

NOVEMBER · 1914

¹ Probably Jacob Moritz Loeb (b. 1875), an insurance executive, a member of the Chicago school board (1913-22), and a leader in Jewish welfare and relief organizations.

To the Editor of *The Negro Farmer*

[Tuskegee, Ala., ca. Nov. 1, 1914]¹

Editor, *The Negro Farmer*: From my point of view, Alabama is the very best state in the Union for both white and colored people to live in.

It has a large variety of the necessities of life. It has plenty of good farming land. It has mineral land, including iron, coal and lime and it has large sections of timber land. Aside from this, it has plenty of sea coast with good fisheries. It has a cold climate in the Northern part, a mild climate in the central part and a warm climate in the Southern part.

Aside from all this, it has a fine type of white people. Here one finds the backbone of Southern aristocracy — a class of people who has always treated the Negro kindly and considerately. There is absence of racial friction or difficulty in this state that is very marked. One finds that a black man who lives an industrious, sober, earnest up-right life is given a fair chance.

Alabama, too, has been unusually fortunate in not having the Negro in recent years brought into political discussion. The result is that we have had a class of public men in office that have not stirred up racial friction, as has been true in other states.

There are many other reasons why from my point of view Alabama is the best state in which to live.

Booker T. Washington

TLpSr Con. 512 BTW Papers DLC.

¹ On Oct. 29, 1914, Isaac Fisher, editor of *The Negro Farmer*, asked BTW for a short article on "Why Alabama is a good State for colored people?" He requested that BTW get it to him in about a week. (Fisher to BTW, Oct. 29, 1914, Con. 512, BTW Papers, DLC.)