

South, the white South is handicapped, whether it thinks so or not, in dealing with the so-called Negro laborer. If the South wishes to stop the migration and induce the Negro to return to his native soil, the South must offer inducements to the Negro leaders, and these inducements must be such as to make living not only possible, but agreeable and comfortable. When this is done the migration will be retarded and eventually cease entirely.

It may appear to the southern white leaders that Negroes are not interested in modern schools offering equal opportunities for Negroes. They may think it expensive to provide school terms of seven and eight months in the year. They may think it a waste of money to build modern schoolhouses for Negro students, but when they reflect that just this kind of education is needed to interest Negro leaders in remaining in the South, they will find such an investment not only cheap but highly profitable. There are some white men in the South who know this very thing, but they are overpowered by the ignorant white masses of the South, and the handicap under which their labor is appreciated by those who know the actual situation. But this is part of their battle, and the white wealth of the South, in its own defense, must make a more liberal investment in the education, home life and bread and butter opportunities for the Negro if he is to be expected to live below the Mason-Dixon line. This kind of an investment will stop the migration.

HOW TO STOP THE MIGRATION

WE are reading a great deal these days in the leading publications about the migration of the Negro to the North and West. A few years ago the migration was the all-absorbing subject both in the South and in the North. The South was interested because it was face to face with the problem of absorbing thousands of newcomers, who were not only in a strange land but in a very rigorous climate. There were some who were happy to see the migration because they thought it would visit a hardship on the South. There were others who discouraged the migration because they anticipated suffering and misery for the migrants.

Enough time has elapsed now, it seems, to give the North and the South an opportunity to draw some conclusions. It is very evident that the migration has not entirely ceased. Those of us in the North know that we are receiving newcomers every day, and the people of the South also know that the migration has not ceased. While many of the migrants have gone back South, not all of them have returned, and many of them are continuing to leave the land of their birth.

The chief reason for this migration, from the Negro' point of view, is based upon the treatment the Negro says he receives in the South. He complains that when he works as a laborer his wage is low and that frequently there is a dispute about payment, and not infrequently serious trouble arises over what belongs to the Negro. To escape this situation, Negroes are continuing to leave the South. While we do not attempt to say what the actual facts are, we do know that the South—the white South—ought to be more interested in the migration than anybody else in this country. The white South knows, or it ought to know, that the Negro prefers to live in the South, all things being equal. The white South ought to know, and we believe it does know, that the Negroes of the South are a little more intelligent now than they were sixty-five years ago, and that living conditions have improved over what they were sixty-five years ago, and that the standards of living in this country have been raised for black and white alike, not only in the North, but in the South as well. The serious phase of this whole situation lies in the fact that the so-called educated Negroes of the South hesitate to go back. It is a known fact that the doctors, who are very much needed in the South, receive their training in the northern institutions and immediately settle down in northern communities. It is almost amazing to know the number of doctors who have come out from Howard University and have settled in such communities as Philadelphia, Washington, Baltimore and the smaller towns on the Eastern Seaboard in the North. The South cannot hope to attract and hold Negro labor without some form of Negro leadership to assist them. When Negro leaders abandon the