

MR. AND MRS. THOMAS S. ROGERS
Spokane, Washington



The various perplexities of life have not marred or otherwise dimmed the bright gem of his ambition. Four square is the sacred emblem that marks his successful career, with inflexible self-reliance, and an indomitable will, he has reached the goal of his desire. He was born in Chattanooga, Tennessee, where he received his primary learning, later moved to Knoxville, Tennessee, where he passed the high school grades. In 1897 he moved to Buffalo, New York, and qualified as a pitcher with the 19th Century Baseball team, as he was identified with the African race, a clause in the constitution of the organization placed him outside the pale, although he was considered one of the foremost young pitchers in the baseball world. He joined the Cuban Giants, where he remained for three seasons, and one year with the Page Fence Giants of Adrian, Michigan. Being musically inclined, he spent two years with Tom McIntosh's "Hot Old Time in Dixie and Darktown Swells," under the direction of Mr. J. E. Robinson of Toronto, Canada, and Detroit, Michigan. In 1902 he moved to Montana and devoted four years to the National Game, during the time he was associated with every principal club in the state. In 1906 he returned to Omaha, Nebraska, and secured a position as head waiter in the Rome Hotel, where he remained three years. Moving to Salt Lake City, Utah, he embarked in business. In 1912 he removed to Spokane, Washington, thence to Alaska where he remained one year, and returned to Spokane. He is Past Master and present Secretary of Inland Empire Lodge No. 3, F. & A. M.; Patron of Spokane Chapter No. 3, Eastern Star, and was associate Patron of the Grand Chapter, O. E. S., for a number of years; Secretary-Treasurer of Washington State Colored Republicann Club; Secretary N. A. A. C. P. He has composed a number of songs that have met the approval of the public (a natural gift).

In 1915 he united in marriage with Miss Ruth Tigg. Mr.