

The BOOKER T. WASHINGTON Papers

in debt for supplies secured through the "mortgage system," rent the land on which they live and dwell in one room log cabins.

The schools are in session in the country districts not often longer than 3 months and are taught in most cases in churches or log cabins with almost no apparatus or school furniture.

The poverty and ignorance of the Negro which show themselves by his being compelled to "mortgage his crop" — go in debt for the food and clothes on which to live from day to day is not only a terrible draw back to the Negro himself but is a severe drain on the resources of the white man. Say what we will the fact remains that in the presence of the poverty and ignorance of the millions of Negroes in the "black belt" the material, moral and educational interests of both races are making but slow headway.

Any information about the conference may be had from Booker T. Washington, Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, Tuskegee, Alabama.

To
You and your friends are invited to be present.

PD Con. 861 BTW Papers DLC.

From Sarah Newlin

Philadelphia, Feb. 5th. [1892?]

Dear Mr. Washington, My sister¹ and I send the enclosed cheques, each for fifty (\$50.00) dollars to keep up the scholarships we started last year. I think I mentioned before that I want mine given to a girl who is preparing herself to teach.

I have, or rather we have, received five or six copies of your Report, all but one of which are wasted, as one is enough. There is no "Mrs. Newlin," in the household. I read your Reports & the "Southern Letter" regularly and watch your progress with much interest. I am sorry you do not follow in the footsteps of Hampton as to mentioning pupils with out titles. In the school where I was educated the teachers