

Many Blacks Returning to The South In Unprecedented Numbers

After spending half their lives in Northern cities many blacks are returning to the South in unprecedented numbers. For the first time in American history more blacks are coming to the South than leaving. This trend may cause many other Northern families to think of pulling up stakes and returning to what they remember as a peaceful, quiet and wholesome living environment.

Families with such thoughts might do well to closely examine this Southern migration before making plans to return to the "good life". Many blacks who have returned to the South are happy they made the move, while others have found frustration and disappointment.

Older, completely retired, financial independent couples are most likely to be happy in their new surroundings. They tend to relax and enjoy their hobbies free of job pressures and social concerns.

Semi-retired, middle aged couples in their 40s and 50s are more likely to experience disappointment and regrets about resettlement in the new South for many reasons.

Employment presents a big problem, both in equal opportunity and income. Although the income gap in the North and South is narrowing, wages are still disappointingly low.

Without political or social influence, most jobs above the \$10,000 annual range are difficult to come by. And a considerable number of responsible jobs held by blacks above that range are viewed by others as window dressing.

Most blacks who return to their native South are considered by nearly everyone as outsiders, intruders and competitors for jobs, recognition and social status.

Despite these barriers many blacks who come home work hard to absorb themselves into the mainstream of their new communities and enjoy the best of their new life.

"Being back home has been much more fulfilling than I had expected," says William Aldridge, who returned with his wife, Eulalia to Spring Hope, N.C. after a combined total of 89 years in Montclair, N.J.

Their beautifully landscaped, modern brick

home is one of the most attractive in this small Southern town of about 2,000 population.

The family farm plays a big role in the contentment of some homeward bound black families. After his father died Omega Hogwood and his family returned to Centerville, N.C. in 1971 after seventeen years in New York City to manage the 107 acre farm operation.

He was followed in 1978 by his sister, Leonia and her husband, Ceil Watkins, who retired from the U.S. Postal Service after 32 years.

"In addition to the fresh air and open spaces we milk our cow, make our own butter, and still grow sugar cane to make our molasses," Boasted Hogwood.

He was modest in discussing the size of their farm operation, and belatedly mentioned the 150-head hog farm and "a few cattle".

Watkins, who is disabled and lives on the family farm is constantly occupied supporting the farm operations and pursuing his hobby in carpentry. He is busy tearing down the abandoned homeplace and using the 100 year-old solid logs to build a new storage building.

A highly successful convenience mart is operated in rural Spring Hope, N.C. by Odessa Wortham, an attractive, middle aged widow who spent twenty years in Philadelphia, Pa. before returning home in 1966.

"When my husband and I opened this store in 1969 we had no idea it would become such an important part of my life", she said, "It keeps me busy and at the same time enables me to make a decent living."

The store is located across the road from her aging mother's home, and a brother who lives within a mile takes turns filling in with the store operation.

"Life here is more wholesome and I have more freedom to make my own decisions", Mr. Wortham went on. "I'm glad I returned home and re-established my life near other members of my family who are so dear to me."

The belief that the cost of living is cheaper in the South is often misleading. It is for the family who lives in the country and produces most of their food. Close knit families

also have a practice of bartering and sharing during the bountiful seasons. Otherwise, food and clothing are usually more expensive than in large cities of the North.

Quite often life has not been as fulfilling for many blacks who chose not to leave the South, and they remain a part of the scene for those who left and returned.

Nearly half of the black population in the South live below the poverty level of \$5,700 and occupy the lowest rungs on the social ladder.

More than one out of five eligible voters in the South is black, but less than one in ten go to the polls on election day.

Social, political and economic change have come slow to those who would benefit most by change.



Tour South Visiting VISTA Volunteers

MARIANA, ARK. ACTION officials, Sam Brown (left) and John Lewis (2 from left) from Washington, visit in an okra field with Benjamin Anthony, a Volunteer in Service to America (VISTA), and Mrs. Freddie Morris, member of a local agricultural co-op which has benefitted from the Federal program. Brown and Lewis are Presidential appointees who toured four states in the deep South, visiting VISTA volunteers who assist the Federation of Southern Cooperatives with self-help initiatives.

"A drunkard would not give money to sober people. He said they would only eat it, and buy clothes and send their children to school with it." Samuel Butler

Labor Union To Help Train Disadvantaged

WASHINGTON — About 1,000 jobless and economically disadvantaged persons in sixteen states will be trained on the job in concrete casting work under a \$390,000 laborers' union contract, Assistant Secretary of Labor Ernest G. Green has announced.

The Laborer's International Union of North America, AFL-CIO, agreed to its eleventh consecutive contract to encourage employers to provide instruction and develop jobs for 550 workers.

An additional 450 training opportunities will be developed by Comprehensive Employment and Training Act (CETA) prime sponsors using funds from the Private Sector Initiative Program (PSIP) funded under Title VII of CETA.

The employers will conduct on-the-job training projects in prestressed and precast concrete manufac-

turing and other related skills.

Since March 1967, under ten previous contracts, the laborers' union has trained over 11,550 persons, all with employers who have collective bargaining agreements with the union. The new contract runs through July 31, 1980.

The contract is funded under Title III of CETA which is administered by the department's Employment and Training Administration (ETA).

The ETA defines as "economically disadvantaged" one who is a client of a sheltered workshop; is confined to an institution; receiving community care; substantially handicapped; or is a member of a family receiving cash welfare payments or an annual income (for four) of between \$7,200 and \$12,500 depending on location and program.

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Serve 'N' Save Wieners 12-oz. Pkg. 79c

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Cheese Food 16-oz. Pkg. \$1.69

FROZEN ONE IDA CRINKLE CUT

French Fries 5-lb. Bag \$1.79

Country Club Ice Cream 1 Gallon Ctn. \$1.99

U.S. NO. 1 WISCONSIN Russet Potatoes 15-lb. Bag \$1.59

Fresh Mushrooms 1-lb. Pkg. \$1.29

Fresh Broccoli 1-bunch 58c (LIMIT 4 WITH ADDITIONAL FOOD PURCHASES)

Red or Golden Delicious Apples 59c/lb.

Deli Style Boiled Ham 2 \$2.99 (SLICED FREE)

COUNTRY OVEN Potato Chips 8-OZ. BAG **59c**

Fleeco Bath Tissue 4-ply 99c

Sun Gold Salties 1-lb. 43c

Blackeyes 15-oz. Can 25c

Peanut 15-oz. Can 25c

Avondale Corn 16-oz. Can 27c

Avondale Cut Green Beans 15-oz. Can 23c

SUN GOLD Sandwich Bread 24-OZ. LOAF **29c**

Pudding 4-cup 65c

Vegetable Oil 38-OZ. BOTTLE \$1.33

Country Oven Pretzels 39c

Kandu Bleach GALLON JUG **49c**

Aluminum Foil 16-1/2" x 10' 29c

Margarine 1-LB. PKG. **33c**

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After-School Snack You Won't Forget



If you have active youngsters who come running home from school hungry for a snack, "Peanutty Tote 'Em Cups" is a recipe you'll want to remember. Ready for eating in minutes, these tasty pudding-like snacks are peanutty-rich and dotted with chocolate—sure to be a hit with the kids. You'll enjoy how easy they are to make—it's all done in a blender (even dissolving the unflavored gelatine!), and you can use paper cups to serve them in. Best of all, your youngsters won't forget what a great Mom you are for making this delicious treat for them.

PEANUTTY TOTE 'EM CUPS

3 envelopes Knox® Unflavored Gelatine
1 cup cold milk
1 cup milk, heated to boiling
1-1/2 cups peanut butter
1/2 cup sugar
3 cups ice cubes (about 12 to 16)
1/2 cup mini or regular semi-sweet chocolate chips

In 6-cup blender, sprinkle unflavored gelatine over cold milk; let stand 5 to 4 minutes. Add hot milk and process at low speed until gelatine is completely dissolved, about 2 minutes. Add peanut butter and sugar; process at high speed until blended. Add ice cubes, one at a time; process at high speed until ice is melted. Pour into 6-ounce paper cups and stir in chocolate (about 1/2 tablespoon each cup). Chill until set, about 10 minutes. Makes about 10 servings.