Hughes, Franklin Discuss Discrimination
From Standpoints Of Sociology, History

Dr. Hughes, in introducing the Discrimination Conference, as a Negro, is starting the question that an outline of the history and philosophy of this is the United States. He defined the primary origins of America's institutions of higher education. "These were the religious schools which are called training schools; the agricultural and mechanical schools or the land grant colleges, the normal schools established for the need of teachers, the seminary colleges which were started in the eight schools, and the Freedmen's schools started by various protestant mission societies as missionary efforts. If these groups of schools were noted with a special purpose, "to provide a kind of training for a few kind of people." These schools were not set up to compete with the regular college granting the usual bachelor degree. Young people will be going to college and more colleges will be needed. The question is: What will the result be like? What kind discrimination will we make in determining the best of these students? Will the student who is less than the best in the state not have their ways linked and their plans taken by others who are less than the best in ability in standards of effort and in the solution to this problem. The two extremes were the continuation of the laissez-faire notion that if education is really desired it will be obtained, or, a discrimination in reverse by spending more to bring to college those who have major and no, not major degrees. Another basic problem that Dr. Hughes brought to the attention of the conferences concerned the prep-colege education. Those who are the last to come out from the weight of legal and formal education may find that the inequality of access to schooling of high quality, the complete absence of insuring living methods from their life-super and the ugly disproportion of stem lifts will rob them of their birthright of being able to use their talents.

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