

PARAGRAPHS—POINTED, PERTINENT

There are 8000 Japanese in Seattle and they control about 100 groceries, and some fifty other kinds of business concerns, which include four banks.

Men and women looking for work will find Seattle a splendid place to come to. Fully one thousand more colored men are employed here at present than were fifteen months ago.

No; colored folk in Seattle do not take to commercial business as do the Japanese, due largely, we suppose, to the fact that they can get such good pay for working for the other fellow that they do not want to take a chance.

Seattle's entire population numbers 375,000 and of that number about 6000 are colored folk. Tacoma has a population of 150,000 and of that number about 1500 are colored. There are about 10,000 colored folks in the state.

There are five distinct colored settlements on farm lands in the state and they are so prosperous that they look in disgust at any one who asks them to come to town and take a position which will pay them from \$100 to \$150 per month.

There are many persons in Seattle who in the other sections of the United States were known as colored folk, but on coming here have associated with the whites and are so listed in business circles. The most of them are doing well and "we smile as we pass by."

There are five lawyers, two physicians, two dentists and four publications (controlled by colored men) in this state and while all of them are getting by, using the vulgar vernacular of the street, yet we would not encourage more professional men to come to the Northwest.

The U. S. Postoffice in Seattle has fourteen colored persons regularly employed, a greater number than is employed in any other postoffice in any other city west of the Missouri river, and the postmaster says of them "I never had dealings with men that gave better satisfaction."

Emett H. Holmes, grand master of the Masons of Washington and jurisdiction, says Spokane, the third city of the state, is a perfect haven for colored men seeking employment. "I believe 500 more could get employment here at wages ranging from \$3 to \$5 per day. The world is ours."

Edward F. Myer, the purchasing agent of the Duthie Ship Building Company, is one of the most competent men in such employment in the Northwest and he not only receives a princely salary for his work, but he is given an automobile for his exclusive use. Mr. Myer is a thorough bookkeeper and accountant.

Ira F. and Percy F. Norris, owners of the Southern Transfer Company, operate five trucks and two individual cars in the conduct of their business, which grosses them in the neighborhood of between fifteen and twenty thousand dollars annually. This immense business has all been built up within the past five years.

There are plenty of good jobs in the various cities on Puget Sound at present, but they are not good enough to prevent some colored men from going to the cuntry and establishing themselves on acreage, on which they raise poultry, hogs, fruit and vegetables for the market. All who have undertaken this are doing well.

Within a few weeks more Camp Lewis at American Lake, which is a suburb of Tacoma, and but fifty miles from Seattle, will contain in the neighborhood of 20,000 U. S. soldiers. More than 7,000 laborers and mechanics are employed in getting the camp ready for occupancy and men without regard to color are employed. After

it is in full blast hundreds of colored men will be able to find employment on the grounds if they desire it. If you have been thinking of coming to the Northwest now is a good time, and you can make a bit of quick money in order to fix yourself to get off on the right foot.

Seattle is practically surrounded with water—salt water to the west, Lake Washington to the east, Green Lake and Lake Union to the north and the Duwamish river to the south with Mt. Rainier to the southeast, the Olympic Mountains to the west and the Cascade range surrounding the whole, make of it the most picturesque city in the United States.

Many hundreds of colored persons could find lucrative employment in this section, but at that we would not advise them to come in colonies or by the car load lots. Just begin to come and keep coming, and, by all means scatter all over the state, as you can find employment in one place as readily as you can in another and then you will not create a "black belt."

There are no obnoxious laws on the statute books of the State of Washington against colored folks and on the whole they are treated very considerably by the white population. The colored folk are tolerated in the most of public places of accommodation and amusement and yet they are frequently refused such accommodation, which in many cases brings on a law suit.

One of the sons of John Bush, a pioneer of this section, was a member of the first legislature of the state and was one of the floor leaders of that body. He had won fame at the Philadelphia Centennial by capturing the world's prize for fine wheat. The leading papers of that section paid high tribute to "the Negro from the Northwest that won the wheat medal."

Tacoma once had a mayor who, in the East, was identified with the colored folk, but on settling in that city he forgot to label himself "colored" and so got classed as white. It proved a Godsend to him for he became a power in the politics of the state and realized a fortune from his law practice. He is dead now and this can do him no harm.

Brittain Oxendine was the first Negro that published a weekly paper in the Northwest, which was known as the Seattle Standard. It lived for three years and died for the want of proper amount of human energy. Soon after its death he moved to San Francisco, where he associated for the most part with the Russian Jews, though he never deserted the black folks.

The Protective Benevolent Brotherhood, of which Lieutenant Roston is the president, has for the past twelve months been doing a good work in the way of placing colored men and women in lucrative positions. Its greatest accomplishments have been along the waterfront in Seattle, where it has about 300 men regularly employed, who earn on an average of from \$4 to \$10 per day.

The second and third pioneer settlements to the wilderness, which is now the State of Washington, each contained one Negro, and they each married whites but traces of their blood still mark their progeny. Those men were John Bush of Olympia and George Washington of Centralia. They left estates valued at a quarter of a million dollars each and Bush's progeny boast much of their Indian (Negro) sires.

Owners of pleasure clubs, commonly known as sporting men, seem to take a different view of life in Seattle than in many other places, for instead of spending all the money they get in riotous living they invest the most of it in real estate, good homes and fine automobiles. Without show, austentation or bragadocia they get some white friend to purchase them an elegant home in some of the exclusive residential districts, and once in such homes, they are as refined as the pastor of some of the churches.