

The BOOKER T. WASHINGTON Papers

element of the Negro people of the United States is as severe in condemnation of the kind of immorality with which Jack Johnson is at present charged as any other portion of the community.

In making this statement, I do not mean to, as I have said at the beginning, say how far Jack Johnson is or is not guilty of the charges that have been made against him. That is a question for the court to decide.

Booker T. Washington

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¹ Prepared by E. J. Scott and Robert E. Park while BTW was away from Tuskegee. (BTW to Scott, Oct. 24, 1912, Con. 619, BTW Papers, DLC.)

To Anson Phelps Stokes, Jr.

[Tuskegee, Ala., Nov. 1, 1912]¹

Dear Mr. Stokes: Referring again to the conversation I had with you some weeks ago, I am now writing to put before the Stokes Fund Board of Trustees a matter of the greatest importance in developing the colored schools in the South.

Speaking somewhat in the rough, there are 600 schools in the South that can be classed as above the ordinary public schools. These include high schools, industrial schools, colleges, universities and professional schools. These schools are divided into three classes. First, those supported in part or in whole by state or municipal governments. Second, those supported by various missionary organizations in the North and South, mainly church schools. Third, those controlled by an independent board of trustees.

It would be a matter of the greatest help to have these schools thoroughly examined with a view of letting the public know just what they are doing. This has never been done. For example, there are many so-called industrial schools that have the reputation of giving industrial training, but in fact the work is a mere sham. There are not a few institutions with the name "college" and "university" that are in fact mere local schools pretending to do college work when in reality the majority of their students are in the primary or public school grades with no college work whatever being done. In other