

## **Tuskegee Negro Conference**

This Conference, established ten years ago by Mr. Booker T. Washington, Principal of Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, attracts national attention to its yearly sessions.

The subjects which are discussed at these conferences are always extremely practical, as may be seen from the following list of declarations adopted at a recent session as the result of the discussions. These declarations are neatly printed on strips of paper in the Tuskegee Institute printing office before the conference adjourns, and copies given to the people to carry home with them:

"1. More and more, as a race, we feel that we are to work out our destiny through the slow and often trying processes of natural growth rather than by any easy, sudden, or superficial method; and while we are trying to make ourselves worthy citizens, we ask the patience and good will and appeal to the sense of justice of our white friends.

"2. We desire to reaffirm what we have advised in previous years, that, while not overlooking our rights as citizens, it should still be our main

concern to use our energy in continuing to secure homes, better schools, a higher degree of skill, and Christian character, and in the practice of industry and economy.

"3. We believe the race is making slow but sure progress, and we are glad to note the growing interest of the best Southern white people in our elevation as shown by the various conferences, held by them, for the discussion of the race problem.

"4. We would call attention to the fact that our people charged with crime, and in Southern prisons, have, as a rule, little or no education, and are largely without industrial and moral training.

"5. We believe that the openings in the South for employment, especially in the direction of skilled labor, were never greater than now.

"6. We urge all to become taxpayers and to promptly pay their taxes, to keep out of the courts, to cease loafing on the streets, and in public places; and to prepare to do well the work which the best interests of the community demand.

"These declarations should be tacked up in your house that they may be referred to during the year."