

Jobs and Food

Dear friend,

The Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee will hold a conference on jobs and food which will convene November 29th in Washington, D. C. The fact that the Negro is being excluded from the important areas of the American public and private economy makes it imperative that the Negro people come together to discuss JOBS & FOOD. The fact that between 35 and 50 million black and white people are living in a state of poverty makes the issue of Jobs and Food a concern of all Americans.

Machinery is replacing the Negro sharecropper and the Negro industrial worker. 20% of the Negro working force is unemployed. When he is lucky enough to be employed, he finds that his wage is 54% of that of whites. The masses of Jobless can't move into the new white collar jobs that are now opening up, such as IBM operators, hospital technicians, and office personell because they are not trained to enter those fields.

Our economy is rapidly re-organizing because of new methods of production. The production of consumer goods and armaments is increasing, but demand for consumer goods is decreasing. Automation has brought about a need for people with new skills. This is rapidly eliminating the need for the unskilled worker. Improved methods of transportation, communication, and methods of transporting power has brought about a move toward decentralization of industry. Industries are trying to take advantage of the social corruption of the South to find cheap labor. plants moving from the urban to the rural area find it convenient to continue the exploitation of the population found there.

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Jobs and Food Conference

Rural areas being redeveloped are being planned by businessmen for the benefit of business. In order to seriously discuss Jobs and Food, we must consider the two related issues of segregation of workers and workers being automated out of jobs on the farm and industry. We have already marched on Washington for Jobs and freedom. We must now carefully outline programs to house, clothe and feed our nation's dispossessed. Speakers at the conference will discuss economic trends in the South and the Nation and the specific problems of the small farmer, the unemployed and underemployed laborer and the out-of-school youth. Emphasis will be placed on the Mississippi Negro.

Student Nonviolent Coordinating
Committee

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