

General Race News

COLORED MAN MADE FIRST ASSISTANT ASSESSOR.

Boston, Jan. 7.—Thirty years ago Fred F. Smith was a bootblack and a newsboy around the streets of Boston. On December 10 Mayor Curley, of that city, appointed him First Assistant Assessor at a salary of \$1,000 for about 100 days' work, and besides this he receives \$50 for every day he testifies in court as an expert appraiser of property. He has been employed in the Assessor's office for the past twelve years as a second assistant at a salary of \$5 a day. The Civil Service Commission certified him twice before for the same position, but because of his color he was each time rejected. At the time of his appointment he stood at the top of the civil service list. Mayor Curley in appointing him said: "They do not want you in this position simply because of the fact that your skin is a little darker than mine, but you deserve it, have honestly won it, and are perfectly competent to fill it, and in spite of the opposition to you on account of your color, I am going to appoint you."

Mr. Smith was for twelve years a member of the Republican City Committee, is a member of the First Baptist Church, a member of the junior class of the Suffolk Law School, a Royal Arch Mason, secretary to John H. Brooks, of New York, and secretary of the following societies: Second Assistant Assessors' Association, The Lions, Colored Republican Club of Massachusetts, and Civil League.

He is probably the first colored man in the United States to specialize along scientific real estate lines and is the first one to hold the office of first assistant assessor.

NEGRO RED CAPS EMPLOYED.

Ogden, Utah., Jan. 7.—For the first time in history, Ogden Union Station is now manned with colored Red Caps. The change was made recently when the four white men who had been employed were discharged and four Negroes employed in their stead.

L. Clarence Jones, of Chicago, is in charge, with Felix Paskett as his assistant. The men are paid a salary of \$60 a month. Their services have been so satisfactory that already the railroad management has commended them for their impartial and obliging manner to the traveling public.

GIVES DINNER TO THE POOR.

Jackson, Miss., Jan. 7.—Christmas among the poor colored people of this town was a joyous occasion through the instrumentality of Dr. S. D. Redmond, a successful physician and one of the best known colored citizens. He issued an invitation to all the poor people to have Christmas dinner with him.

The dinner was served at 2 o'clock on Christmas Day at the Palm Garden, North Parish street.

BRYN MAWR STUDENTS TO TEACH MAIDS.

Bryn Mawr, Pa., Jan. 7.—Fifty Negro maids at Bryn Mawr College for young ladies will be taught all of the elementary branches while employed there by the students who have volunteered to instruct them. They will also form a Sunday School with a choir on the side.

DIRECT STEAMSHIP LINE TO LIBERIA.

Washington, Jan. 7.—Officials of the Department of State are watching with deep interest an attempt to establish a direct steamship line between this country and Liberia. A few days ago their steamer Nifon, bound from Boston, reached Monrovia. The news was immediately flashed to Secretary Lansing, who in turn notified Dr. Ernest Lyon, the Liberian consul-general to this country.

The European war has badly crippled Liberian trade with France, England and Germany, and many have been attracted by the possibilities of trade with this country. Liberian mahogany, rubber and other products could be used to advantage in this country, while meats, machinery, flour, clothing and other products could find a ready market there.

The attempt to establish a line between this country and Liberia is being backed by a number of colored men.

WOUNDED AMERICAN IN FRENCH HOSPITAL.

Dr. Daniel T. Brantley, lately returned from the Philippines, visited the Hospital for Convalescents at Nice, France. He found an American Negro, J. H. Montgomery, in the hospital badly wounded, having lost a leg, besides other injuries. Montgomery was a member of the French Foreign Legion and told Dr. Brantley that he was wounded at the battle of Marne.

Montgomery was a chauffeur in Paris at the outbreak of the war, and going to service was assigned to the ambulance corps. He has relatives in this country from whom he has not heard for a number of years. A brother and some cousins were last heard of as living in Baltimore. He can be reached by a letter addressed to the Hospital for Convalescents, Nice, France.

GEORGIA JUDGE GIVES WHITE MAN 99 YEARS.

Waycross, Ga.,—Judge Somerall, of the Superior Court, sentenced Ben Higgs, a well known white man of Millwood, to ninety-nine years in the state penitentiary for the murder of Martha Anderson, a Negro woman. The crime was committed last July. The jury, composed of white men, gave a verdict within thirty minutes after the case was given to them, at the same time recommending the murderer to the mercy of the court.

Mrs. Anderson was 59 years old and had never been involved in any quarrel with Higgs. The testimony developed the fact that Higgs tried to hire her to pick cotton for him and when she refused to leave home he fired his Winchester rifle at her, killing her instantly. Higgs had been drinking "moonshine" liquor, according to his companion.

HEADWAITER'S WIDOW LEAVES \$10,000

Baltimore, Mr., Jan. 7.—Bequests amounting to \$10,000 are made by the will of Mrs. Ellen Sorrell, just admitted to probate. She was the widow of the late Hiram Sorrell, for many years a head waiter here.

WHITE PALLBEARERS AT NEGRO'S FUNERAL.

East Las Vegas, N. Mex., Jan. 7.—At the funeral of Montgomery Bell, one of the wealthiest men in the state, the pallbearers were all white, some of the most prominent business and professional men of the community. This is the first time in the history of New Mexico that white pallbearers officiated at a Negro's funeral.

Mr. Bell came to New Mexico in 1866 from Misosuri, working as a waiter and cook. Later he became a messenger in the First National Bank of Santa Fe. Accumulating some capital he went into the sheep business with Mexican partners with headquarters at Las Vegas. He became very wealthy, and possessing plenty of ready cash, he increased his holdings by making loans. He was called Bell, the money lender.

Four years ago he became interested in the banking business with John W. Harris, a white man, and financed the People's Trust Company, but remained as a silent partner. He was reputed to be worth in the neighborhood of \$350,000 when he died.

RECEIVES LICENSE AS CAPTAIN

Norfolk, Va., Jan. 7.—After undergoing a test examination submitted by the United States local inspector, renewal of his captain's license was granted to R. J. Salisbury, who has served eight years as captain on a passenger steamer on the Tar Pamlico rivers.

Mr. Salisbury is the only Negro in North Carolina who holds this position, his license empowering him to command vessels of one hundred tons or less, or to act as mate on river steamers of any tonnage. He is a native of Tarboro but is in the railway mail service with headquarters at Norfolk.

The Negro race has today more than 3,000 well-equipped, well-trained attorneys, practicing before the American bar.

COLORED PHYSICIAN RETURNS FROM ORIENT.

(Continued from first page.)

experience of a broad and general nature, has not been able to measure up to the standards set by Taft and Wright and this has affected the entire archipelago. As the American sees it the native is not ready for self government, but the Filipino thinks he is capable of handling the reins and he wants the government turned over to him.

Dr. Brantley proposes to take his post graduate course either in New York or Chicago, and hopes to return to the Philippines in the spring. He will not return through Europe, but will sail from San Francisco.

ALL LOCATED.

When Prof. Walter Raleigh, an Englishman who was a direct descendant of the original Sir Walter Raleigh, was asked to lecture at Princeton College, Professor Root went down to the station to meet the distinguished visitor. Professor Root did not know Professor Raleigh, but walking up to a man that he thought looked like him he said:

"I beg your pardon, but am I addressing Walter Raleigh?"

The man looked at him for a moment and replied:

"No, I am Christopher Columbus. Walter Raleigh is in the smoking-room with Queen Elizabeth."—Christian Register.

FOOLED! HE BIT.
"Yes, I told father that the white poker chip I dropped was a peppermint tablet."

"Did he swallow it?"

—Hobart Herald.

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