

The BOOKER T. WASHINGTON Papers

¹ Villard had written BTW enclosing an invitation to a meeting at the NAACP headquarters of "heads of all industrial or agricultural schools for colored youth patterned after Tuskegee and Hampton." The signers of the invitation were Emma Wilson, principal of Mayesville Institute, W. H. Holtzclaw, principal of Utica Normal and Industrial Institute, Leslie Pinckney Hill, principal of Manassas Industrial School, W. J. Edwards, principal of Snow Hill Normal and Industrial Institute, H. A. Hunt, principal of Fort Valley Industrial School, and William E. Benson, treasurer of Kowaliga Academic and Industrial Institute. The purpose of the meeting was to organize an association of black industrial schools and to discuss "the elimination of unworthy schools" and "the duplication of effort." (Villard to BTW, with enclosure, Feb. 1913, Con. 63, BTW Papers, DLC. See also Kellogg, *NAACP*, 85-86.)

² Villard tried again on Mar. 8, 1913, inviting a representative from Tuskegee to attend the meeting. He asked Emmett J. Scott, since BTW was absent on the West Coast, to designate someone to attend. He wrote to Scott: "It would be a mistake, I think, *not* to have Tuskegee represented on this occasion." Scott made a notation on the letter before sending it on to BTW: "You will note he is following up the matter. Chisholm c'd attend if you think wise, but having kept Holtzclaw away it may not seem wise to suggest it—EJS." (Villard to Scott [with Scott's docketing], Mar. 8, 1913, Con. 164, BTW Papers, DLC.) Earlier, at Scott's suggestion, William H. Holtzclaw had decided not to attend the conference. (Holtzclaw to Scott, Mar. 3, 1913, Con. 478, BTW Papers, DLC.)

Emmett Jay Scott to Joel Elias Spingarn

Tuskegee Institute, Alabama March First, 1913

My dear Sir: Your letter comes after Principal Washington has gone to fill a series of lecture engagements, extending over a month, in Utah, Montana, Idaho and Washington state. In his absence I am just a bit puzzled as to how I should attempt to send a reply to your communication.

It will suggest itself to you, I am sure, that if a man would perpetrate such a fraud upon the public as the one that you indicate, that he would not hesitate to cover up that fraud by denial or falsehood. If there be those willing to accept such a report as being truthful, such persons, I am sure, would not be disposed to believe anything that such a man would say with reference to the matter, if it be in contravention of their own conviction.

It seems to me that in Principal Washington's introduction to "The Man Farthest Down," he has frankly discussed the matter of Dr. Park's association and collaboration with him in connection with this book.