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A SURVEY OF THE VOCATIONAL STATUS
OF NINETY-SEVEN GRADUATES OF
BOOKER T. WASHINGTON HIGH SCHOOL,
HOUSTON, TEXAS

By

Ruth Eleanor Love

A Thesis in Vocational Statistics Submitted
in Partial Fulfillment of the
Requirements for the Degree of

Bachelor of Arts

in the

Division of Arts and Sciences

of the

Prairie View State Normal and Industrial College

Prairie View, Texas

August, 1936

Purpose of Study

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The interest of the general public in this
subject.

The writer wishes to acknowledge with
gratitude the opportunity for participation in
this survey made possible by the administration
of the college and the helpful criticisms and
suggestions made by Mr. John B. Cade, Registrar
and Supervisor of the survey.

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It is the purpose of this study, therefore, to deter-
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A SURVEY OF THE VOCATIONAL STATUS OF NINETY-
SEVEN GRADUATES OF BOOKER T. WASHINGTON
HIGH SCHOOL, HOUSTON, TEXAS

Purpose of Study

The interest of the general public in education, the extent and rapid growth of education as a public enterprise, and the everchanging curricula of secondary schools are well known subjects and are of frequent concern. Of less concern, however, is the extent to which the secondary school accomplishes its purpose in preparing its products for the pre-eminent aim of all education--that of life. This is particularly true with reference to Negro secondary schools in Texas, which are, for most part, academic. It is the purpose of this study, therefore, to ascertain pertinent information concerning the extent to which the high school functions in preparing its products for immediate absorption into industry, vocations, and other walks of life, and to offer certain recommendations toward curriculum re-arrangement.

When one considers the fact that every year Texas Negro high schools send out hundreds of graduates who do not enter higher institutions of learning, but

remain home instead, and the more significant fact that these hundreds of graduates are usually in need of employment as a means of supplementing family incomes, or of earning their own livelihoods, the need for an investigation of the factors involved in determining the status of high school graduates becomes apparent immediately.

Scope of Study

The study of the vocational status of 97 graduates of Booker T. Washington High School, Houston, Texas represents a part of the general survey of the vocational status of graduates of Negro high schools in representative Texas cities and towns over a period of four years which was made by some fifty upper-classmen of Prairie View State Normal and Industrial College during the second semester, 1935-1936.

Whereas the general survey concerned itself with schools located in all sections of Texas, this special study confines itself to data relating to 97 pupils living in and near Houston, Texas, attending and graduating from Booker T. Washington High School.

Be it observed that this special study concerns itself with only those persons who have been graduated from Booker T. Washington High School, Houston, Texas during

the years 1932, 1933, 1934, and 1935, and numbering 26, 8, 9, and 54, respectively.

While most of the questionnaires were filled out by persons who had not attended college, a few were executed by persons having attended college since graduation, but were not enrolled at the time the survey was conducted.

Factors Treated

The factors investigated and upon which this study is based are: (1) personal data; (2) college attendance of graduates; (3) high school preparation; (4) influence of the high school upon occupational status of the graduates; and (5) the participation of the graduates in certain community activities.

Methodology

In January, 1936 a group of senior and junior students were designated to participate in a vocational status survey of Negro high school graduates in Texas, and were assembled and given instructions concerning the method by which the survey was to be conducted. These students were allotted according to the estimated number of graduates from the particular school to be surveyed, and, for the most part, were themselves

graduates of the respective high school assigned.

At the direction of Mr. John B. Cade, Registrar, who was in charge of the survey, letters were sent to all high school principals concerned explaining the nature, purpose, and possible benefits of the survey and requesting their co-operation. The names of the person or persons assigned to the particular schools were also furnished the principals.

Upon arriving at the assigned high school, Booker T. Washington High School, Houston, Texas, persons making this survey obtained a list of graduates for the past four years and their addresses with the cooperation of the Registrar, Miss Marjorie C. Hammond, and others. The next step was to divide the graduates according to addresses found and dates of graduation given, and assign each participant in the survey a certain number of graduates to interview.

Questionnaires were then allotted and each participant went from house to house securing information by having each graduate fill out a questionnaire, a copy of which follows at the end of this paragraph. Such a procedure naturally had many encumbrances. In many cases the graduates were reluctant to give the desired information; some had moved and thereby necessitated

tracing which often proved futile; and some few refused to be interviewed; however, for the most part, those filling the questionnaires were co-operative. A representative number of graduates filled out questionnaires, and it is from these questionnaires that the following study was made.

QUESTIONNAIRE

VOCATIONAL STATUS OF GRADUATES OF TEXAS

NEGRO HIGH SCHOOLS

1. Name _____
2. Sex _____
3. Present address _____
4. Age _____
5. Born in City or Rural? _____
6. Number of Sisters _____
7. Number of Brothers _____
8. Father living? _____
Mother? _____
Father and mother separated? _____
9. Parents or Guardians rural or urban people? _____
10. Did parents or guardians own home when you graduated? _____
11. Did they own any other property? _____
What kind? _____
12. Are you married? _____ If so, how many children? _____
13. How long have you been married? _____
14. Give name and location of high school. _____
Give date of Graduation _____
15. What kind of work did you do in high school? _____
16. Was the work regular or part-time? _____
Seasonal or for the entire year? _____
17. What was your monthly wage? _____
18. How many months per year did you work? _____
19. Have you attended college? _____ If so, why did you stop? _____
If not, why? _____

- 20. Do you still desire to extend your education? _____
- 21. What is your present occupation? _____
- 22. What is your present monthly wage? _____
- 23. Is your present position regular or part-time? _____
Seasonal or for the entire year? _____
- 24. How long have you held your present position? _____
- 25. Give names, dates, and length of time of other positions held since graduation. _____

Date	Position or Positions	Number of Months held
1932	_____	_____
1933	_____	_____
1934	_____	_____
1935	_____	_____

- 26. Give reason or reasons for changing jobs.

Date	Reason for changing	Date	Reason for changing
1932	_____	1933	_____
1934	_____	1935	_____

- 27. How long after graduation was it before you secured employment? _____
- 28. List job or jobs which school aided you in securing since graduation. _____
- 29. List school courses taken by you in high school which have been of value in jobs held. _____, _____
- 30. Is your wage affected by experience? _____
Is your salary raised because of service? _____
- 31. Does the salary of your present position depend upon "piece work" or do you get a flat wage? _____
- 32. In which of the following community activities are you a participant? _____

Name	Positions held by you
The Church _____	_____
The Lodge _____	_____
Social Clubs _____	_____
Others _____	_____

REMARKS

After an excused absence of about ten days, students participating in the survey returned to the campus and resumed regular classwork, with instructions to summarize findings of survey. On March 10, 1936 all preliminary summaries of findings were turned over to Mr. H. A. Bullock, Professor of Sociology, to be used in compiling information for the Educational Conference held at Prairie View March 20, 1936.

The final step in the survey has been the compilation of the findings which are given in the following pages, and preparing the entire study for presentation as an undergraduate thesis in partial fulfillment for the Bachelor of Arts Degree. This was done by a complete analization of the material contained in the questionnaires, and follows, as nearly as is possible, the sequential order of the questions thereon. Tables representing data ascertained have been in many instances in an effort to illustrate at a glance the situation and trends with reference to the vocational status of Negro high school graduates of Booker T. Washington High School, Houston, Texas.

Personal Facts About 97 Graduates
of Booker T. Washington High
School, Houston, Texas

Without a doubt, anyone making a survey of individuals of secondary school age and above would consider the personal background of such individuals as basically necessary because of some possible influence it might have on subsequent factors. As can be seen, it is with this fundamentally important information that the first thirteen questions are concerned.

How many persons have graduated from Booker T. Washington High School, Houston, Texas, in the last four years? What are their respective ages? What are some of the factors influencing their environment and personalities? These are just a few of the general questions which this section of the study attempts to answer.

Below will be found information regarding the 97 graduates studied. Of the 97 graduates, 45 were males and 52 were females. Four male and 8 female graduates were found to be married; thirty-five males and 38 females were single, and 12 did not state their

marital status.

The oldest person was found to be 26 years old and was regularly employed as delivery-boy at \$6.50 per week. He graduated in 1932 and his training has not exceeded that of high school offering. He is married but has no children. The youngest person was found to be a female of 16 years who was graduated in 1935, was single and received a salary of \$5.00 per week. The distribution of graduates according to age is given in Table I below.

TABLE I
DISTRIBUTION OF 97 GRADUATES OF BOOKER
T. WASHINGTON HIGH SCHOOL
ACCORDING TO AGE

Age	Graduates
16	1
17	4
18	9
19	22
20	29
21	12
22	5

TABLE I (Continued)

<u>Age</u>	<u>Graduates</u>
23	11
24	2
25	1
26	1

It was interesting to note that most of the graduates were between the ages 18 and 23. The ^males usually graduated at later ages than the females.

Many times it is cited that rural people are retarded intellectually and otherwise. Furthermore, rural people are often unprepared for certain types of occupations and are thus handicapped upon coming to the city. There were found to be 66 urban born graduates and 28 rural born. Three did not state their place of birth. Only 23 have parents of rural origin, the remainder having urban born parents.

Table II illustrates the number of children in family as distributed among 97 graduates and Table III following shows the distribution of the graduates according to number of sisters and brothers in family.

TABLE II
DISTRIBUTION OF 97 GRADUATES OF BOOKER
T. WASHINGTON HIGH SCHOOL ACCORDING
TO NUMBER OF CHILDREN IN FAMILIES
TO WHICH THEY BELONG

<u>Number of Children in Family</u>	<u>Graduates</u>
1	17
2	20
3	15
4	20
5	9
6	6
7	5
8	2
9	2
10	0
11	0
12	1

mother lives and owns her own home. He desires to extend his education, but cannot because of lack of funds. Two females in families of nine children, one rural born, the urban born, are single, both 19 years

TABLE III
DISTRIBUTION OF 97 GRADUATES OF BOOKER
T. WASHINGTON HIGH SCHOOL ACCORDING
TO NUMBER OF SISTERS AND BROTHERS

Number of Sisters	Graduates	Number of Brothers	Graduates
0	39	0	25
1	25	1	36
2	17	2	17
3	12	3	9
4	1	4	7
5	1	5	2
6	1	6	0

As can be seen in the table above, one graduate was of a family of 12 children. This was one urban born male of urban parents of 19 years of age. He was graduated in 1935, is single, and has a regular job in a cafe receiving \$20 per month. His father is dead. His mother lives and owns her own home. He desires to extend his education, but cannot because of lack of funds. Two females in families of nine children, one rural born, the urban born, are single, both 19 years

of age, have both parents, but neither parents own home or other property. One is employed as nurse-maid at \$30 per month. The other is not employed at present, but was employed during high school.

TABLE IV
DISTRIBUTION OF 97 GRADUATES OF BOOKER
T. WASHINGTON HIGH SCHOOL ACCORDING
TO CERTAIN INFORMATION REGARDING PARENTS

Father living	75
Father deceased	22
Mother living	87
Mother deceased	10
Father and mother living.	70
Father and mother deceased.	6
Father and mother separated	15
Father and mother together.	51
Not stated	4

According to the above table, over three fourths of the graduates had fathers living and 87 out of 97 had mothers living. Seventy of the 97 had both parents living, but only 51 of them had father and mother living together.

Twenty-seven of the graduates stated that their parents owned their homes, 66 did not own their own homes, and 4 did not state whether their parents owned homes or not.

The question was asked if parents owned other property such as: out houses, lots, farms, business buildings, etc. and it was found that most persons owning additional property composed the small minority owning their homes. Five persons had parents who own additional real estate, and 6 own farms.

The marital status of the 97 graduates as seen at a glance was:

	M	F	T
Married	4	8	12
Nonmarried.	35	38	73
Not stated.	6	6	12

Of the 97 graduates only 13 were, or had been married. About the same percentage of males as females were married. None of the twelve married were married to each other. Six had children. Five had one child and one had 3 children.

TABLE VI
DISTRIBUTION OF 12 GRADUATES OF BOOKER
T. WASHINGTON HIGH SCHOOL ACCORDING
TO LENGTH OF TIME MARRIED

<u>Time Married</u>	<u>Graduates</u>
Under 1 year:	
2 months	1
4 "	1
8 "	1
One year and over:	
1 year	2
2 years.	4
3 "	1
4 "	1
Not stated	1

TABLE VII
DISTRIBUTION OF 27 GRADUATES OF BOOKER
T. WASHINGTON HIGH SCHOOL ACCORDING
TO REASONS FOR NOT GOING AWAY TO COLLEGE

<u>Reasons</u>	<u>Graduates</u>
Stopped to work	1
Wanted to marry	1

Information Regarding Extent of Education
of 97 Graduates of
Booker T. Washington High School

Table VII and other information contained in this section of the study embrace factors regarding the educational training of 97 graduates.

Only 6 of the 97 graduates stated that they had attended college at any time. The remaining 91 stated they had not attended.

Relating to college attendance it was noticed that the following reasons were given for stopping:

Sent away	1
Lack of funds	2
Stopped to work	2
Married	1

TABLE VII
DISTRIBUTION OF 97 GRADUATES OF BOOKER
T. WASHINGTON HIGH SCHOOL ACCORDING
TO REASONS FOR NOT GOING AWAY TO COLLEGE

Reasons	Graduates
Stopped to work	1
Wanted to marry	1

TABLE VII (Continued)

Reasons	Graduates
Married	1
Not interested	2
No desire	4
Lack of funds	74
Not stated	3

Seventy-four persons out of 86 did not attend college because of lack of funds. Two were not interested and 4 had no desire to attend. This latter fact seems unusual because in most cases, though probably true, the admission is made very reluctantly.

Further inquiry into the status of the graduates revealed to the writer that 76 of the 97 graduates still desired to attend college while 19 had no desire to attend. About the same percentage of boys as girls expressed their desire to further their education. Many inquired whether or not their filling out the questionnaire would be beneficial in their going to college.

Information Regarding the Occupational
Pursuits of 97 Graduates of
Booker T. Washington High School

This section of the study undertakes to point out whatever occupational pursuits 97 graduates engaged in while in high school and since graduation together with related information such as wages received, length of time jobs were held, and number of changes made.

TABLE VIII
DISTRIBUTION OF 97 GRADUATES OF BOOKER
T. WASHINGTON HIGH SCHOOL ACCORDING
TO OCCUPATIONS HELD

<u>Name of Occupation</u>	<u>Graduates</u>
Caddy	1
Clerk in store	1
Orchestra man	1
Porter-Bootblack.	1
Seamstress.	1
waitress.	1
Woodyard operator	1
Yard boy.	1
Housework	2
Nursemaid	2

TABLE VIII (Continued)

Name of Occupation	Graduates
Maid	3
Laundering	4
Odd jobs	4
Bootblack.	6
Porter	6
Delivery boy	10
None	44
Not stated	8

Of the 44 unemployed while in high school, 32 were found to be females and 12 males, while of the 45 employed 30 were males and only 15 were females. Only 10 had regular work during high school. Thirty-five had part-time jobs such as after school hours, holidays, week ends and vacations. Twenty stated that their jobs were seasonal. Sixteen, though part-time workers for the most part, worked throughout the year. Nine did not state whether their work was seasonal or for the entire year.

TABLE IX
DISTRIBUTION OF 97 GRADUATES OF BOOKER
T. WASHINGTON HIGH SCHOOL ACCORDING
TO WAGE RECEIVED DURING
HIGH SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

<u>Wage per Month</u>	<u>Graduates</u>
0-4	1
5-9	3
10-14.	11
15-19.	8
20-24.	8
25-29.	1
30-34.	2
Not stated	13

The above table shows that the majority of the graduates received wages ranging from \$10 to \$25 per month, while one received only one dollar per month. Two persons stated that they received from \$30 to \$34 per month which is considered a good wage when we think of the many people who work all day, everyday for by far less.

The forty-five graduates who worked were asked the duration or stability of their jobs. Table X below

illustrates the data obtained:

TABLE X
DISTRIBUTION OF 97 GRADUATES OF BOOKER
T. WASHINGTON HIGH SCHOOL ACCORDING
TO NUMBER OF MONTHS JOBS WERE HELD

<u>Number of Months</u>	<u>Graduates</u>
4 Months	2
5 "	1
6 "	1
7 "	2
8 "	1
9 "	6
10 "	1
12 "	22
Varying	6
Not stated.	3

Almost one half of the total number who worked held jobs for 12 months.

This table also includes jobs held by some of the graduates at present.

TABLE XI
 DISTRIBUTION OF 97 GRADUATES OF BOOKER
 T. WASHINGTON HIGH SCHOOL ACCORDING
 TO KINDS OF JOBS HELD SINCE GRADUATION*

Kind of Job	Graduates
Barber	1
CCC Clerk.	1
Ice man	1
Nurse, launderwork	1
Orchestra	1
Post office and social work.	1
Red Cap	1
Seamstress	1
Secretary.	1
Storekeeper.	1
Woodyard operator.	1
Dairy	2
Delivery boy - day work.	2
Janitress.	2
Bell hop	3
Cafe	3
Office assistant	4
Day laborer.	5

* This table also includes jobs held by some of the graduates at present.

TABLE XI (Continued)

<u>Kind of Job</u>	<u>Graduates</u>
Maid-cook-laundress	6
Bootblack-janitor	7
Housework	8
Waitress.	8
Laundering.	9
Cook.	10
Reporter.	13
Delivery.	17
Maid.	18
Cook-Nursemaid.	23

It will be noted that most of the above jobs are purely domestic requiring little vocational training.

When asked the length of time after graduation before jobs were secured, the 88 graduates having worked at some time since graduation answered as indicated in Table XII below.

TABLE XII
DISTRIBUTION OF 88 GRADUATES OF BOOKER
T. WASHINGTON HIGH SCHOOL ACCORDING
TO LENGTH OF TIME BEFORE
EMPLOYMENT WAS SECURED

Length of Time	Graduates
Immediately	13
0 - 4 Months	24
5 - 9 "	12
10-14 "	5
15-19 "	1
20-24 "	7
25-39 "	3
45-49 "	2
Already working	9
Not stated	2

Most of the graduates who have worked at all since graduation have not been long in securing jobs, but there was found to be a high percentage of turn over among the employed persons. Table XIII shows this fact. Job held jobs for less than 5 months. Only 3 persons have held the same job for four years. All were persons who had worked during high school

TABLE XIII

DISTRIBUTION OF 88 GRADUATES OF BOOKER
T. WASHINGTON HIGH SCHOOL ACCORDING
TO NUMBER OF MONTHS JOBS WERE HELD
SINCE GRADUATION

<u>Number of Months Jobs Held</u>	<u>Graduates</u>
0 - 4	30
5 - 9	23
10 - 14	18
15 - 19	3
20 - 24	7
25 - 29	1
30 - 34	1
35 - 39	0
45 - 49	2
60 - 64	1
Not stated.	1

More than two-thirds of the graduates held jobs for less than fifteen months, the largest number of which held jobs for less than 5 months. Only 3 persons have held the same job for four years. All were persons who had worked during high school

attendance. One was a seamstress. No change of salary could be ascertained from the questionnaire. Two of the 3 were delivery boys and had received nominal increases in salary since graduation.

Referring to Table XIII in connection with the number of months jobs were held since graduation it is interesting to note the total number of changes made by graduates who have worked:

Those working on first job.....	35
Those making only one change.....	23
Those making two changes.....	5
Those making three changes.....	3

Table XIV below gives the reasons for changing stated by those making changes.

TABLE XIV
 DISTRIBUTION OF 88 GRADUATES OF BOOKER
 T. WASHINGTON HIGH SCHOOL ACCORDING
 TO REASONS FOR CHANGING JOBS HELD
 SINCE GRADUATION

<u>Reason Given</u>	<u>Number of Graduates Giving</u>
Employer does own work.	1
Force out	1
Office closed	1
Pay too small	1

Information Regarding the Occupations
of 97 Graduates of Booker T.
Washington High School at
the Time the Survey was Conducted

Perhaps it is necessary to explain that some of the occupations held by graduates at the time the survey was conducted as indicated from Table XV below were the same as some appearing in Table XI. This is true because some of the 88 persons were working on the first job since graduation at the time the survey was conducted.

TABLE XV
DISTRIBUTION OF 97 GRADUATES OF BOOKER
T. WASHINGTON HIGH SCHOOL ACCORDING
TO JOBS HELD AT TIME SURVEY WAS CONDUCTED

<u>Kind of Job</u>	<u>Graduates</u>
Bell hop.	1
Clerk	1
Chauffeur	1
Cafe.	1
Daywork	1
Florist	1
Iceman.	1
Janitress	1

TABLE XV (Continued)

Kind of Job	Graduates
Ochestra.	1
Seamstress.	1
Waitress.	1
Woodyard operator	1
Dishwasher.	2
Housekeeper	2
Office work	2
Social work	2
Housemaid	3
Laborer	3
Cook.	4
Nurse	4
Delivery boy.	7
Porter.	11
Maid.	11
None.	26
Not stated.	7

Of the 23 types of work done it was noted that 11 or about 21% of the total number employed were doing maid work. Porters ranked the same. Two people were engaged in social work, both having attended college at one time.

Of the 64 persons employed when survey was conducted 11 worked part-time while 53 worked regularly. Regular employment among males was greater than among females, and part-time work was greater among females. Of the 64 employed 32 were males and 32 were females. Only 6 persons stated that their work was seasonal. Fifty-eight had jobs promised for the entire year.

TABLE XVI
DISTRIBUTION OF 97 GRADUATES OF BOOKER
T. WASHINGTON HIGH SCHOOL ACCORDING
TO LENGTH OF TIME JOBS HELD AT
TIME SURVEY WAS CONDUCTED

Number of Months Job Held	Graduates
0- 4	15
5- 9	14
10-14.	10
15-19.	3
20-24.	11
25-29.	0
30-34.	0
35-39.	1
40-49/	2

TABLE XVI (Continued)

Number of Months Jobs Held	Graduates
50-54.	2
55-59.	0
60-64.	1
Not stated	4

Comparison can be made of the duration of jobs or stability of workers from the table concerning time jobs were held during high school attendance and Table XVI above.

Likewise a comparison can be made in connection with Table XVII below and the table concerning wages received by graduates while in attendance.

TABLE XVII
DISTRIBUTION OF 64 GRADUATES OF BOOKER
T. WASHINGTON HIGH SCHOOL ACCORDING
TO MONTHLY WAGE RECEIVED AT TIME
SURVEY WAS CONDUCTED

Monthly Wage	Graduates
6 - 9.	0
10 - 19.	6
20- 29.	34

TABLE XVII (Continued)

Monthly Wage	Graduates
30 - 39.	10
40 - 49.	5
50 - 59.	0
60 - 69.	3
70 - 79.	1
Not stated	1
No set wage.	4

As can be seen from Table XVII above more people received wages from \$20 to \$29. This shows an increase in average wage over the majority receiving from \$10 to \$15 during high school attendance. Only one female received wages above \$40, while 8 males received about \$40. The average wage for females was about \$20 per month.

Of the 58 graduates employed 12 received wages for piecework, while 46 received a flat wage. Experience did not affect the wages received by 49 of the 58 employed, but 9 stated that it did. Service affected the wages of 17 graduates while 41 stated that their wages were not

affected by service. These foregoing findings seem to be indicative of the deplorable situation which does not allow for an increase in wage in accordance with improvement or indispensability of services of the individual. In most cases wherein graduates worked during high school attendance and were working during the time the survey was made, there was noted a comparative increase in the wages received.

Table XVIII below shows the influence of subjects taken in high school upon the obtaining and maintenance of jobs.

TABLE XVIII
 DISTRIBUTION OF 97 GRADUATES OF BOONVILLE
 HIGH SCHOOL ACCORDING
 TO INFLUENCE OF SUBJECTS
 TAKEN IN HIGH SCHOOL

Subject	Graduates
Bookkeeping	1
Science	1
Business Arithmetic	2
Physical Education	1
Landscape	2

Information Concerning the Influence and
Aid of the School in the Occupational
Pursuits of 97 Graduates

When asked whether school aided in securing jobs 62 graduates answered negatively and 11 stated that it did. It was noticed that the positions of clerk, social service worker, secretary, office assistant, and ochestraman were the main ones which the school aided in securing.

Table XVIII below shows the influence of subjects taken in high school upon the obtaining and maintenance of jobs.

TABLE XVIII
DISTRIBUTION OF 97 GRADUATES OF BOOKER
T. WASHINGTON HIGH SCHOOL ACCORDING
TO INFLUENCE OF SUBJECTS
TAKEN IN HIGH SCHOOL

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Graduates</u>
Bookkeeping	1
Science	1
Business Arithmetic	2
Physical Education.	2
Laundering.	2

TABLE XVIII (Continued)

Subject	Graduates
Sewing	6
Cooking	7
Civics	8
History	13
Mathematics	44
English	47
None	17
Social clubs	32
Church	32
None	3

It can be seen from the above table that 32 of the 97 graduates held membership in churches. Only a small percentage belonged to lodges, Y.M.C.A., and other similar organizations, while 32 were members in one or more social clubs. It will also be noted from the above figures that some of the 97 graduates had membership in all the community activities listed above, while only 3 had membership in neither.

Information Concerning the Participation of
97 Graduates in Community Activities

TABLE IX
DISTRIBUTION OF 97 GRADUATES OF BOOKER
T. WASHINGTON HIGH SCHOOL ACCORDING
TO THEIR PARTICIPATION IN COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

<u>Organization</u>	<u>Graduates</u>
Lodge.	4
Y.M.C.A. and similar organizations	13
Social clubs	32
Church	82
None.	3

As can be seen from the above table 82 of the 97 graduates held membership in churches. Only a small percentage belonged to lodges, Y.M.C.A., and other similar organizations, while 32 were members in one or more social clubs. It will also be noted from the above figures that some of the 97 graduates had membership in all the community activities listed above, while only 3 had membership in neither.

Of the 82 belonging to churches only four held positions, such as: president of B.Y.P.U., treasurer of Sunday School, and secretary of Sunday School, while out of 32 belonging to social clubs 10 held positions of president, manager, treasurer, and secretary.

Perhaps "educational opportunities" should be enlarged upon to read "vocational educational opportunities". For certainly in this period of economic upheaval and instability there is a realization that the secondary school especially must become more efficient and effective in preparing its product to cope with the vast problems. When we think of the hundreds of high school graduates who finish from year to year but who do not continue their training, the importance of the findings which follow as obtained from the survey should readily be seen.

Almost any lawyer in Texas or elsewhere conversant with the status of the Negro high school graduate has seen a need for improvement, but no body of information of sufficient scope heretofore has been available concerning the present vocational status of the majority of Negro high school graduates to be used as an

Texas Educational Survey Commission, Texas Educational Survey Report, Vol. VIII, General Report, Austin, Texas, 1933, p. 37.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

I. Importance of Evidence

"The ultimate value of the school system of a State is the character and extent of educational opportunities it offers its children."¹

Perhaps "educational opportunities" should be enlarged upon to read "vocational educational opportunities", for certainly in this period of economic upheaval and instability there is a realization that the secondary school especially must become more efficient and effective in preparing its product to cope with the vast problems. When we think of the hundreds of high school graduates who finish from year to year but who do not continue their training, the importance of the findings which follow as obtained from the survey should readily be seen.

Almost any layman in Texas or elsewhere conversant with the status of the Negro high school graduate has seen a need for improvement, but no body of information of sufficient scope heretofore has been available concerning the present vocational status of the majority of Negro high school graduates to be used as an

¹ Texas Educational Survey Commission, Texas Educational Survey Report, Vol. VIII, General Report. Austin, Texas, 1925. p. 39.

authoritative indicator in formulating certain curriculum recommendations. In keeping with the purpose of this study as a part of a composite study, it is an attempt to supply some major facts and tendencies which may be used in meeting the need of improvement in the preparation of Negro High school graduates.

The preceding study has presented certain facts relating to the following: personal background of 97 high school graduates; extent of education of 97 graduates, while attending high school and since graduation; the influence of the high school upon the occupational pursuits of 97 graduates; and the participation of 97 graduates in community activities. The final pages, which follow, concern themselves with a summary of the findings and presentation of certain conclusions.

Findings Concerning the Personal
Background of 97 Graduates
of Booker T. Washington
High School

1. Of the 97 Graduates studied 45 were males and 52 were females and range in ages from 16 to 26 years. This total represents graduates over a period of four years, 1932-1935 inclusive. The largest percentage of the total number of graduates fall between the ages 19 and 22.

2. Only 28 of the graduates were rural born. Sixty-six or over two-thirds of them were city born. Twenty-three had parents of rural origin and 73 had city born parents.

3. The average number of children in families to which 97 graduates belonged was found to be 3, however, seventeen persons had no sisters or brothers, and one was a member of a family of 12 children. This is an illuminating factor in connection with reasons for not extending training beyond high school.

4. Of the 97 graduates 70 had both parents living, 15 of whom were separated. Twenty-one had neither parent living, 75 had living fathers and 87 had living mothers.

5. Only a small percentage of the parents owned homes. Only 27 out of 97 graduates had parents owning homes at time of graduation. Twelve had parents owning other property, such as: real estate, farms, business houses, etc. Most of this number also owned homes.

6. Twelve of the graduates were married, six of whom had 1, 2, or 3 children. In the course of four years since graduation twice as many girls have married. Of the 12 graduates married most of them have been married less than three years.

Findings Concerning Extent of Training
Beyond High School of 97 Graduates
of Booker T. Washington High School

1. Of the 97 graduates studied only 6 had attended college at some time since graduation. The 91 who did not go to college gave reasons for not going, 74 of which were "lack of funds". Two persons who had attended college gave the same reason for dropping out. Four persons had no desire to extend their education. Only 3 persons of the entire group gave as their reason for not attending college: "stopped to work" as against the 74 "lack of funds".

Findings Concerning Occupational
Pursuits of 97 Graduates while
in High School and Since Graduation

1. Of the 97 graduates studied 45 worked at some period during their high school attendance. Some worked the entire period of attendance, while others only worked part of the time. Twice as many males as females of the total number worked during high school attendance.

2. Thirty-five of the 45 graduates who worked had part-time jobs such as during week ends or vacations. Twenty of 45 had seasonal jobs.

3. Wages received by graduates in high school ranged from \$4 per month to \$30, the largest number falling between \$10 and \$24. Since most of these graduates were not attending high school before the depression period, wages received were comparatively good.

4. Twenty-two of 45 graduates had worked for the entire year while 14 had worked for 4 to 10 months per year; six had work varying in total months per year; and 3 did not state.

5. After graduation 13 of 97 graduates secured work immediately after graduation, 24 within a few weeks, 9 continued work where they were, and 12 did not get work until 2 or 3 years.

6. Thirty-five graduates were working on their first jobs secured since graduation, 23 had changed once, 5 have changed twice, and only 3 have changed 3 times.

7. Those changing jobs give various reasons, among which "people moved away" and "better work" were the most frequent. Only 2 stated that they were fired, and only 1 stated that he stopped to go to college.

8. Of the 97 graduates 64 were employed when survey was conducted, 32 of whom were males and an equal number were females.

9. The types of jobs held by these 64 were very much the same as those held during high school attendance,

that is, they were chiefly domestic or menial. Two persons were engaged in social work and two in office work. Three of the four persons last mentioned have spent sometime in college.

10. Contrary to the situation during high school attendance 53 out of 64 persons employed had regular jobs. Eleven had part-time jobs. More females than males had part-time jobs.

11. Fifty-eight of 64 had jobs for entire year. Six had seasonal jobs.

12. The lowest wage received by any one of the 64 graduates who worked at time the survey was conducted was about \$10. The highest wage received was \$70. The average wage was about \$25 per month.

13. The length of time last jobs held by the 64 graduates ranged from 2 weeks to five years. Twenty-nine of 64 had held last job for less than 9 weeks. It must be borne in mind that the majority of graduates represented in this study were products of 1935.

14. Fifty-two of 64 graduates received a flat wage; 12 received wages according to piece work.

15. Only 9 graduates of 64 stated that their wages depended or were affected by experience. Seventeen stated that their wages were affected by service.

Findings Concerning the Influence
of the High School Upon
Occupational Pursuits of 97 Graduates

1. Of the entire number of graduates having worked at any time only 11 stated that the high school aided as an agency in securing jobs.

2. Forty-seven graduates stated that English had aided them in securing jobs; 44 stated that mathematics had aided and 13 stated that sewing and cooking had aided. This is to me a remarkable fact since most were women employed as domestics. Seventeen of total number having worked stated that no subject had aided them in securing jobs.

Findings Concerning Participation of
97 Graduates in Community Activities

1. Eighty-two of 97 graduates were members of some church.
2. Thirty-two graduates were members of social clubs.
3. Only 13 held membership in Y.M.C.A. and other similar organizations.
4. Four graduates were members of lodges.
5. Three graduates held membership in no organization.

6. Of the 82 belonging to church only four held positions, such as president of B.Y.P.U., treasurer, and secretary.

7. Of the 32 belonging to social clubs 10 held positions of president, treasurer, and secretary. In several cases one person held two or more positions in different clubs or organizations.

8. No person held position in lodge.

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