

# Black History Month



Dr. George Washington Carver

## Chemist Increased Food Supply

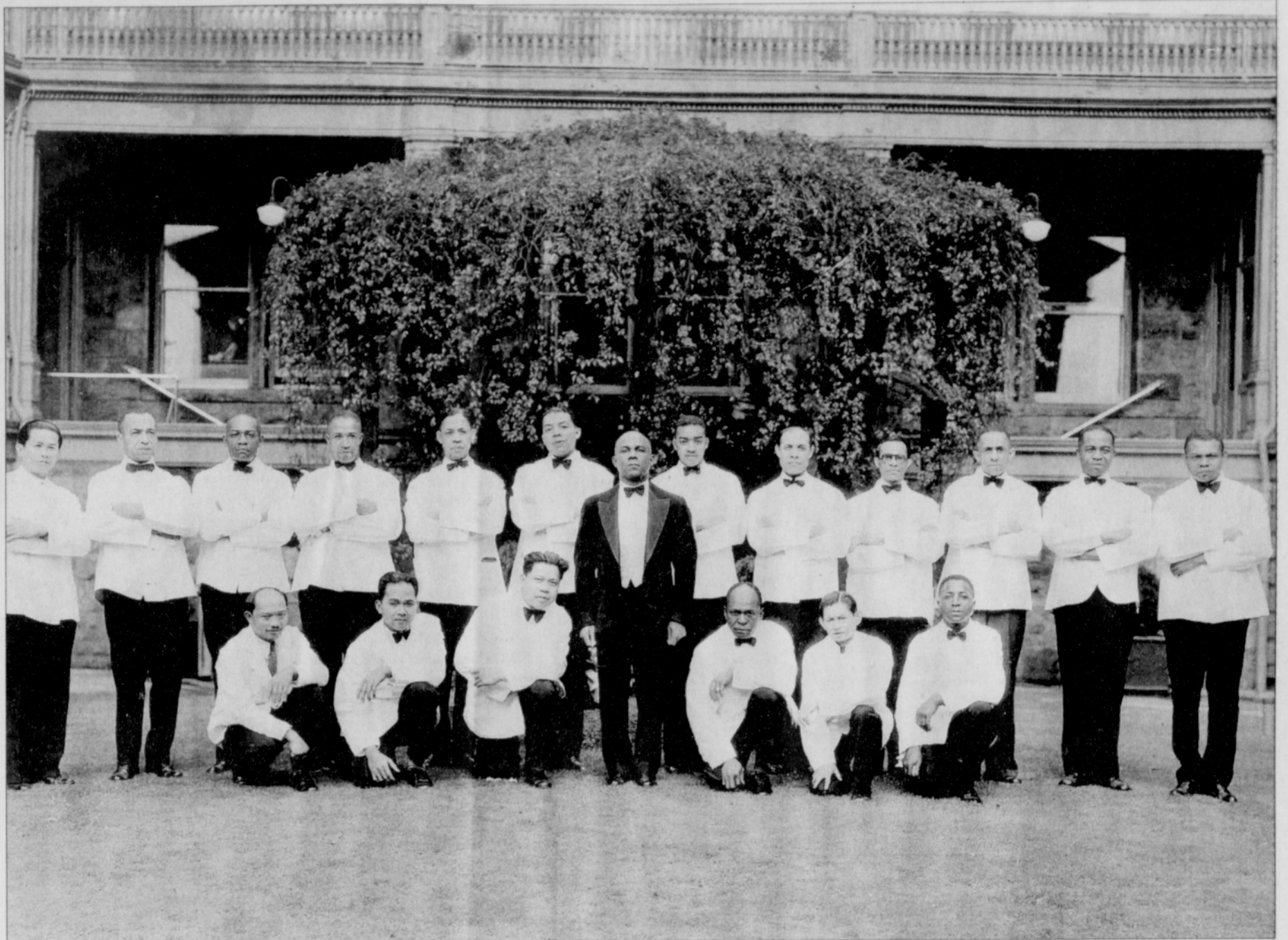
Inventions turned crops into plenty

Dr. George Washington Carver's development of hundreds of new uses for peanuts, soybeans, sweet potatoes and other crops helped pave the way for many of our modern conveniences.

Carver's beginnings were inauspicious; he was never sure about the date of his birth, sometimes claiming it was "about 1865," or "near the end of the war," or "just as freedom was declared."

What is known is that he was born a slave near Diamond Grove, Mo., never knew his parents, and was raised by the white couple who had owned his mother.

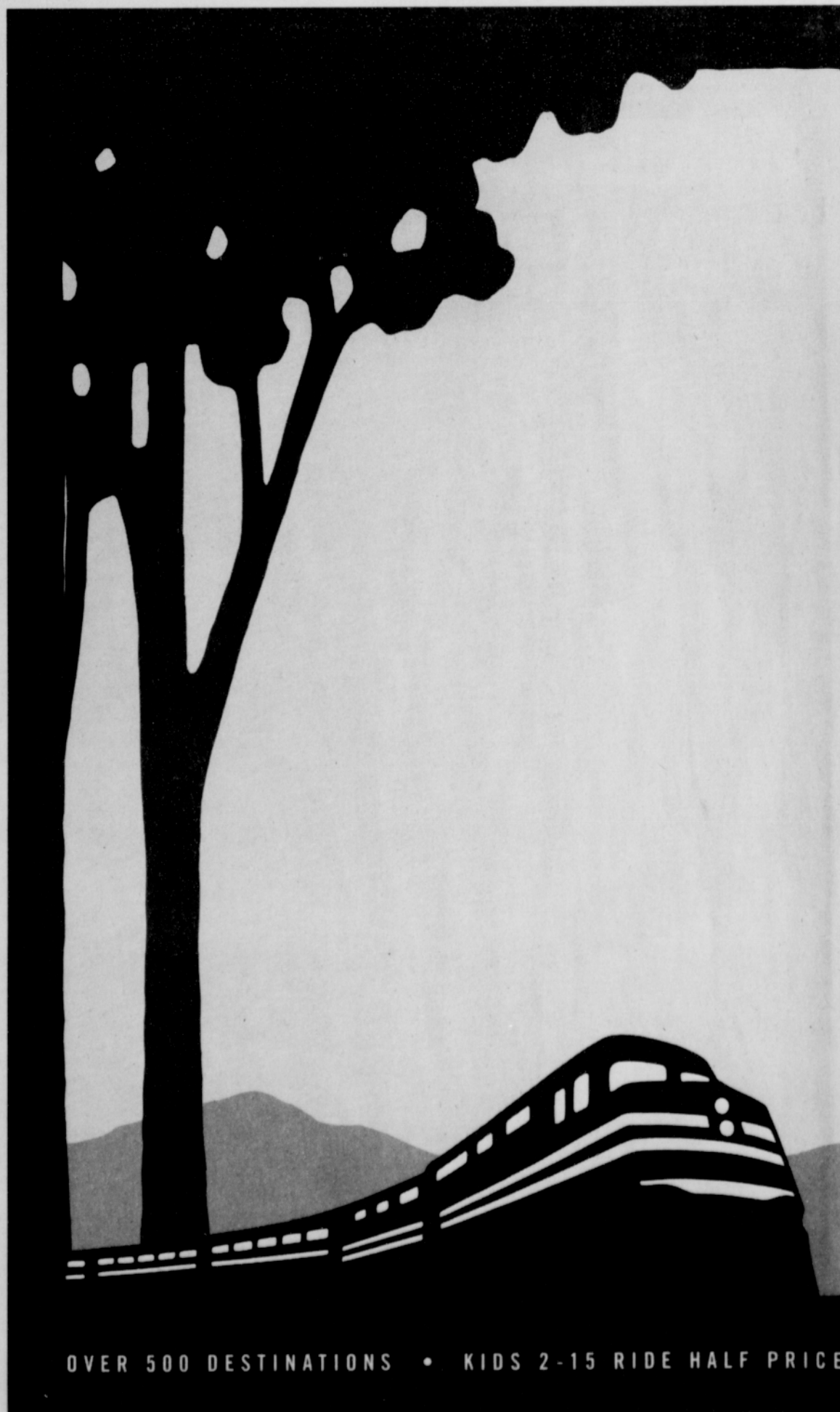
*continued* ▼ on page A10



## Hotel Workforce Builds a Middle Class

The staff of the former Portland Hotel, primarily made up of African American men, was lead by head-waiter Albert Morton. There was virtually no change in the occupation of the black work force until 1942, when World War II hit and about 20,000 African Americans were recruited from the Northeast and South to work in Portland and Vancouver shipyards. The Portland Hotel also recruited workers from the South. The workers at the hotel earned wages high enough to purchase homes and start their own businesses, which began the boom of the black middle class in Portland.

PHOTO PROVIDED BY OREGON HISTORICAL SOCIETY



*They only take up half the seat,  
so WE FIGURED WHY CHARGE  
for the whole thing?*



*Kids 2-15 ride half price.*

There's no kid-friendlier way for families to travel. On Amtrak®, you and your kids can grab a few hot dogs, play a cardgame or just watch the scenery go by. The train is fun for them and budget-friendly for you. Kids' fares are always half price, when accompanied by an adult. Limit two kids per adult.

Call 1-800-USA-RAIL or visit [www.amtrak.com](http://www.amtrak.com) to learn more.



OVER 500 DESTINATIONS • KIDS 2-15 RIDE HALF PRICE

Up to 2 children ages 2-15 may accompany each paid adult at 1/2 the adult rail fare. Senior Discount applies to rail portion of travel only. Fares, routes and schedules subject to change without notice and seats are limited. Other restrictions may apply. Amtrak is a registered service mark of the National Railroad Passenger Corporation.

Advertise in *The Portland Observer* 503-288-0033 [ads@portlandobserver.com](mailto:ads@portlandobserver.com)