

Expose Plot To Send Back Migrants

"Cracker" Farmers Ask This City to Aid in Proposed "Back Home" Movement.

An effort to have migrants from the south abandon employment in the Pittsburgh district and return to the farms, was revealed Tuesday when a letter received by Mayor William A. Magee from Selma, Miss., was made public.

The letter, signed by "M. McGee Stokes," said it was reported that 40 sections of Pittsburgh were under quarantine for smallpox, and proposed that the migrants be shipped back to Mississippi, where they were needed for farm work.

The letter detailed that, according to reports, smallpox was spreading throughout Pittsburgh, and the city desired to "get rid of the southern Negroes." Selma, the letter added, could use 1,000 families, and asked how much Pittsburgh would contribute toward sending them to Mississippi by special trains.

The letter was referred by Mayor Magee to Dr. C. J. Vaux, director of the department of health, who wrote in reply that not a house in Pittsburgh was under quarantine for smallpox; that only five cases had developed since last January, and each of these was extremely mild.

"The department of public health," wrote Dr. Vaux, "has had a working arrangement with physicians engaged in industrial medicine in the city, whereby all southern citizens coming here are immediately vaccinated and examined for other communicable diseases and a constant check on this situation is made."