Beard, Nora Neal Hurston, Angie Debo, Mari Sandoz, Lucy Salmon, Mary McLeod Bethune, Dorothy Porter, and Nellie Neilson. She shows how many women “rewrote the past to serve new reform agendas” in the Progressive Era, including reforms in labor conditions, race relations, exploitation of Native Americans, and immigration policy. Des Jardins concludes that women have had a significant impact on the historical enterprise—both the methods of doing history and how we remember our national history.

Des Jardins’ book is comprehensive and well-researched, based on extensive primary and secondary sources, including archives from around the country. The book offers useful material for lectures, and contains an expansive bibliography that is topically organized, which makes it a good resource for research. The writing style is engaging and generally accessible. This book could be assigned at the graduate or undergraduate level for courses in historiography, women’s history, African-American history, or regional history. The material in Des Jardins’ book will help students gain an appreciation for how gender and race have shaped historical practice and how women have contributed to the historical enterprise in lasting ways.

Berry College

Carrie Baker


Jacqueline Moore has succeeded admirably in achieving the stated objectives of her new history of the struggle for racial uplift in the United States at the turn of the twentieth century. She has produced a book that can be readily understood and enjoyed by “readers with little or no background on the subject.” She has provided high school and college students and instructors at both levels with a detailed explanation of the Washington-Du Bois conflict, a topic “that most textbooks only briefly outline.” Finally, and most importantly, Professor Moore has placed the Washington-Du Bois conflict in the broader context of “the black community’s search for effective ways to combat rising segregation and discrimination.”

Moore proposes a well articulated historical framework within which to contextualize the debate between Washington and Du Bois. While the debate involved “people at all levels of the black community” and “shaped the way that black leaders discussed how to improve the race,” she argues that “not everyone took sides.” For even those “most involved in the debate recognized that there were more than two methods of racial uplift, and a number of groups and organizations actively pursued other tactics.” Some African Americans “used segregation as a reason to build up black-controlled institutions” such as YMCAs and the National Association of Colored
Women, whereas others created black-owned businesses. They "created new opportunities" while making themselves "less dependent on whites or the Tuskegee machine." By the time Washington died in 1915, she concludes, such efforts "had already made parts of the debate obsolete."

While Moore tries to be evenhanded, stressing important areas of agreement between Washington and Du Bois rather than their sharp differences of opinion over education and the advisability of demanding equal political rights, the preponderance of her evidence tells a different story. Describing Washington's reaction to Du Bois's 1903 essay "Of Booker T. Washington and Others" and to the "so-called Boston riot" that July engineered by William Monroe Trotter, Moore characterizes the Wizard of Tuskegee as vengeful and primarily concerned with preserving his personal power. Although she does not make Washington's obsession with silencing his critics an explicit theme, almost every major incident she describes between 1903 and 1912 tells that same story. Given the pivotal role played by Du Bois's 1903 essay in galvanizing opposition to Washington's policies, Moore owes her reader an explanation for not including at least extended excerpts from it in the "Documents in the Case" section of her book. This reviewer would also be inclined to fault her for omitting any mention in this connection of Du Bois's poignant accusation that "Mr. Washington's program practically accepts the alleged inferiority of the Negro races."

In this reviewer's estimation, Professor Moore's study of efforts at racial uplift would be most useful as required reading in an advanced high school or college-level survey of African American history. Its clear prose and richly textured portraits of Washington, Du Bois, and other important figures of the day make it a pleasure to read and easy to understand. On the other hand, its length and the cost of the cloth edition limit the possibilities for assigning it as a supplement to the textbook in a survey of United States history.

Pembroke Hill School            Carl Schulkin


The goal of *The Voice of the People* is to present primary sources and critical thinking questions on workers, industrial relations, and working class life in British North America and the United States from 1620 to the present. Covering this large span and employing a thematic approach, labor historians Jonathan Rees and Jonathan Pollack have selected a number of interesting and useful sources. However, these