. There are five children in the Jim Yarbrough connection with Cragwell to provide another direct link with the Washington D.C. past and the state of Washington's future including the next 100 years to the year 2089.

TACOMA



Edward Frank Edson

Recordkeeping involving blacks was very sporadic and not much information is available before 1889 although the city of Tacoma was founded in 1868. Some of Tacoma's earliest urban black pioneers were Edward Frank and Mary M. Edson, grandparents of Charlotte Breckenridge. The Edsons left Kentucky heading west, stopping first in California. Not satisfied in California, they continued to Washington in early 1889. In Tacoma Mr. Edson became a prominent businessman with a barber shop located at 1139 Commerce Street.

Mrs. Edson taught music in their home at 1422 K Street for more than fifty years. Together, they were among the organizers of the Allen A.M.E. Church on October 9, 1889. Mrs. Edson organized the first choir in the church and served as its first organist. Like most early Tacomans, the Edsons were club members. She joined the Sierra Leone Club and along with her husband became a member of the Puget Sound Lodge GUOOF (Odd Fellows). Both are buried in the South Tacoma Cemetery.

Another of Tacoma's earliest black pioneers, John Conna, experienced both hardship and success. He brought the first lawsuit in Tacoma alleging discrimination in a public accommodation. He served as sergeant-at-arms to the state Senate during the first legislative session. Mr. Conna was an active participant in the Prince Hall Masonic Order, ran a successful real estate business and became president of the first black Republican club in Tacoma.

H.J. and Mr. Nettie Asberry left indelible marks on Tacoma. Mrs. Asberry was a college graduate from Kansas where she had majored in music. In Tacoma, Mrs. Asberry taught private piano lessons, and Mr. Asberry owned and operated a barber shop in the Tacoma Hotel. Both were active members in the Methodist Church; Mr. Asberry was a member of the Old Fellows and Mrs. Asberry organized Tacoma's NAACP chapter and the Federated Colored Women's Clubs throughout the state. Both organizations exist today.



The Household of Ruth, the women's branch of the GUOOF, had a flourishing lodge in Tacoma before the turn of the century. Second from left, Mrs. Edward Edson. Mr. Ernie Tanner in foreground.

Mr. Asberry, Mr. Thomas W. Woods and Mr. Edmond North were early Tacoma residents who worked in the service industries. Despite the location of Tacoma and Seattle as great port cities on Puget Sound, employment on the waterfront was closed to blacks. Nor did any of them belong to the Colored Marine Cooks and Stewards Union, created in the early 1920s in Seattle.

An exception to the male employment pattern was Lawrence Sledge, who arrived in Tacoma from Mississippi in 1890. Sledge attended Stadium High School and later business college. Still he was not pleased with himself. Possessing a brilliant and inquiring mind, he yearned for the challenge of the legal field. Ultimately he studied law, passed the bar and in 1909 became a very successful attorney (probably the first black attorney in Tacoma).

Another exception was a woman. Mrs. Viola Berry arrived in 1919 and settled in Sumner in Pierce County. Soon afterward she deserted her former vocation of operating a Turkish bath and purchased a four-acre farm on which she raised chickens, ducks, geese, milk cows, fruits and vegetables for market.

Hesikiah S. Rice was born a slave in West Virginia in the 1850s. He came to Washington Territory in 1888 to work as a coal miner in Roslyn. Leaving the mines after about a year he became a cook at the McNeil Island Penitentiary. Mr. Rice remained there for two years, then worked as a street sweeper for the City of Tacoma for more than fifty years.

Martha Duckworth is the daughter of H. S. Rice. She became Tacoma's first black nurse. Unable to attend the University of Washington because of the color line, Ms. Rice received her nursing education in Chicago at Providence Hospital. It was not until 1951 that she was hired by Pierce County Hospital, where she worked for 17 years, retiring in 1971.

J.H. and Ella Ryan came to Tacoma around 1900 from Spokane, where they had lived for eleven years. Shortly after arriving in Tacoma they began publishing the *Forum*, a weekly newspaper. Before this they published Tacoma's first black newspaper, the *Weekly*. Both remained very active in church and social clubs in the city that is watched over by its namesake: Mount Tacoma (Rainier).

Four years into this century, William W. Arthur Dixon arrived in Tacoma and twelve years later he married Chong Ling. Within two years he was managing the dining room at the Olympus Hotel, but prior to arriving in Tacoma Mr. Dixon had attended the New England Conservatory of Music and traveled with the William and Waker's Theatrical Company. Dixon put some of his previous experience to use while serving as the local editor of the Seattle *Searchlight* and the northwest *Enterprise.*

Mr. and Mrs. D. W. Gibson were late 19th-century Tacoma residents. In 1892 Gibson operated a barber shop in Tacoma. He was a member of the African Methodist Episcopal Church and the Mount Tacoma Lodge. Mrs. Gibson was active in the Ladies Aid Society of the Allen A.M.E. Church, the Colored Women's Republican Club and the Douglass Women's Voters League. The

Gibsons had four children, three sons and a daughter. Two sons made Tacoma their home; another settled in Seattle. Their daughter, Viola, died at an early age.

Horace Prince Lawhorn was the first black officer in the Tacoma Police Department. He drove a patrol wagon in 1899. An enterprising sort, Lawhorn owned a real estate business and worked as a laborer in Tacoma. He resided at 825 S. State since 1902 with his wife Anvalara and their foster daughter, Daisy Taylor. Lawhorn died in 1921 at the age of 59, having been a resident of Tacoma for 30 years.



Horace Prince Lawhorn

Ella Carter was a talented, hardworking woman whose health was so good she refused to retire even at the age of 92, seeing a doctor only twice in 69 years. Arriving in Tacoma in 1903, Mrs. Carter was featured in the *Tacoma News Tribune* while living at 1612 S. Yakima Avenue.

James Hollowell came to Tacoma in 1905 from Little Rock, Arkansas. He worked as a waiter at the old Tacoma Hotel and in 1916 was proprietor of the Mount Tacoma Billiard Room at 1327-1/2 Broadway. Another Hollowell, Eliphas, lived in Tacoma since 1920. He was proprietor of Hollowell Auto Laundry, 910 Court C, in 1926. He also wrote a book in 1929 entitled Census and History of Tacoma and Pierce County Negroes, State of Washington.

Eliphas Hollowell and his wife raised their niece Helen Young and her brothers Edward, Frank and John when their mother died. Edward became a local architect and graduate of the London Royal School of Architecture who designed the Colored Women's Clubhouse at 23rd and Yakima.

Helen Young's daughter, Charlotte Williams, lived with "Uncle and Auntie" Hollowell at 1613 South J Street, in the same house in which her mother and uncles were raised.



Her husband, Charles A. Williams, moved to Tacoma in 1916 from Chicago. His father was Walter F. Williams, Sr., a railroad porter; and his mother was Ellen Powell Williams. Ellen's mother, Blanche L. Gaston, had been a resident of Tacoma since 1912. She was a retired nurse and was active in the Eastern Star and the Pentecostal Church at 25th and Tacoma Avenue.

At one time Mrs. Gaston owned a large home which still stands at 1037 S. Trafton Street. During one period, five generations lived in that house at the same time: Mrs. Gaston and her brother Charles Parker; Ellen and her husband the Reverend Percy Jones; Charles and Helen Williams and their children, Charlotte, Sidney and Carol; plus Charles' sisters and brothers. The Williams/Hollowell clan is still very much a part of Tacoma. Members of the family can be found throughout the Puget Sound

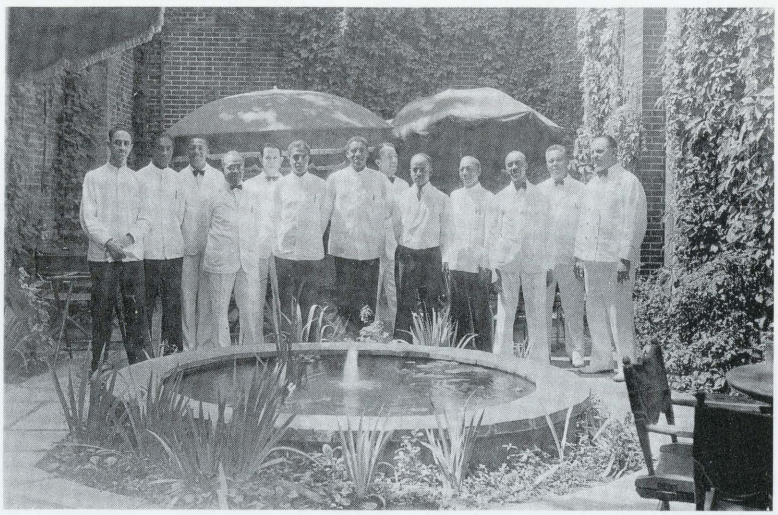
SPOKANE

Looking Back with Pride

In the Spokane region's pioneering period, many doors here as elsewhere were firmly shut to blacks, who built a world of their own around family, friends, churches, clubs and organizations. One black person's door was always open to another, and food, a warm bed for a newcomer or traveler, and companionship could be counted on.

These were hard-working people, laboring as barbers, janitors, waiters, drivers and coachmen, cooks, dressmakers, servants, bootblacks, housekeepers and porters. There were also a sprinkling of other occupations, including pastor, editor, physician, baker, attorney, electrician, cowboy, gardener, brickmason and stonemason. Their work was targeted toward building a future foundation for

their children and grandchildren, but they accomplished much more than that. They created an active, supportive community and knew, even if white people did not, that the closed doors were disconcerting but did not deprive them of anything they needed.



At The Spokane Club.

There were not only black civilians but also soldiers here, housed at the Army center at Fort George Wright beginning in 1899 when Company M of the 24th Infantry was called to Spokane. Within a year the soldiers were sent to China to help put down the Boxer Rebellion, but they later returned to Fort Wright, where they remained until World War I. The 25th Infantry Regiment also was quartered at Fort Wright from about 1900 to 1912. In 1911, on April 9, President Theodore Roosevelt paid the troops a visit and a black soldier, 1st Sgt. Joseph C. Smith of E Company, 25th Colored Regiment, was chosen to be his orderly.



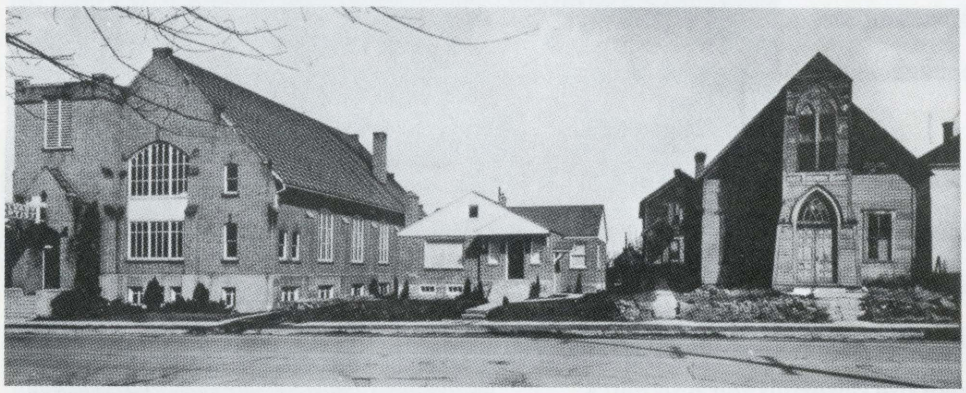
The 25th Infantry Regiment at Ft. George Wright.

It is reported that the only soldier from the 24th Infantry unit who decided to remain in Spokane was 1st Sgt. Malbert Cooper, who died here in June 1979. However, a number of black soldiers are buried at the Fort Wright Cemetery.



1st Sgt. Malbert Cooper

Many of the soldiers in later years would become introduced to the black community through its churches. From the earliest times here, black settlers felt a need for a place of worship of their own. Thus, two black churches at the 100-year mark, Calvary Baptist Church and St. Paul's African Methodist Church, later to become Bethel A.M.E., were born.



Calvary Baptist Church

Feb. 16, 1890, six blacks left the First Baptist Church to form Calvary. The new church's first pastor was the Rev. J.P. Brown and it was located on Pine at the southwest corner of East Fourth Avenue. In 1895 members met at S. 168 Howard, in 1897 at E. 426 Third where they acquired a house and chapel, and in 1912 at E. 213 Third. The present church, at E. 203 Third, has been at that location since 1927. Two prominent black pioneers were among its pastors, the Rev. Peter Barnabas Barrow, from 1895 to 1904, and the Rev. J. Gordon McPherson in 1906.

One of Calvary's longest-term ministers was the Rev. Emmett B. Reed, who came to the church in 1919 and remained for more than 40 years. Rev. Reed was also one of the first founders and the president of the Spokane branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, which was chartered April 14, 1919.



Rev. Emmett Brennan Reed, pastor of the Calvary Baptist Church

The church whose name became Bethel A.M.E. in 1900 was organized in April 1890 by 10 members at a house at S. 168 Stevens. Presiding elder the Rev. A.O. Augustus was sent from California to help establish the church, meeting at Broadway west of Monroe under the direction of its first pastor, the Rev. George W. White. A church building was constructed



The Rev. A. O. Augustus

in 1903 at Third Avenue and Browne Street and a larger church was built in 1921 at Fifth Avenue and Sherman Street. Today Bethel A.M.E. Church is located at E. 1105 Newark.

Churches were the primary meeting ground of Spokane County's black pioneer families, but clubs and lodges also provided an outlet for socializing for young and old. This is where the women played roles as active as the men's, according to records from the period. One of the foremost women's clubs was the Wednesday Art Club, founded July 9, 1913, "to foster the interest of our members and the public in the arts, the social, economic, educational and civic life of the community."

Officers of the Wednesday Art Club at its founding were Mamie Hagans, president; Ada Cunningham Jones, vice president; Lucille Perkins Parker, secretary; Elise Williams Reynolds, treasurer; and Jessie Sims Walker, bylaws chairwoman. The club held several joint ventures with men's clubs like the Success Club and the Spokane Social Club and promoted events from sponsorship of a Lawn Tennis Court and Club to the annual celebration and parade on the anniversary of the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation. An auxiliary, the Junior Wednesday Art Club, formed in 1915.



The Pierian Club

In 1917 the Wednesday Art Club met with 11 other women's clubs to form the City Federation of Negro Women, which became part of a state and then a regional federation.

The men, too, had their clubs, scores of them including the Spokane County Colored Republican Club, the Colored Citizens Progressive Club, the John A. Logan Republican Club, and the Negro Business-men's League, to name only a few. Their activities were more than social and political in nature; it was the Colored Citizens Club that, in 1911, appealed to President Taft to intervene in the case of a black soldier, Albert Thompson, acquitted of "wronging a white girl" on the Fort Wright military installation but courtmartialed by the Army anyway and sent to Alcatraz Island.



Frank A. Stokes.

Both the men and women had lodges, including the Grand United Order of Odd Fellows, Spokane Lodge No. 4794, chartered March 20, 1900, as "the first fraternal and benevolent order of "colored men;" Knights of Pythias, Crispus Attucks Lodge No. 2; Inland Empire Lodge No. 53, S.F. and A.M., chartered in 1901; and the Evergreen Eastern Star Lodge, Evergreen Court No. 62. Many of them met at Oliver Hall, built by black pioneer Daniel K. Oliver - if not regularly, for special social occasions. As far as Masonic activities were concerned, Spokane was on the map. In July 1910 the Most Worshipful United Grand Lodge of Washington and its Jurisdiction, Free and Accepted Masons, converged on Spokane. More than 200 members representing eight lodges met at Improvement Hall at Napa Street and Sprague Avenue and enjoyed a reception hosted by the Inland Empire Lodge and its Worshipful Master, Frank A. Stokes. A reception for the women of Eastern Star was held at the home of C. S. Star at 1714 Calispel, then both genders met for a dance given by a men's group, the Dove Social Club, at Elks Hall.

Just who were the black Spokane pioneers who made all of this happen? Read on to learn more about them.

Spokane's Black Pioneers

Prior to the turn of the century, as early as the years before Washington achieved statehood, black pioneers made their mark in Spokane Falls. Among the most prominent of the early black settlers here were the following:



Daniel K. Oliver

Daniel K. Oliver The first known black settler here, arriving in November 1878, seven years after the first recorded white settlers, was identified in the 1880 census as a then 33-year-old mulatto born in Franklin County, Pennsylvania. His wife Amanda was identified as 23 years of age, white and a native of Oregon, and they had a 5-year-old son, Charles W., also identified as white.

A carpenter by trade, Daniel Oliver bought an interest in the Wiscombe, Oliver & Johnson planing mill in 1887 and became its foreman. In later years he added mining and real estate interests to his livelihood. In 1896 he began a two-year term as a city councilman and also built Oliver Hall, a two-story brick structure that was a social gathering place in the Oliver block at 334-36 Riverside.

A member of the Spokane County Pioneer Society and a Grand Army of the Republic veteran of the Civil War, Oliver died Jan. 28, 1906, and was buried at Greenwood Cemetery. His son Charles is listed in city directories as a clerk at P. Mertz Cigars and Tobacco in 1896, at Pacific Cigar Store in 1900, and as a fitter at Spokane Gas Co. in 1904.



Barber shop on Howard

John B. Parker This early entrepreneur opened the first black-owned shop in Spokane Falls, a barber shop that began doing business in 1887 as Comer & Parker, Barbers, on Howard between First and Second Avenues. The following year Parker, who was born in Sandusky, Ohio, and arrived in Spokane Falls in 1881, opened a barber shop and baths at S. 208 Howard known as the OK Barber Shop. Funeral services for Parker, who died Feb. 14, 1912, after a long illness, were held at Our Lady of Lourdes. He and his wife had five children, including Charles S. Parker.

Rudolph B. Scott In 1883, after three years in the Coeur d'Alene mining country, this black pioneer, born in New Haven, Conn., Nov. 16, 1846, made his way to Spokane Falls. Scott claimed African, Indian and Scotch blood as the grandson of both a West Indian African and a Pequot Indian chief who married a Scotch woman.

Scott involved himself with farming, real estate and mining, and established a fire and life insurance company that paid out claims arising from the 1889 fire that leveled Spokane's core.



Historic four corners of Spokane Falls, looking south from the river, 1887.

Scott was a Spokane County delegate to the convention to organize the state of Washington, held in Walla Walla in September 1889, and was a delegate to the state convention in Seattle to elect a delegate to attend the national convention in Minneapolis.

A friend of the legendary Chief Joseph, Scott accompanied him and several other Nez Perce chiefs on a trip to Washington, D.C., in 1897 and again in 1900 to plead their cause to federal officials.

He enlisted in the Spanish-American War in 1898, serving in Company B, 1st Washington Veteran Artillery, and ended the war as a first lieutenant. President Theodore Roosevelt appointed him U.S. Chinese Inspector in 1902, the first

federal government post to which a black person was appointed here. He held it until 1906, when he resigned for health reasons.

Scott, a 33rd-degree Scottish Rite Mason, died March 23, 1909, and is buried at Fairmount Cemetery. He was survived by his widow, Adele A. Wagner Scott, two sons and a daughter, Addelina. One son, Rudolph Jr., is listed in the 1910 city directory as a draftsman in the city engineering department and another, Henry W., is listed as a civil engineer.



Emmett Hercules Holmes

Emmett Hercules Holmes This black pioneer arrived by train in Spokane Falls in 1888 accompanied by his family, including his father, John R. Holmes, mother Helen, brother Israel, and sisters Edmonia, Elizabeth and Cornelia. His birthplace, on July 7, 1872, was Mississippi. John Holmes, born a slave, died nine years after the family's arrival here.

A railroad worker, Emmett Holmes became the county's first black employee in 1904 when he was appointed deputy county treasurer. He later became a state employee, serving first as identification officer for the state penitentiary at Walla Walla, then as postmaster for the state legislature.

The Holmes family was among the founders of the Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church in 1890 and Emmett Holmes also had a hand in earlier plans for establishment of Calvary Baptist Church.

In 1917 Holmes was elected Grand Master of the Negro Masons of Washington. He, like many other black pioneers, was a member of the Spokane County Pioneer Society, the John A. Logan Colored Republican Club of Spokane Falls, and the African American League. Holmes held several jobs, including a bellhop at the Grand Hotel, a saloon porter, then a porter at the Seattle Lakeshore & Eastern Railroad linking Spokane and Seattle, owned by a prominent banker and Spokane founder, A.M. Cannon. Holmes also worked for years as a butler for



Mr. Jerry Flowers

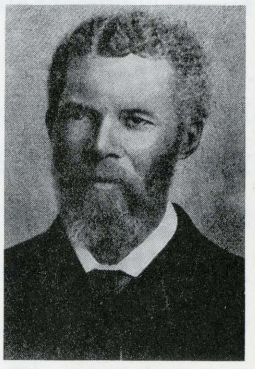
Austin Corbin, a wealthy businessman who showed his appreciation by leaving Holmes and his wife a lifetime pension.

Emmett Holmes died in 1948. His sisters Elizabeth and Cornelia, longtime active community members, married Spokane pioneers Matthew S. Stafford and Jeremiah Flowers, respectively. Stafford worked as a railroad and hotel porter and Flowers as a cook, janitor, porter and a laborer in the city water department.

Rev. Peter B. Barrow Sr. There was no doubt that the Rev. Barrow, born a slave in Virginia in 1840, loved the Northwest, where he settled at Deer Lake in 1889. "I jumped out of hell and landed in heaven on both feet," he announced at a black voters' meeting in 1890. His background included two terms as a Mississippi state senator during Reconstruction and service in the Grand Army of the Republic.

He became one of the first black landowners in Stevens County, cultivating a huge irrigated apple orchard, but he still found time to be active in the community. He became one of the founders and pastors of Calvary Baptist Church, a leader in the Farmers Alliance movement, and a candidate for presidential elector on the Populist ticket in 1896.

In 1892 Rev. Barrow moved his wife Julia and their six sons and a daughter to a house he built at E. 2417 Second in Spokane.



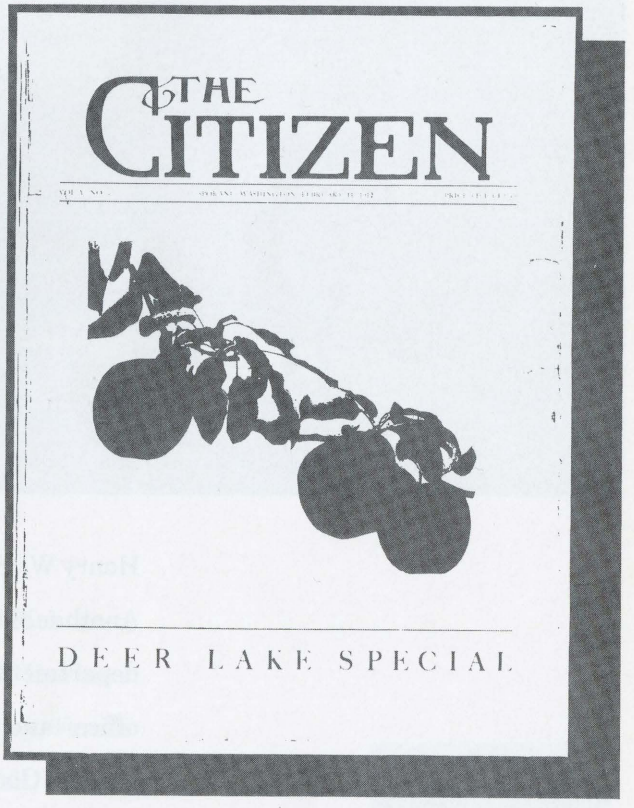
Rev. Peter Barrow

Under Rev. Barrow's direction, a giant black enterprise was born, the Deer Lake Irrigated Orchards Co., a 140-acre development at Deer Lake where blacks could prove themselves as workmen. The operation, the largest of its kind in the Inland Empire, grew winter apples on land purchased for $15,600

and irrigated with a pumping plant, then exported the fruit around the country. It was planned that all of the more than 100 workers would be black. The principals, who had offices at 243 Riverside Avenue, were the Rev. Barrow, president; Frank A. Stokes, vice president; Barrow's son Charles, secretary; and John Parker's son Charles S. Parker, who did research and experiments to control blight, as treasurer.

It was the Barrow family who gave the black community *The Citizen*, a newspaper published by Charles Barrow which chronicled the history of Spokane's black community.

Charles Barrow worked as a feeder for Quick Print Co. in 1895 and 1896, then became a pressman at X-Ray Printing Co., which he purchased in 1901. For a time he had a partner, Charles Parker, but Parker left to fight in World War I and then remained in the East, where he taught at Howard University.


THE CITIZEN

DEER LAKE SPECIAL

Charles Barrow, who later operated Quality Print Co., and his wife Olive were the parents of Eleanor Barrow Chase, wife of Spokane's first black mayor.

Charles Barrow's sister, Elizabeth A., was also an early entrepreneur, operating the Tidy Typewriting Co., and a brother, Peter B. Barrow Jr., worked for many years at The Spokane Club.

The Rev. Peter B. Barrow died July 28, 1906, in Tacoma at the age of 66 of injuries suffered when he was struck by a car while crossing the street.

Only The Beginning

These profiles of some of the most prominent pioneers do not begin to complete the roll call of blacks who were in Spokane Falls around the turn of the century, striving to achieve against the odds. In fact, records indicate that at the turn of the century Spokane had a larger black population than Tacoma and was closing in on Seattle. Among the many other black arrivals here were Jessie A. Williams, the first black lawyer back in 1891, son of William Williams, a physician who specialized in foot ailments, and his wife Hattie, a hairdresser.



Henry W. Sample,
Spokane Police Department 1892

Henry W. Sample became the first black man to wear a police uniform in 1892. Another black man, Walter Lawson, saw service as a special policeman with the department around 1900, and still another, Fred E. Goddard, was a plainclothes officer and later became driver of the police greyhound. Goddard's death, resulting from an accidental, self-inflicted gunshot wound, made newspaper headlines in 1913.



Fred E. Goddard,
died in 1913

The Rev. J. Gordon McPherson was an early pastor of Calvary Baptist Church and editor of another early black newspaper, *The Forum*, which began publishing late in 1909. Like *The Citizen,* the paper published by Parker and Barrow, it was issued every Saturday and sold for $2 a year. Officers of Forum Publishing were McPherson, secretary and general manager; reporter William B. Brown, and president and publisher Crockett Ross. Its offices were at E. 2014 Sprague.



Poodle Dog Restaurant
Collie Williams, owner

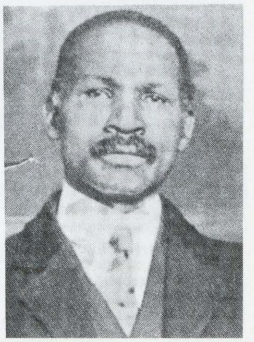
Spokane had more black businessmen in grocer William Hopkins, who operated a store at N. 1802 Division in 1897; in baker George E. Anderson, whose Acme Coffee House was operating at S. 106 Stevens in 1899; in Collie Williams, who owned the Poodle Dog Restaurant near Howard Street and First Avenue around 1912; in Richard Schloss, who operated a livery stable in 1915; and in Frank A. Stokes, owner of a transfer and storage company and president of the Negro Businessmen's League.



Volunteer Fire Department in 1889.

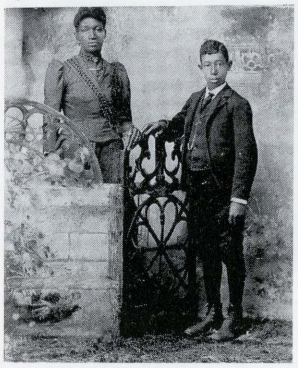
Familiar faces in the community included Joe Hagan, who was a member of the Spokane Falls Volunteer Fire Department in 1889 and is listed as a court bailiff in the 1900 census; Toussaint Tucker, a newspaper carrier around 1920; Edward D. Winlock, the first black waiter at The Spokane Club in 1903; and Charles Hagan, a bootblack for J.B. Parker's business in 1893.

There are scores more of the "unfamous" but no less important black area residents in those early years, some of whose descendants perhaps still live here today. Those early black residents include A. J. Smith, Joseph Shelley, Frank Willson, H.B. Smith, Lemuel Thompson, Richard Turner, Louis Ferrell, Joseph Bryant, John Pressley Boot, Joseph Hazelwood, Frederick W. Moss, Mrs. J.W. Potter, William Rumfort, Robert Fuller, James Fullcomer, J.T. Huffman, F. Gandrau and Malachi Johnson.



F.E. Wilson, Deer Lake, WA.

Much of the record on blacks in Eastern Washington's early days remains sketchy. A particularly big gap is in the history of pioneering black women,



Lucy Breckenridge and her son, John.

whose contributions are neglected in the official histories of the period but whose tremendous impact on their community cannot be overstated.

Who will write the histories of women like Lucy Breckenridge? Born in slavery about 1855 in Staunton, Va., she rode the train with her family to Roslyn, Washington, around 1888, when the Northern Pacific Coal Co. recruited blacks to break a strike by white miners. Lucy Breckenridge, who taught herself to read and write, and her husband, Henry, moved to Spokane between 1898 and 1899, where she lived for 40 years until her death in 1940.

Who will tell Dora Alice Freeman's story of making the journey from Durham, N.C., and settling in Peaceful Valley in 1904? In about 1908 she became the first black sales clerk for Miller, Mower and Flynn, a department store at Riverside and Monroe, then was discharged because of complaints from some white customers. She became a ladies' maid at the new Auditorium Theatre and later the Spokane Athletic Club. She sold automobile and furniture polish for XL-O Chemical Co. at Riverside and Division, supplying customers including the Davenport, Ridpath, Coeur d'Alene and Spokane hotels. Mrs. Freeman, who reared six sons alone, died in 1964 at the age of 84.



Dora Alice Freeman

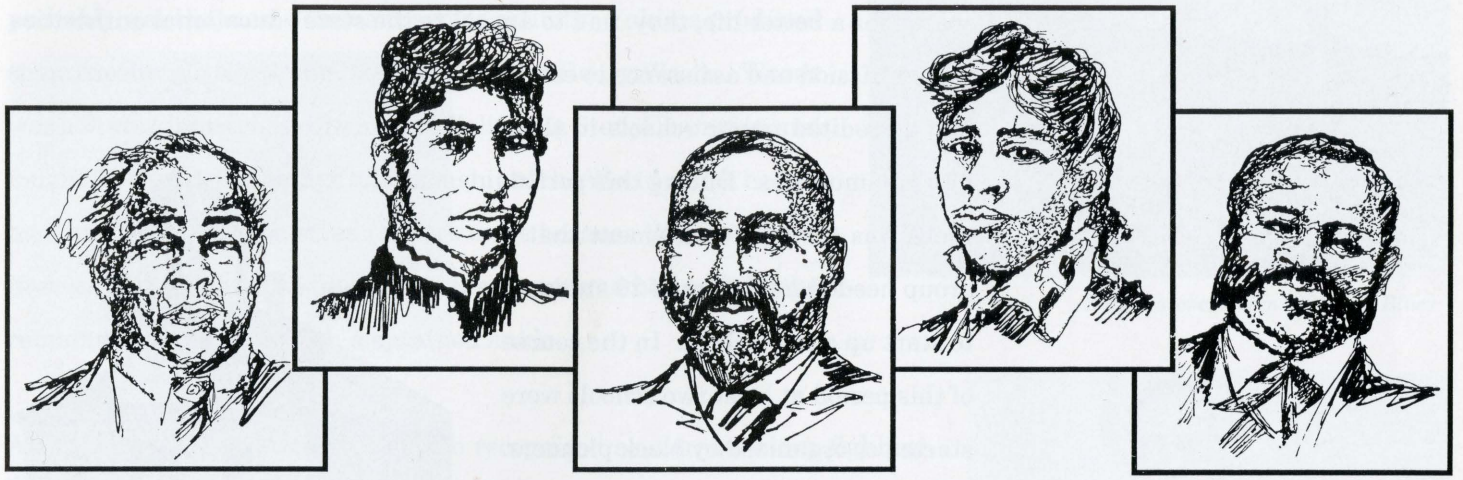
Surely the history books must have space to record the accomplishments of Mrs. J.C. Mapps, founder and first president of the Colored Women's Federation of Washington Jurisdiction in 1907. In addition to co-founding the federation with Lucille Parker, its vice president, Mrs. Mapps also was a founder of the Wednesday Art Club and put in more than 800 volunteer hours for the American Red Cross during World War I.



Mrs. J.C. Mapps

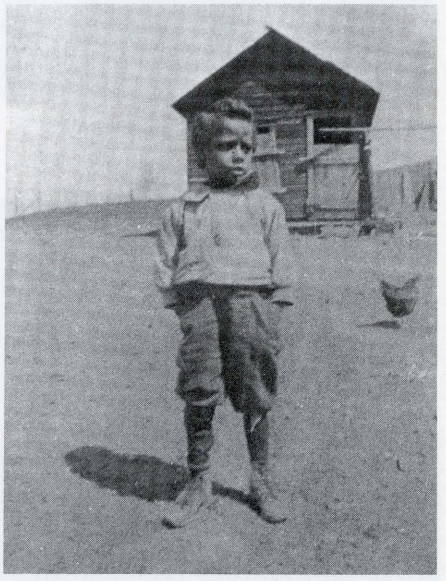
The record of the black presence in the early history of the region will not be complete until these and other stories become a part of the printed historical record, left to inspire those who follow the current generations. Thus this volume is both a gift and a challenge to today's black youth: It is you who must set the record straight.

YAKIMA



Yakima's First Families

Prior to the turn of the century, several black families moved to the Yakima Valley. Most settled in the Lower Yakima Valley, while others settled in upper Yakima, primarily in the Squaw Creek area which is in the current Firing Center Reservation area. Most of the pioneers had one thing in common: they had come to Washington State to work in the coal mines at Roslyn, then later migrated on to the Yakima Valley. Numbered among those early families were the Ole Washington, Will Taylor, Louis Sanders, John L. Bedell, Jasper Evans, and Lee Pollard families. From 1889 on, this steady migration of blacks into the Yakima Valley produced black families who added much to the development of this area. Of those early pioneers who came to the Yakima Valley, many homesteaded undeveloped acreage both in Lower and Upper Yakima Valley. The land was covered with sagebrush but through hard work many of the pioneers developed fruit, hop and row crop farms and ranches. Some pioneer descendants still live on their ancestors land today. Many of the early black settlers went into businesses, such as: hand laundries; grocery store/gas stations; hotels; restaurants; barber shops; etc. The pride and determination to succeed was burning in the hearts of these pioneers who came out West seeking out a better life.



George Harris on his farm

Education

In most instances there were no schools for their children so, in their search for a better life, they had to appeal to the state educational authorities for permission and assistance to establish accredited public schools in their new communities. During this period, there was a state requirement that a group needed minimum of 20 students to start up a new school. In the course of this period at least two schools were started or organized by black pioneers. The Ole Washington family donated the land for the Waneta School in the Lower Valley. When the school was built in 1901, its first teacher, Mrs. Genevieve Searle, a white woman, boarded in the home of a black family, the Washington's, during the week and on weekends went to her parents' home on Old Highway 410 just north of Sunnyside. It is also interesting to note that, at that time, "the School Board of Waneta School was made up entirely of Negro patrons."



Waneta School

John L. Bedell, a black pioneer, petitioned the state for approval to start a school in the Squaw Creek area, up between Yakima and Ellensburg. One of the Bedell daughters, Orange, became a music teacher and taught music in the Ellensburg school district.

Social Life

Blacks had some exciting times during the early 1900's. Black entertainers came to visit Yakima, such as Steppin Fetchit; who played at the Capital Theater in the early 1920's. While performing in Yakima he stayed at the John and Della Woods residence, primarily because of his love for home cooking and "home brew."



Steppin Fetchit

Sports events were also prominent during the early 1900's. Yakima had its own black baseball team, called the Yakima Blues. Boxing probably was the most dominant sports activity. Yakima produced some excellent boxers; the most notable was Henry Woods. Woods was a State Lightweight Champion, California State Champion and fought for the Lightweight Championship of the World which he lost by a knockout. It is believed the loss came because Woods slipped in some spilled water while going to his corner and had to fight the remainder of the fight with a sprained ankle.



Early baseball team - Yakima Blues

Another boxer, Leo Turner, was also recognized as a tremendous fighter; Winston "Stine" Mitchell; and Lee "Hurricane" Como were recognized champions within the state of Washington. Later, Charles "Hurricane" Carter, was on the verge of national recognition.



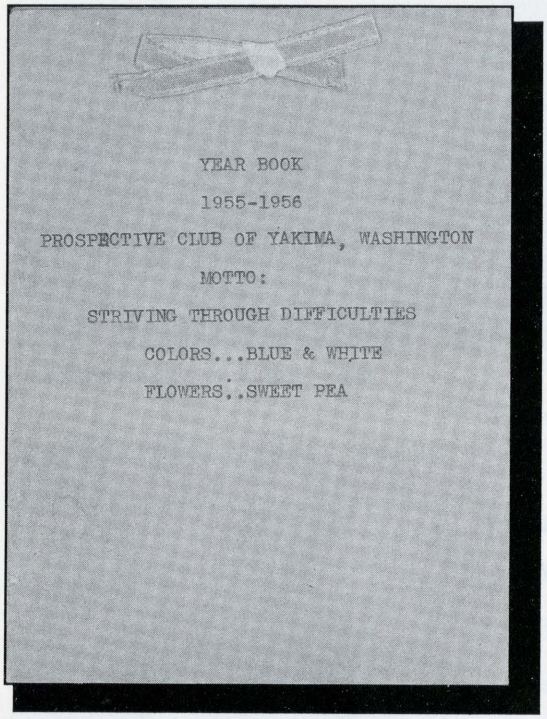
Henry "Hank" Woods, boxing champion

Local talent also sprang up among the pioneers. Mr. William Jackson with his adopted Sanders children formed a band that provided many hours of entertainment. One of the band members, Mrs. Margaret Sanders-Malone, an accomplished singing artist, provided musical presentations all of her life in the various churches, at funerals and social events.

While churches were the primary meeting place for Yakima's early blacks, some started civic clubs and other activities that brought families together. The Sears family sponsored a gospel singing group from Spokane that performed at several churches; the Sears Music Store in Sunnyside was involved in many community events. They co-sponsored the Community Concert Series



The Jackson Band


YEAR BOOK

1955-1956

PROSPECTIVE CLUB OF YAKIMA, WASHINGTON

MOTTO:

STRIVING THROUGH DIFFICULTIES

COLORS...BLUE & WHITE

FLOWERS..SWEET PEA

Prospective Club program copy

that brought to the Valley such noted artists as: Hazel Scott, black pianist and vocalist, and Todd Duncan, black tenor, who was the first black to sing Porgy and Bess. Early black women's clubs included the Elite - Hobbyites Social and Civic Club and the Prospective Club of Yakima.

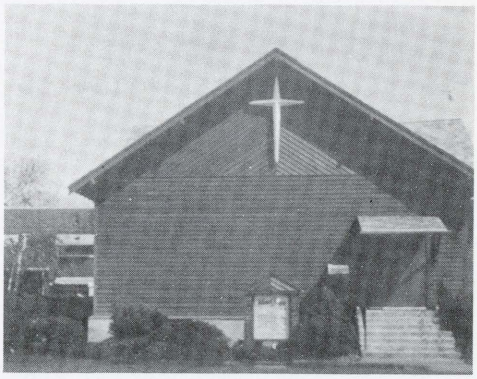
Black fraternal organizations were also established very early in the 1900's. Probably the largest fraternity were the Men and Women's Masonic Groups. For the women, Naomi Chapter #5, Order of the Eastern Star was established and many social events evolved from this group. For the men, a branch of the Prince Hall Grand Chapter, Free and Accepted Masons, Washington and Its Jurisdiction was established. Later the black Elks group was established including the Valley of the Sun #852 for the women and the Improved Benevolent Protected Order of Elks of the World (IBPOE), for the men.



Group Picture of the Naomi Chapter #5, Order of the Eastern Star

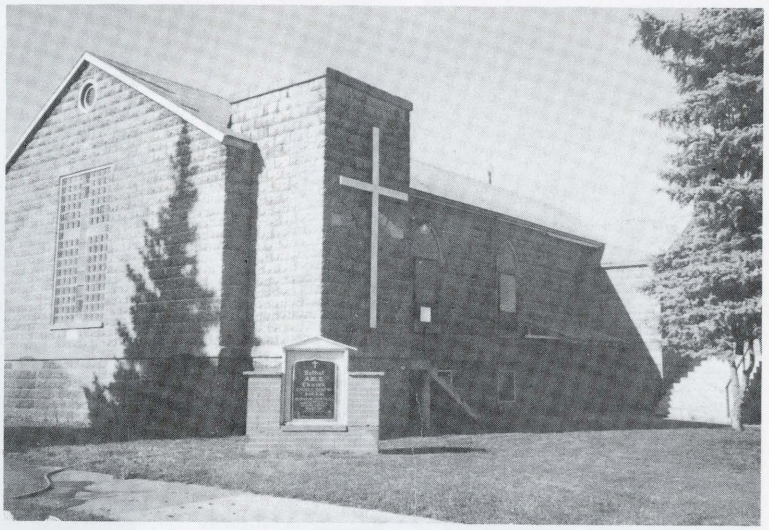
The Black Church

The black church became a focal point for pioneer families to gather for religious as well as social activities. Mount Hope Baptist Church, the oldest in the Yakima Valley, was established October 14, 1906. Mr. and Mrs. Ole Washington, believed to be the first blacks to settle in the Yakima Valley were Charter Members of Mount Hope and their daughter Mrs. Vivien Sears is still a member. Through the years, members of Mount Hope have started other churches, notably Moxee Avenue Missionary Baptist Church founded by "Mother" Annie Arnold; and the Greater Faith Baptist Church founded by Rev. Joe T. Denman and Mrs. Bessie Hackworth. However, Mount Hope still stands and maintains its prominent position as the "Oldest Black Church."



Mount Hope Baptist Church
Oct. 14, 1906

Just two months after Mount Hope was established, the Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church was established on December 6, 1906. Counted among its early members were the Jasper Evans family from which always prominent church member Della Woods came. The Burdine family and some of the Pioneer Taylor family as well as the Alex Harris family members date back to the early beginnings of Bethel. The Church has remained strong and continues to enjoy prominence in the City of Yakima.



Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church, December 6, 1906.

The First Baptist Church of Toppenish was the first black church to be built in the Lower Yakima Valley at Toppenish. The land for this church, established in 1909, was donated by Black pioneers, Mr. & Mrs. Sine Record, who came to Toppenish around 1900. The Records and various members of their families, descendants of the Turners and Williams, helped build the church and were charter members.



First Baptist Church

A trend established in those early days which continues today, was the coming of one or a few members of a family, followed by other members, after the earlier ones were established in jobs and living quarters. Such was the Record-Turner-Williams story. Mrs Sine Record, the daughter of Uriah and Luvenia Turner came to Roslyn, then to Yakima Valley in about 1900; once she and her husband were established, she sent back to Texas for her mother and father who came in 1902, and later sent for their other children. By 1904 most of the family were located in Toppenish. By such means, the black population increased and through hard work prospered.



Sine Record Family

THE PIONEERS

The Ole Washington Family

The Oldest Known Black Pioneer Family in the Valley

Ole Washington was one of the pioneer ranchers of early Yakima County. He began his farming operation in the spring of 1889, while the area was still a territory and Yakima County extended all the way to the Columbia River at Pasco.

Mr. Washington, a native of Nelson County, Virginia, and his wife Lucy Wells-Washington, also a native of Virginia, first came to Kittitas County where he was a fireman and engineer at Roslyn. On October 3rd of 1890, Mr. Washington took up a homestead of 160 acres in the lower end of the Yakima Valley, before even Sunnyside had been founded. In May 1892, he brought his family to the homestead and his descendants have remained in the area to this date. The family raised corn, hay and potatoes, and also operated a small dairy business.



Ole Washington family

The Washingtons were actively involved in their neighborhood and were stalwart champions of the cause of education; so much so that they donated the land for the Waneta School in April of 1901 and Mrs. Washington served on the school board for over 15 years. Both were members of the Baptist Church and Mr. Washington gave his political support to the Republican Party.

Born to this pioneer family were seven children; unfortunately they lost six of them. The surviving daughter, Vivien, born March 14, 1901, continued the traditions of her mother and father.



Vivien Washington-Sears

Vivien Washington-Sears

Vivien Washington-Sears was Born March 14, 1901 in the homestead claim shanty of her parents Ole and Lucy Washington. Their permanent home in the same area of Grandview was built in 1903. Their home was a hospitable haven for friends, relatives and newcomers. Among the numerous friends were:

"BIG JIM" Shepherdson	*Recruiter of Black Miners in the Eastern States.*
Mrs. Idella Stanton-Robinson	*Former owner of present site, on South 1st and Mead, of Fred Meyers and Safeway.*

Vivien Washington-Sears attended Grandview public schools, graduating in 1919 as an honor student. She married Philip Sears April 20, 1920 and they became a forceful couple in the continuing history of the Grandview-Sunnyside Area.

They owned and operated the first gas/grocery store between Yakima and Prosser, WA - 1925. It was located on the Sunnyside-Mabton Highway, the only state highway running north and south to the Columbia River.

They also owned and operated a New and Used Exchange, Sunnyside, WA - 1942. Later switched to new pianos and organ rolls.

The site of the present Sears home was bought from Martin Malloy, Ann Arbor, Michigan, a trained Black Landscaper, in 1925.

Mrs. Sears made civil rights a daily practice -- ceasing to do business with firms and suppliers who made derogatory remarks about blacks.

Horseback riding to Grandview High School was a daily happening and she became a good horsewoman, adept in animal husbandry. After the death of her husband and armed with his knowledge, she began cattle raising. She is the

mother of six children:

Mrs. Dona Sears Clash	Educator	Grandview, WA
Mark Sears	Mid Management	Grandview, WA
Lucia Newborn	Educator	Seattle, WA
Paul Sears	Brick Mason	Sunnyside, WA
Wayne Sears	Deceased	
Veotha Sears-Bell	Retired	Toppenish, WA

Her father, Ole Washington, and Mrs. Louella Cosby were brother and sister, so she counts among the relatives of "Bill Cosby."

She has lived from the "Horse and Buggy Age" to the "Jet Age," seen many fruitful events and has many memories.

Historian for the Washington Family: Vivien Washington-Sears

Research: Veotha Sears-Bell

The Louis Sanders Family

Louis Sanders moved to Roslyn, Washington to work in the coal mines. From there he moved near Black Diamond and after remaining in that area for a while he, his wife and four small children migrated to the Sunnyside area near Waneta in 1889 and homesteaded a large section of land. But shortly after Lewis settled on his new homestead he died leaving behind his lovely wife and four small children.



Louis Sanders Family

The farm required more effort than she was able to give and Mrs. Sanders decided to move to Yakima. They were not in Yakima very long before tragedy struck again. Mrs. Sanders died leaving her four beautiful children orphans. But before her death, God blessed the Sanders family to meet and establish a friendship with William Jackson, a bachelor, who was born a slave and was adopted himself by a white Minnesota family. While in Minnesota, Jackson learned to be a professional barber and an excellent musician. Upon



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.

Amos and his wife Lucinda were farmers during their early years in Yakima. They owned four lots on what is now South Sixth Street. The original lot at 1108 South Sixth Street is still in the family, owned by their grandson, Benny Sanders, Jr.



Amos Spearman

There were twelve children in the Spearman family of which three, Mary "May," Ted and Bea, remained in Yakima until their deaths. Two of them married into other early pioneer families: Ted to Nevada Roberts and May to Benjamin Sanders.

Ted and Nevada had one son, Theodore "Ted" Spearman, the first black lawyer from the Yakima Valley. Ted presently resides in Bainbridge Island, Washington and practices law in both Washington and Michigan States. He has gained national acclaim as a trial lawyer specializing in police brutality cases.



Lucinda Spearman

Mary and Ben had one son Benny, Jr. who was the first black to be hired in the Washington Public Power Supply System -- The famous WPPSS Project in the Tri Cities area. He presently resides at Pomona, Washington.



George Spearman, cowboy

Bea, who had no children, with her husband, Mr. Goodman, became orchardists in the Terrace Heights area.

Another son, George, became one of the first black cowboys in Washington and rode the rodeo circuit throughout Oregon and Washington. He was named the World's Saddle Bronc Champion.

The John L. Bedell Family

John Bedell was born in Alabama in 1858 and came to the state of Washington, locating in Roslyn in March 1889 where he engaged in mining until 1890 when he took up a homestead of 160 acres of land in the lower part of Yakima County, about five miles southeast of the present city of Sunnyside. He was among the first settlers of his part of the county and engaged in the raising of corn, potatoes and alfalfa.



Amy Bedell

Mr. Bedell and wife, Mrs. Carrie Wilson-Bedell, a native of Rock Island, Illinois, were the parents of two daughters: Amy O. who became the first black registered nurse in the Yakima Valley; and Orange B., a music teacher. She taught music in Ellensburg for a time, then moved to Tacoma with her husband, A.C. Tribble.

The Bedells were of the Baptist faith and politically affiliated with the Republican Party. Mrs. Bedell, an accomplished pianist, played for many social activities and special events in their area. Mr. Bedell served as a member of the local school board for ten years; served for four years as a Trustee of the Water Users Association; was a Commissioner of Drainage District No. 9 for four years; and was a "Master" of Waneta Grange where he had many friends and exchanged his view and expressions in regard to the local farming conditions.



The Pollard farm

The Lee Pollard Family

Lee Pollard was born in Rockingham County, Virginia in 1865; he came to Washington State in 1900, settling in Roslyn, where he became a coal miner. In 1901, he took up a homestead of 80 acres near where Grandview now stands. The family raised corn, potatoes and hay and engaged in raising hogs and conducting a dairy business. He also worked for Dr. P.B. Wing, on the ranch property adjoining his own.

Mr. Pollard was married to Jennie Jenkins-Pollard who was born in Virginia and were the parents of eight children who, through marriage, became linked with several other early black families of this area including the Kile-Brooks Family of Sunnyside; the Howard Family of Toppenish; and the Blalocks of Yakima. Family members still own some of the original Pollard land in the Lower Valley.

The Family attended the Baptist Church and were politically affiliated with the Republican Party.

The William R. Taylor Family

William R. Taylor came with his parents to the Yakima Valley in 1889 when he was five years old, settling in Mabton, Washington. William married Nettie Nicholas who came to Roslyn with her parents Carter and Olivia Jones-Nicholas in 1889. The marriage of William and Nettie joined these two large pioneer families together. After farming in Mabton, Mr. Taylor moved on up to Yakima where he worked for the City and intermittently in various food processing plants (canneries).



Taylor family reunion

Mr. and Mrs. Taylor had eleven children, two of whom remained in the Yakima area. A daughter, Opal, married William "Bill" Gray who was one of the owners of The Three Boys Cafe -- one of the earliest black-owned restaurants in Yakima. Opal was probably the first black to work in the local Bon Marche, from which she retired. Together Opal and Bill purchased and operated an orchard in Selah where they made their home. Another daughter, Olivia "Bunny" married Chester Emmons and together they established their home in Cowiche where they, too, owned and operated an orchard.

The Jasper Evans Family

Jasper Evans was a Civil War veteran who decided to bring his family West to seek a better life. When they first came to the Northwest from Missouri, they settled down near Tacoma. However, when a doctor advised Mrs. Evans to move to a drier climate, the family packed up and headed to the Yakima Valley, eventually homesteading on 160 acres in Selah in 1896. A noted descendant of this family, Della Mae Evans-Woods was only 11 months old when she came to the Yakima Valley with her parents, Jasper and Belle Evans. She married John Woods whose family came to the Yakima Valley in 1903. Della and John were charter members of the Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church where Della was the church organist for 25 years. They had two sons Henry and Duke. Son Henry "Hank" Woods was one of the first and probably the most accomplished boxers to come out of the Yakima Valley, achieving national titles for many years. Son Duke lives in Los Angeles, California and Hank still resides in the original Evans-Woods home on North Second Street which the family moved into in 1920.



Belle Evans on hop farm



John Woods with Yakima Colored Citizens Republican Club Members

THE TRI-CITIES

Pasco, Kennewick, Richland

The Tri-Cities are comprised of three towns, Richland, Pasco, and Kennewick, which lie at the junction of the Yakima, Snake, and Columbia Rivers. This area of the Pacific Northwest was first explored by Lewis and Clark on their commissioned exploration for President Jefferson. York, Clark's servant, was the first black to visit the Tri-City area when the expedition camped at the junction of the Columbia and Snake Rivers in October, 1805.

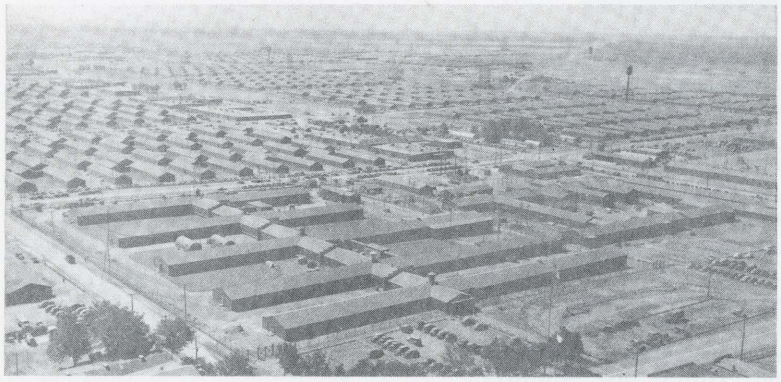


John Hinds, a black mountain man, spent time in the Pasco Basin in 1836. He came to Waiilatpu, southeast of Pasco, with Marcus Whitman and was buried in the Whitman's cemetery.

Tri-City history does not begin until 1884 when Pasco came into existence. Kennewick emerged second, slowly developing into an organized community around the turn of the century. Richland, the youngest of the three, began formation in 1943 with the beginning of the Hanford Works. The Tri-City area as we know it today was primarily a pass-through area for blacks seeking employment in other areas in the state.

The Tri-City area black population around the turn of the century was scant. The first black pioneers to come to the Tri-City area and take up residence were three black families who settled in Pasco in 1906. Work was scarce, but the men found employment as railroad workers. Among these early Pascoites were the Suttons whose daughter, Gladys Sutton Coleman was the first black graduate of Pasco High, in 1924.

Suttons whose daughter, Gladys Sutton Coleman was the first black graduate of Pasco High, in 1924.



Benton County, the location of Kennewick and Richland had a black population of six in 1910 which declined to one by 1940. The first two black families moved into Richland in 1950. Franklin County, of which Pasco is the county seat, had a black population of 19 in 1910 and 28 in 1940.

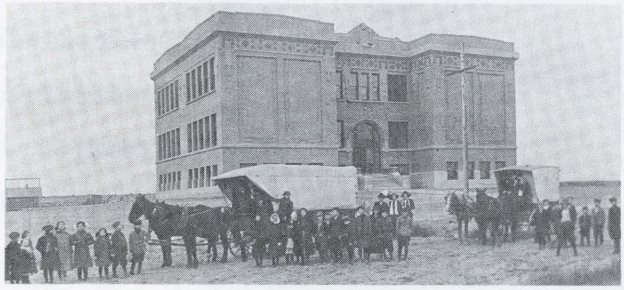
Accompanying these first black Tri-City pioneers was the scourge of racism. In 1908, a chapter of the Ku Klux Klan began a short-lived life in Pasco, fizzing out a few years later. The new town of Kennewick was all-white at its birth and would remain a barrier to African Americans for almost sixty years.

The City of Pasco formed a Human Relations Committee in 1947, which expressed many concerns about life in East Pasco. A number of blacks were members of this committee, including Katie Barton, Joe Bush, Charles McClough, Lucinda Cloy, Vanis and William Daniels, Charles Evans, J.W. Fields, Thelmer Hawkins, Iola James, Leola Haythorne, Luzell Johnson, Rev. and Mrs. Bert Jackson, James Pruitt, Billy Williams, Rev. E. M. Howard, Thomas Jackson, Elzena Rollins and Napoleon Wilson.

During this same period, the East Pasco Improvement Association was formed. One of the groups' first priorities was to get water lines installed in the area, as East Pasco residents were hauling their water.

In the early 1950s, E.M. McGee formed a local chapter of the N.A.A.C.P. with thirteen charter members. Other leaders of the organization included Thomas Jackson, Rev. Bill Wilkins, Lloyd Pounds, Rev. H.P. Hawkins, Rev. Floyd Bullock, Edgar Hargrow, Norman Moorer, and Jackie Edmonds is the current President.

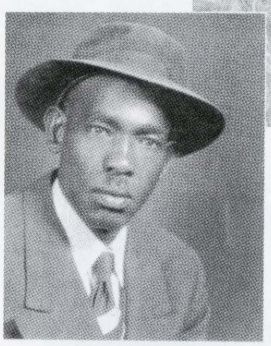
In 1943, the Federal government began construction of the Hanford Works. The growth and expansion of the area was tremendous. The Tri-Cities were transformed from sleepy farm towns into bustling communities. The combined Tri-City population in 1910 was 13,000 soaring to 65,000 by 1950. The black population, 25 in 1910 increased to 2,000, in 1950. North Richland, a separate community near Richland, had a black population of three hundred living in government barracks and trailers. The blacks were employed primarily as construction workers at the Hanford Works.



Students and horse-drawn school "buses" in front of Whittier School on Pasco's East Side, Circa 1912

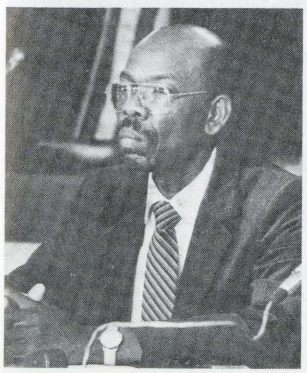
It was during this boom period that more black pioneers, lured by the opportunities Hanford presented, began to venture into, and stay, in the Tri-City area. By the mid-1940's, 1200 blacks lived in East Pasco and their children attended Whittier School, which was closed in 1965. Though they found economic doors were being held warily open for them, other doors were, like the places they left, closed shut.





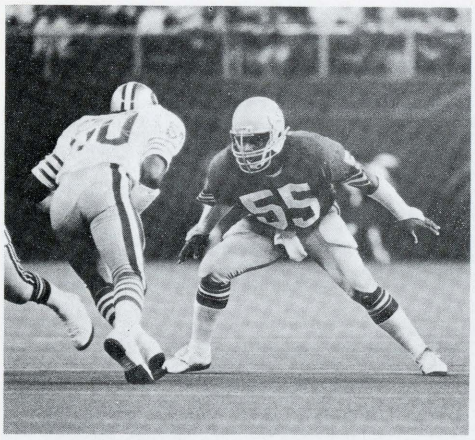
Tom and Lula Jackson

Blacks entering Pasco or Kennewick were systematically steered into East Pasco, the only housing in the area available to those with dark skin. Blacks brought to work specifically on the Hanford Project were assigned to segregated barracks and trailers in North Richland, and found it very difficult to find housing in Richland. Warned to "get out of Kennewick by sundown," blacks avoided the town which would later be called, sadly, the "Birmingham of the North".



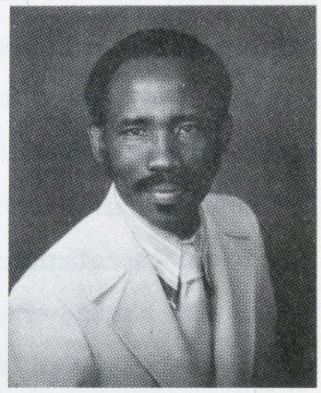
Joe Jackson, 1st black mayor

Despite these difficulties, blacks came and stayed in the Tri-Cities. Tom Jackson left Arkansas in 1948 and settled with his family in Pasco. Tom and Lula Jackson remained in Pasco and the family has left its mark in the area's history. His son Joe, is a Pasco city councilman, and a former mayor of Pasco, the



Michael Jackson, former Seahawks linebacker 1981

first black to hold this office. His other son, Webster, is Personnel Purchasing Officer for the City of Pasco. His grandson was a Pasco High football standout, member of the 1978 Rose Bowl Championship Football team at the University of Washington, and a professional football player with the Seattle Seahawks.



Webster Jackson works for the City of Pasco

Other families have been influential in Pasco's growth as well. Virgie and Richard Robinson came to Pasco in 1949 from Seattle, and settled permanently. Virgie was instrumental in getting Kurtzman Park in Pasco completed and was its first director. The park is home to the Martin Luther King Jr. Center for Youth, a recreational facility completed in 1975. The Robinson's son Ricky and his wife Rosalyn were largely responsible for the Miss Black Junior Miss Pageant, which awarded scholarship funds to young black women for college.

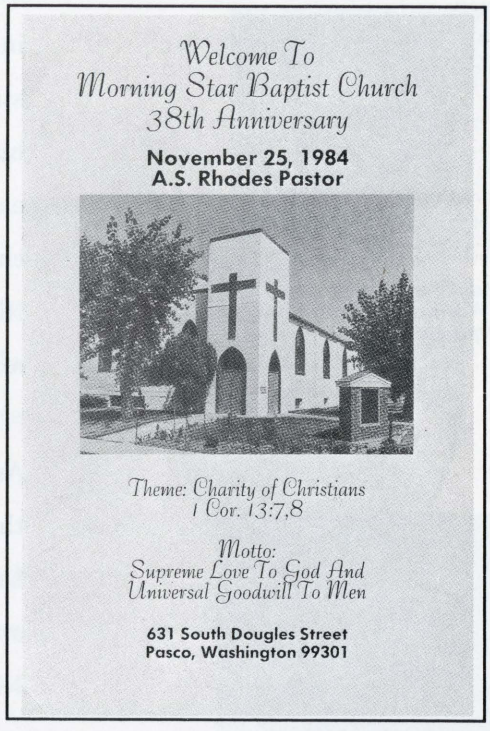


Virgie and Richard Robinson
Photo courtesy of *The Tri-City Herald*

Owning property was virtually impossible for blacks. Outside of East Pasco, owners refused to sell to black customers. Local banks in turn, redlined East Pasco, refusing to loan to residents from East Pasco. But some blacks found ways around this financial hindrance. J.D. Evans financed and bought his night club, the Dew Drop Inn, by having his white lawyer buy the property for him. Similarly, in Richland, a real estate broker bought the land for Judson Phillips, on which he located his tailoring business near what is now Seattle First Bank.

These barriers could not stop the establishment of black churches either. The oldest surviving Black church, Morning Star Baptist Church, was organized in Pasco in the spring of 1946. J.L. Stewart was pastor. Other black churches to follow were Trinity Church of God in Christ, St. James Christian Methodist Episcopal, New Hope Baptist, Greater Faith Baptist, Church of God, and Ephesus Seventh Day Adventist Church.

The national uproar of the 1960's occurred in the Tri-City area as well. The civil rights movement in the area focused on the barriers in Kennewick for blacks, and the refusal of local merchants to serve black customers. In 1968 violence erupted in Kurtzman Park when Pasco residents protested police brutality. Earlier, in 1963, Jack Tanner, now a Federal Court judge in Seattle, led a civil rights march of eighty people through downtown Kennewick.


Welcome To
Morning Star Baptist Church
38th Anniversary
November 25, 1984
A.S. Rhodes Pastor
Theme: Charity of Christians
1 Cor. 13:7,8
Motto:
Supreme Love To God And
Universal Goodwill To Men
631 South Dougles Street
Pasco, Washington 99301

The Morning Star Baptist Church Bulletin

In the Tri-Cities, stories of black pioneers have a modern tint. These pioneers braved a wilderness different from pioneers of other ilk. These brave black women and men learned to thrive in the face of adversity. Shortly after the long move to gain meaningful employment and a higher quality of life came the realization that education, fair housing, public accommodations and economic stability in this newly discovered promised land were yet to come about. Thus history records, and hearts of men and women recall the strides, the gains, the battles, the poor housing, leaky roofs, dirt streets, outhouses and chicken shacks. They built houses and lives in an area that did not welcome them. But despite the adversities, Tri-City blacks have weathered the storm, garnering the respect of the entire community.



Ron Howard, the All-American Basketball standout

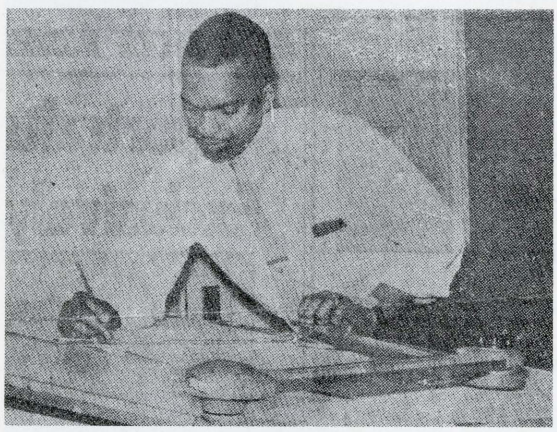
In less than fifty years, blacks have achieved many milestones in the Tri-City region. Sports fans remember the accomplishments of Ron Howard, the All-American Basketball standout from Pasco High, in the 1960's. Other blacks have carved their name in the sports annals

The Herb Jones Family

Ammetta Jones brought her five children to reside in Pasco in 1938. Herb was a small boy and his family remained in Pasco three years.

Years later Herb and Rindetta Jones returned to the Tri-Cities with their children, Sabrina and Herb Jr. They moved into Kennewick in the early sixties. Herb was employed while in the Tri-Cities by General Electric and Battelle Northwest Laboratories. As president of the local chapter of the Congress of Racial Equality (CORE), Herb was a community activist and leader. He has since left the area.

The Slaughters



John Slaughter

One hundred miles west of the Tri-Cities, in the early sixties, John and Mary Slaughter and their children were living just inside the Snoqualmie National Forest where John was employed as a highway engineer at the Naches Ranger Station. John continued to work for the National Forest Service in Seattle before coming to Kennewick as an Atomic Energy Commission employee.

The Slaughters leased a home in Kennewick on West 6th Ave. Their daughter, Johnetta and son, Gregory, attended Westgate Elementary School. Gregory was the first black graduate of Kamiakin High School; Johnetta graduated two years later.

The family was welcomed by many fair-minded citizens of Kennewick and experienced no problems of acceptance. John was a member of the Kennewick Jaycees and actively involved in their programs before leaving the area.

John and Mary returned to Kennewick several years ago and are still residents.

PIONEERS

RICHLAND

The movement of blacks from the barracks and trailer camps of North Richland into the town of Richland was slow, partially due to the requirement to be a General Electric employee and due to discrimination in housing.

Fred Claridy



Fred Claridy

Fred Claridy came to North Richland in 1947 and was employed by General Electric Co. as a janitor and later as a metal operator. The first black to rent one of the government houses in the city of Richland, Fred lived in a one bedroom prefab on George Washington Way until he bought two houses on Perkins Avenue, one to dwell in and one to rent.

After Fred moved into Richland, other blacks began to move in. He paved the way for other blacks to own homes in the city of Richland.

Fred Claridy was an avid and expert fisherman. He died in 1963.

Patrick Owen

Mr. Owen, a General Electric employee, was also among the first blacks to reside in Richland. He and his wife Dorothy raised a large family, some who remain in the area.

George Mitchell and the Rocquemores

In 1943, George Mitchell lived in housing at White Bluffs while working on temporary bases, traveling to Texas and back. Later, he was moved with other workers to North Richland. His daughter Lois Mitchell Rocquemore and

her husband, William, became long-time Richland residents. Lois Rocquemore was the first black hired at the Bon Marche in 1964 when it was located in Richland. She worked as a stock clerk, buyer and manager of China and Housewares. The Rocquemore's still reside in Richland following her retirement from Westinghouse and Mr. Rocquemore's retirement from Battelle after 33 1/2 years at Hanford.

Al Young, Fred and Laverne Baker, Primer Brown, the Wealthy Wallace family and the Mitchells were also among Richland's earliest black residents.

The Mitchells

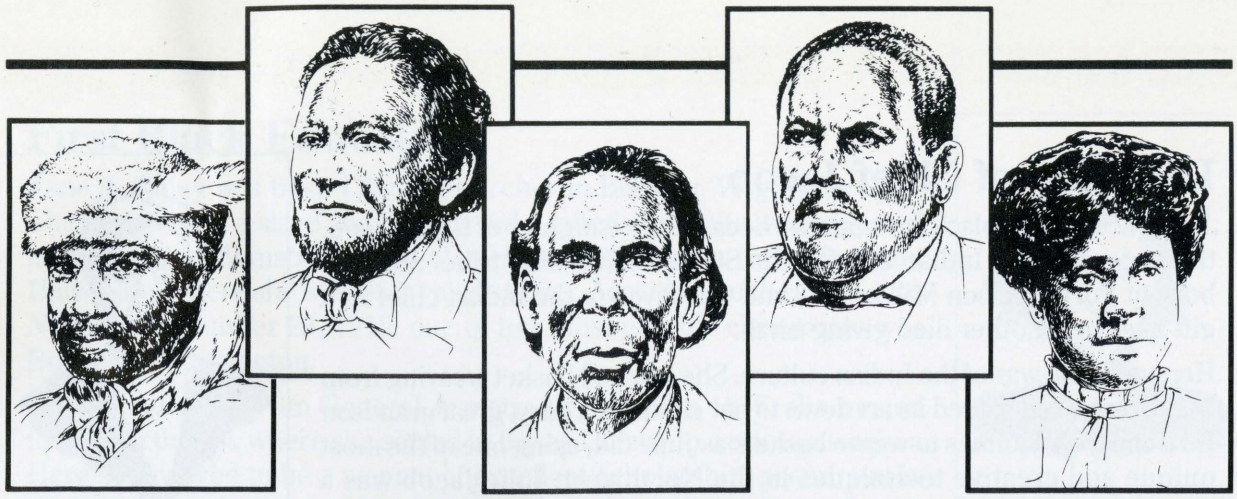
C.J. Mitchell came to the Tri-Cities first in 1947 following his graduation from high school. He left after two years and returned to Pasco in 1952 as a construction worker on the Blue Bridge, and at McNary Dam. C.J. and his wife Bernice moved their family to Richland after he was employed by General Electric, Hanford's prime contractor in the mid-fifties. The Mitchells have raised six children who have distinguished themselves athletically and academically.



The Mitchell Family
Photo courtesy of *The Tri-City Herald*

C.J. Mitchell was the first black to serve on the Board of Directors of Columbia Basin College and is a respected Pacific Coast referee and umpire.

The Mitchells continue to live in Richland as solid contributors to the community.



NORTHWEST BLACK PIONEERS

First Black Pioneer



Kate Garrison

John Garrison was one of the first black pioneers in Kitsap County to show up on the census, in 1857. He was perhaps born in Jamaica in 1818. It has been said that he jumped an English ship in 1853 and worked as a fisherman, and at William Renton's Sawmill as a logger. He married a young Indian girl, Piapach (also called Jane), and the couple had ten children: John, Robert, Joseph, Kitty, Betsy, Lydia, Henry, Samuel, Benjamin and Kate.

Records show that by 1872, he had purchased one of the largest oyster farms at Dye's Inlet for $50. He and Jane operated that business until 1887. Much of Kitsap County's unsettled land was improved and developed by the Garrisons.

John's wife Jane Garrison, a Puget Sounder since 1851 and the niece of Chief Seattle, has her own place in Kitsap County history. She was the first person to ride over the Manette Bridge when it opened on June 30, 1930. When she died the following year (January 16, 1931), the hearse carried her body over the same bridge. Although she was said to be 106 when she died, census records indicate she was born in 1838.

Two of the Garrisons' sons, John and Robert, worked for the Sackman Operation. At one time, Robert Garrison's time sheet at the logging company showed that he was the highest paid employee, at $2 per day. Annie Kate Garrison, the youngest daughter, was listed as one of the first pupils to attend the Tracyton School in the 1800s.

John Garrison died on October 23, 1908.

Daughter of Chief Jacob



Julie Jacob was a black woman who became the daughter of Chief Jacob, the last surviving Indian chief of the Suquamish Indian tribe. She was born at Port Madison Mill in 1873 and was given to the Indian chief as a gift after her mother died giving birth.

Her entire life was of the Indian culture. She learned basket weaving from her parents, and passed its art down to her children. Today, great-grandson Ed Carriere continues to weave baskets as Julie did, using one of the most unique and creative techniques in the Northwest. Julie Jacob was a great black woman, her life influenced by different elements in a unique way. She was a member of the black race by birth, but an Indian at heart.

The 1880 U.S. Census lists her as a member of the Suquamish culture. Julie never married, although she raised two daughters and a son. Her son, Lawrence Webster, still resides in Indianola.

She died December 12, 1960, at the age of 86. Her obituary was listed in the Bremerton News on December 13, 1960, under the heading, "The Chief's Daughter Succumbs."

Justice of the Peace for Seabeck –1897

Nathaniel Sargent was born in Kentucky, July 4, 1863. Known as "Nat" to his friends, he was born into slavery and after The Emancipation, adopted by a white family in the North. He later moved with his family to Oregon. Because Oregon law withheld rights from Negroes, he came to Kitsap County where he earned a living as a logger.



As early as his arrival, he kept a diary of the time: the weather, what contacts he made, and the work he had done that particular day. A graduate of the University of Illinois with a brilliant mind, he preferred the secluded life his ranch offered and spent his leisure hours creating beautiful oil paintings or writing verses, some of which were sold. In 1897, he was elected Justice of the Peace for Seabeck.

He homesteaded alongside other homesteaders, as they built homes, started orchards, butchered and harvested. He was their friend, yet never imposed and was often invited as a guest. Records show he homesteaded 128 acres, and in 1903 purchased 120 more. He donated land for the Seabeck Crosby School.

A bachelor at the age of 91, he died in Seattle on August 16, 1954.

Black Loggers and Mill Workers

In 1854, the Kitsap Peninsula was the most populous in Washington Territory, in spite of its small size, due to the logging and sawmill industries. At one time, five of the world's largest sawmills were in operation on the Kitsap Peninsula, including Port Gamble, Port Madison, Port Blakley, Seabeck and Enetai Beach Inlet. The mills and logging operations created many jobs for young blacks coming to the Kitsap area. Early records from the mills reported the following black workers from 1870 to 1889: John Glomes, Contrero Frank, Gardner T., James Johnson, Charles Shoomaker, Thomas Webb, Green Sidney, Auquet Blake, Rockman and Dianolo Manuel.

First Black Educator



Jane A. Ruley was born Lilly Jane Archer in Berkley, Virginia in 1856. The daughter of a slave and considered a gifted child, she was educated in the General Armstrong School in Hampton, Virginia (now Hampton University) where she was class valedictorian. According to the *Bremerton News* on November 23, 1915, one of her most notable classmates was Booker T. Washington.

After graduating from General Armstrong School in 1875, she moved to the Northwest, where she settled in Kitsap County to work as a teacher. Here she proved to be a woman of excellent scholarship, prominent in the educational affairs of her community and a dedicated community worker. Local records indicate that Mrs. Ruley was the first black teacher in the area, and one of the first in Washington state.

Shortly after her move to the Northwest, Lilly Jane married Paul E. Ruley, who was born in Stuttgart, Germany in 1857. They had two children, a son Archie and a daughter Gertrude. The Ruley family was well-known in the area. It is said that in the early days, Mrs. Ruley held school in a barn on their property, which was called the "Sleepy Hollow Ranch." Later, they helped establish the first Sheridan School #22 and were instrumental in its support and upkeep.

In addition, Mrs. Ruley taught the first Sunday school for the Manette Church, introduced music to its members and served as organist.

Mr. and Mrs. Ruley were much loved and respected in the community. Their children Archie and Gertrude grew up to follow in their parents' footsteps, getting involved in community affairs as well. Archie was known in the Sheridan and Manette area as one of the fastest pitchers of his time, who kept the name of the ball team going. He also played ball at Washington College, where he attended school. Gertrude was known in the community as a talented young lady. She finished Union High School in 1914 and was the class salutatorian. At the age of 17, Gertrude entered Washington State College in Pullman, Washington, graduating in 1918 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in music.

Jane A. Ruley died in 1927. Her husband, Paul E. Ruley, died in 1913.

Bootblack

Charles Austin – nicknamed "Shine" – was a well-known character around Bremerton for many years. He could be found almost any evening along a downtown Bremerton street corner with his shoeshine box. He was said to give the best shine in town.

Little is known about Charles before he came to Bremerton. He was, however, born a slave, and was the chattel for Old Ginril Austin and Young Ginril Austin of South Carolina.

Charles Austin's death was very sudden. According to the Bremerton News, he was found dead in bed on March 1, 1912, shortly after the death of his wife, Sarah, in October of 1911. Charles received an impressive funeral, conducted by black evangelist Rev. George Richard Dayrell. Friends of Charles in Bremerton and Seattle attended in considerable numbers, and many floral offerings covered his grave. He was buried alongside his wife.

Navy Hero



John Henry "Dick" Turpin was born in Long Beach, New Jersey. He dedicated his life to the U.S. Navy, his first enlistment being on board the U.S.S. *Vermont*, in New York.

The Navy at this point had never commissioned any blacks, limiting all black sailors to stewards and messmen. In spite of these obstacles, Dick Turpin succeeded in making significant contributions during World War I. He was a Chief Gunner's Mate by the time he retired and was called back to serve as Lieutenant Commander.

Dick Turpin proved to be a hero twice during his Navy career. He saved the life of his Captain, Chas D. Sigsbee, when the *Maine* exploded in Havana Harbor. Turpin was also aboard the cruiser *Bennington* in San Diego when it exploded. He succeeded in saving the lives of seven shipmates. This is how he became known throughout the nation as the holder of two Medals of Honor.

One of his greatest contributions to the service he loved was a collaboration in which he helped devise the underwater welding acetylene and arc-electric processes. Each was of great value to the Navy in saving the lives of men trapped in ships and in saving costs on routine repair work.

Clearly, Turpin was a hero many times over. He will be remembered by generations to come as the most legendary figure of the "Old Navy," ramrod-straight, moustached, proud and fiery. Although it is not certain that the medals were formally bestowed, he will be remembered as one of the only Negroes of his time to receive a Medal of Honor – and not only one, Turpin held two of them. He was a warrior of the Spanish-American War and World War I, representing the last of the unbreakable breed of men who manned the sailing ships.

First Black Deputy Sheriff

William Walter Simmons was born in Boston on August 4, 1877, to Mr. and Mrs. David Simmons. At the age of six his parents moved to Halifax, Nova Scotia, where he attended grade school. In his early years, he lived in Amherst, Nova Scotia; Dorchester, New Brunswick; and Winnipeg, Manitoba.

In 1910, he came to Spokane, Washington, where he was hired by the Northern Pacific Railroad Co. as head end porter for 18 months. He then moved to Seattle and worked at The Bon Marché store for a short while. Later, he moved to Everett and worked for the Butler estate as gardener until 1914. After going into business for himself in 1915, he married his first wife, Miss Ella Whitlow, to whom were born his two children, Walter and Margaret.

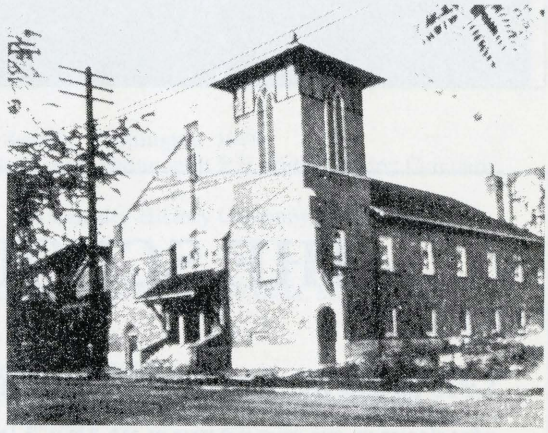
In 1918, he obtained employment in the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard, and, under a wartime housing plan, moved to Bremerton. In 1919, with a special permit from the Secretary of the Navy, he became a part of the law enforcement agencies in Bremerton while continuing to work in the shipyard.

Mr. Simmons went into Masonry in 1919; he also joined the Elks Lodge, Mt. Rainier No 3512 in Seattle and was a member of the Furlough Club. He became active in the NAACP in 1920. In 1921, he and two other members established Pure Gold Lodge No. 21.

In 1927, he married Miss Sylena Cambell. After 31 years of service, Mr. Simmons retired from the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard in 1946, but continued to work in the sheriff's department and was hired as a regular deputy. He has received a commission from every sheriff elected to office in Kitsap County since 1921. In 1946, he also set up Hamma Hamma Lodge No. 35, F.&A.M., and Madrona Chapter No. 14, O.E.S.

Conclusion

Blacks arrived in the Pacific Northwest Territories in search of a better life, one without prejudice and restriction on their ambition. The state of Washington, while not perfect by any means, did offer blacks opportunities to follow their dreams. Many blacks opened businesses, pursued professions, reared families and prospered significantly in the growing urban centers of the Puget Sound. Urban pioneers like the Groses, Caytons, Cragwells, Vinyerds, Harrises, Harveys, Allens and Norrises had an impact on their communities, and their descendants continue that tradition today. Blacks started churches early on in Seattle's history. The Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church, the First African Methodist Church and Grace Presbyterian Church all played significant roles in the growing Seattle black community. Tacoma blacks founded two Baptist churches and the Allen African Methodist Church which is 100 years old this year. Spokane's first black churches were Bethel A.M.E. and Calvary Baptist Church. In Pasco, the first church established in the black community was Morning Star Baptist Church. Those churches are still active today. Other black families settled in rural areas and made farming their livelihood with land ownership a dream fulfilled. Ethel Craven and her son William settled Roslyn, and William became mayor of that town, the first black in the history of Washington to become a mayor. While blacks were not always significant in number, their contribution to the development of Washington State cannot be ignored. Descendants of the pioneer families still live in the Seattle-Tacoma, Spokane, and Yakima areas, and the Tri-Cities. They can feel pride in their freedom-seeking forefathers and the legacy they left behind. The Tri-Cities' black pioneers were spirited and anxious to establish a better way of life for themselves. Many descendants still remain in the area and carry on the traditions and values of all the Pacific Northwest's black pioneers and their achievements are great.



The First African Methodist Church, 14th Ave., between Pike and Pine, Seattle, WA.



THE SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Left to right, Mungina Mungin, who graduated from Franklin High School and is studying engineering at the University of Washington; Stephanie Turner, Franklin High graduate continuing her education at Clark University in Atlanta, Georgia; and Kalin Palmer of Holy Names Academy, now attending Xavier University of Louisiana in New Orleans. Not pictured: Marilyn Smith, who graduated from Franklin High School, and is continuing her education at the University of Washington.

Bibliography

Airey, J., A History of the Constitution and Government of Washington, vol. 1, Unpublished thesis, pp. 61-78, University of Washington, Seattle, Washington, 1945.

Blankenship, George E., Lights and Shades of Pioneer Life on Puget Sound, Facsimile reproduction: The Shorey Book Store, Seattle, Washington, 1972; Original: Olympia, Washington, 1923.

Blankenship, Mrs. George E. (Editor), Early History of Thurston County, Washington, pp. 320-324 and 330, facsimile reproduction: The Shorey Book Store, Seattle, Washington, 1972; Original: Olympia, Washington, 1914.

Bleeg, Joanne Wagner, Black People in the Territory of Washington 1860-1880, pp. 58, 60-61, 66 and 68, Unpublished thesis, University of Washington, Seattle, Washington, 1970.

Cayton, Horace R., Jr., Long Old Road, University of Washington Press, Seattle, Washington 1964.

Congress of Racial Equality, Washington's Negro Pioneer -- George Washington Bush, p.8, Congress of Racial Equality, Seattle, Washington.

Conover, C.T., "Just Cogitating" The Seattle Times, Sept. 5, 1949.

Coues, Elliot (Editor), The History of the Lewis and Clark Expedition, vols. 1,2,3, pp. 2, 159, 243, 257, 405, 506 and 1162-1163, Dover Publications, Inc., New York, New York.

Craven, Mrs. Ethel and William, Ellensburg Daily Record, July 29, 1981.

Debow, Samuel P., and Pitter, Edward A., Who's Who State of Washington, pp. 7, 115, 127, 131 and 138 - 139, The Searchlight Publishing Company, Seattle, Washington, 1926.

Dixon, William, Interview, 1976.

Dixon, William, Papers, University of Washington Archives, Seattle, Washington.

Dunning, Vernon, Story on George Washington on file, Centralia Library.

Gayton, Gary, Attorney at Law, Interview.

Haynes, Marjorie Pitter, Interview.

Harris, Mrs. Homer, Sr., Interview, 1976.

Heffelfinger, The Evergreen Citizen, pp. 227 - 287, The Caxton Printers Ltd., Caldwell, Idaho, 1957.

Jones, Nard, Seattle, Chapters 3 and 6, Doubleday & Company, Inc., Garden City, New York, 1972.

Katz, William Loren, The Black West, pp. 13 - 15 and 73- 77, Doubleday & Company, Garden City, New York, 1971.

Lewis, Mrs. Ella Lammers, Interview, 1976.

McLagan, Elizabeth, A Peculiar Paradise, pp. 1 - 2, 15, 18 - 20 and 22 - 31, The Georgian Press, Portland, Oregon, 1980.

Morgan, Murray, Skid Road, Revised ed., Comstock, Sausalito, California, 1978.

Mumford, Esther Hall, Seattle's Black Victorians, Ananse Press, 1980.

Mumford, Esther Hall, Speech at Grose dedication ceremonies.

Norris, Claude and Lydia, Interview, 1977.

Oxendine, Mrs., "Memories".

Pelz, Ruth, The Washington Story, pp. 38 - 39 and 72 - 80, Seattle Public Schools, Seattle, Washington 1977.

Rathbun, J.C., History of Thurston County, Washington, pp. 8 - 9, 69 and 89, facsimile reproduction; The Shorey Book Store, Seattle, Washington, 1972; Original: 1895.

Ray, Emma and J. L., Twice Sold Twice Ransomed, 1926.

Sale, Roger, Seattle Past to Present, pp. 36 - 37 and 217, University of Washington Press, Seattle, Washington, 1976.

Smith, Herndon D., Centralia, the First Fifty Years, 1845 - 1900, Centralia Daily Chronicle in cooperation with F.H. Cole Printing Company, Centralia, Washington, 1941.

Snowden, Clinton A., History of Washington, vol. 1, pp. 305 - 321 and vol. 2, pp. 431 - 433, The Century History Company, New York, New York, 1909.

Taylor, Mrs. Corinne, Interview, 1976.

Taylor, Quintard, A History of Blacks in the Pacific Northwest 1788 - 1970, Unpublished thesis, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minnesota, 1976.

The Seattle Times, Feb. 16, 1964.

Thomas, Paul F., George Bush, Unpublished thesis, University of Washington, Seattle, Washington, 1965.

U.S. Department of Commerce, Negro Population in the United States 1790 - 1915, p. 432, Dept. of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C., 1918.

U.S. Dept. of Commerce, Statistical Abstract of the United States 1982 -83, 103d ed., p. 24, National Book and Guide Source, U.S. Dept. of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Washington, D.C., 1982.

Valley, Mr. S.J., Interview, 1976.

Winther, Oscar Osburn, The Great Northwest, 2d ed., pp. 3-331, Alfred A. Knopf, New York, New York, 1960.

Yarbrough, Letcher and Arline, Interview, 1976.

R. L. Polk, Spokane City Directories.

Spokesman-Review.

Spokane Daily Chronicle.

Spokane Falls Review.

Census Records, State of Washington, Spokane County: 1880 & 1900.

Durham, N. W. History of Spokane and the Inland Empire. Spokane: S.J. Clarke Publ. Co., 1912. vols. I, II, III.

Edwards, Jonathan, History of Spokane County, Spokane: W.H. Lever Publishers, 1900.

The Citizen, Spokane.

Yakima Herald Republic.

Yakima Valley Regional Library, Reference Center.

Lyman, William Denison, History of the Yakima Valley, WA. Comprising of Yakima, Kittitas, Benton Counties, vol. I. Clarke, Small Fee 1919

Oberst, Walter A., Railroads, Reclamation and the River, A History of Pasco, Franklin Country Historical Society, 1978

Tri-Cities Ethnic Players, Cultural Awareness, Pasco's Black Community, 1984

Warren M. Banner, Director Dept. of Research and Community

Projects National Urban League, Review of the Economic and Cultural Problems of the Tri-City Area as they Relate to Minority People

The Tri-City Herald

Copyright © 1988 by Ralph Hayes

The BON MARCHÉ
Corporate Sponsor for the Centennial Tribute
of Northwest Black Pioneers