

Brett Sanders  
Cultures and Traditions Notes  
3-26-07  
Professor Helman  
Washington and DuBois

Washington believes that if the African-Americans work for everything, then it will give them all a leg-up on the lazy slave-owners of the past.

Washington's strategy was to build one school, and from that school, develop leaders to send out to the community.

DuBois sees Washington's plan as allowing the black people to have low-class jobs—form of slavery.

The strategy was to become educated at Tuskegee and then educate the rest of the race.

Washington talked about how they tried to get blacks into Congress, then working to get themselves legislature, then former Confederates could not run for office.

Blacks often voted for themselves.

White people got back into office by scaring people away from the polls and scaring black people from running for office—the South gained control of its own voting laws so this could occur.

The friction between the races will disappear if the black man can make something that the white man needs.

Middle East as oil—we trade with them.

Black people can be leaders by holding mortgages and securing themselves good jobs.

Black people need to gain respect with commercial development.

Washington's idea—progression of black race must be in small steps.

Does DuBois have a fair criticism of Washington's belief of small steps?

They want to be independent from the whites—it would be a weakness if the whites helped in the progression of black race.

More practical to be independent and just doing it themselves.

The largest opposition to Washington's plan was his own race—Do they ask for more? The whites were happy with Washington's approach.

Does Washington need more students, teachers, what?

Washington was not opposed to political power or upper-class, but he thought it better to raise the race as a whole rather than to straight from slavery to politics.

If one has no money for college—one needs to learn an industrial skill in order to promote their welfare.

The less one has the more dependent on others he/she becomes.

Ironic—DuBois criticizes Washington's plan even though it seems to have worked—they now have time to worry about politics and such.

The race needs to be educated before one just gets thrown into political power—could be even worse for the race if this does not occur.

DuBois thinks that this will start them off with degradation—they are uneducated—so there needs to be a progression.

Living with the masses could mean political power.

The black race did not need to look worse if they had political power too early.

DuBois says Washington's plan cannot work if blacks do not hold political power.

Washington thinks it is possible—perhaps it is not a valid criticism, but without representation, rights could be lost.