

The words on the cover were recently spoken by a white woodcutter in South Alabama. He was talking about getting black and white woodcutters together in an organization—strong enough to fight for survival and to change the conditions of their lives.

This woodcutters' movement—potentially involving tens of thousands of workers—is growing. In the fall of 1971, thousands of pulpwood workers struck Mississippi's largest paper and hardboard companies.

It is one of the movements that SCEF organizers are helping to develop.



Atlanta garbage strikers



Lexington jam session

It's your future

Southern senators and representatives sit on and control some of the most important committees in Congress. In this way, they not only hold back the growth of any progressive movement in the South—but also maintain our country's destructive, militaristic policies.

This kind of leadership—coupled with the alienation of masses of people in the South—provides a potential mass base for reactionary movements in this country.

So that whether or not you live in the South, your future will be affected by our success in organizing among white Southerners. But we need your time and talent to help us—and your financial support.

SCEF is a completely independent organization. We depend entirely on the support of people like you—who believe that democracy means people organizing for themselves. Write us for more information and send contributions to:

SOUTHERN CONFERENCE EDUCATIONAL FUND (SCEF)

3210 W. Broadway, Louisville, Ky. 40211

President: Fred L. Shuttlesworth
Executive Director: Anne Braden

Our newspaper, the *Southern Patriot*, is sent to everyone who contributes to the work of SCEF.

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labor donated

"The civil-rights movement made it possible and now we can do it and we are doing it. And this may be the last chance we get."



A program for today

SCEF—the Southern Conference Educational Fund—is a Southwide organization that sees its main job as reaching out to the unreached white people in the South—the Klansmen and Wallace supporters—and bringing them into common struggles with the black movement. These struggles can win freedom and a better life for us all.

We are trying to build on the growing awareness among Southern whites that racism has not brought us a better life. It has kept us poor and powerless.

SCEF brings to this task the experience of 33 years' work in the South. We have a board of 100 people, black and white, from across the South—some of the people most active in local, grass-roots movements. Our field staff includes 20 talented organizers and writers, and a lawyer. Ten staff members are paid just enough to live on; the rest are self-supporting volunteers.

Organizing Work: Field staff are based in two main areas. In the Deep South, the GROW (Grass Roots Organizing Work) Project works to bring black and white workers into common struggles, like the woodcutters' movement. Because of our close ties with the civil-rights and labor movements, SCEF's Southern Mountain Project is able to play a significant role in Appalachia. Staff volunteers in other cities are involved in the GI, peace, and women's movements, and help to organize against repression. A Southwide traveler brings together people in all the different aspects of the Southern movement.

Information & Training: SCEF publishes a monthly newspaper, the *Southern Patriot*; supplies a regular news service to some



Appalachian miners—fighting for a better life

500 newspapers and broadcasters across the country; and prints a steady flow of material on our own press. We are getting out the word about what is really happening in the South, and helping to plant the seeds of new movements.

The *Appalachian People's History Book* tells the real history of mountain people's struggles. It was written and produced by SCEF staff and we are distributing thousands of copies free in the mountain areas.

To further our work, we have an educational center in New Orleans, serving the Deep South. There, people can come together in workshops to discuss common problems and to train in organizing skills and in getting information out to the public.

An old problem...

Forty million white people live in the South. Eleven million—more than one fourth—are poor. Seven million, or more than two-thirds of the South's 11 million black people, are poor. *Eighteen million people* exist on incomes below the poverty level of \$3,000 a year.

Few Southerners, even those above the poverty level, have any influence in the decisions that affect their lives. For the most part, Southern white people have been tricked by racism—the myth that they are better than black people because of the color of their skin—into fighting against their own best interests. Using racism, the people who run the South have kept black and white divided—and powerless.

... a new hope

But since the late fifties, black people have been organizing to win political and economic power—and they have won victories. Recently, groups of white people across the South have come to see that they cannot solve their own problems without reaching out to the black movement—taking part in joint struggles. They need the power of the black movement more than their prejudices.

Alliances of black and white people have happened in union struggles in the Carolinas, for example; and in the Headstart program in Mississippi. In Louisiana, white parents joined with black to keep racist politicians from closing their schools. In the fall of 1971, as bussing became a national issue, most white Southerners kept their children in integrated schools—even if they had to ride busses to get there.

And everywhere—as an unpopular war continues to draft young men and consume the money for programs that could improve people's lives—a growing number of Southerners are wondering how it can be stopped. How we can get a voice in our country's policies.