

LETTER TO DR. W.S. SUTTON

Dean of the University of Texas

Dr. W. S. Sutton,
University of Texas,
Austin, Texas.

Dear Doctor :

I judge from the conversation we had a few days ago that you feel that, we here at Samuel Huston College are needlessly and aimlessly dissipating much strength in an effort to conduct a college department that could be better used in other ways.

I have studied this question for several years.

I regard you as so good a friend to me personally and to my people generally that I feel I owe it to you to state my viewpoint of this matter.

I have taught in Georgia and Alabama. I have taught in Texas for twenty-one years.

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There are some very fine teachers of my race in Texas, but it does not require any argument to say that there is imperative need to lift the standard of the Negro teachers in Texas. The average Negro teacher of Texas is not prepared for his job. What is the principal source of supply for Negro teachers in Texas? Prairie View and Tuskegee, the finest schools we have along industrial lines. The graduates of these schools go into the public schools and teach without examination. They receive life certificates to teach without examination. He who would speak against these schools would risk his reputation for sanity. I do not speak against them. I commend with all my heart their industrial work, which is the purpose for which they were founded.