

BUILDING A MORE PERFECT UNION

PART II



NATIONAL
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NHD
NATIONAL
HISTORY DAY

THE GREAT MIGRATION: PUTTING IT ALL TOGETHER

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GUIDING QUESTION:

What were the causes and effects of the Great Migration?

OVERVIEW

The Great Migration is a story of people taking agency to try to find a better life for their children and grandchildren. In this lesson, students will examine primary source sets to extract essential information about the causes and effects of the Great Migration and examine participants' experiences. They will collaborate with classmates considering different sources to develop a visualization of the Great Migration.

OBJECTIVES

At the conclusion of this activity, students will be able to:

- > Identify and describe the interrelated causes and effects of the Great Migration;
- > Discuss the experiences of African Americans during the Great Migration; and
- > Collaborate to represent the story of the Great Migration visually.

STANDARDS CONNECTIONS

CONNECTIONS TO COMMON CORE

- > CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.9-10.1 Cite strong and thorough textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.

CONNECTIONS TO C3 FRAMEWORK

- > D2.Geo.7.9-12. Analyze the reciprocal nature of how historical events and the spatial diffusion of ideas, technologies, and cultural practices have influenced migration patterns and the distribution of human population.
- > D2.Geo.8.9-12. Evaluate the impact of economic activities and political decisions on spatial patterns within and among urban, suburban, and rural regions.
- > D2.His.1.9-12. Evaluate how historical events and developments were shaped by unique circumstances of time and place as well as broader historical contexts.

- > D2.His.4.9-12. Analyze complex and interacting factors that influenced the perspectives of people during different historical eras.

DOCUMENTS USED

PRIMARY SOURCES

Book, Emmett J. Scott, *Negro migration during the war*, 1920 (excerpts)

Library of Congress (20009134)
<https://www.loc.gov/item/20009134/>

Newspaper article, "Chicago a Mecca for Negroes from South" (excerpt)
The Birmingham Age-Herald [Birmingham, Alabama], May 11, 1917
<https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn85038485/1917-05-11/ed-1/seq-5/>

Newspaper article, "Churches Find Race Problem National in Scope"
The Citizen [Berea, Kentucky], December 18, 1919
<https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn85052076/1919-12-18/ed-1/seq-5/>

Newspaper article, "Discussion on Race Migration" (excerpt)
The Twin City Star [Minneapolis, Minnesota], July 28, 1917
<https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn90060427/1917-07-28/ed-1/seq-1/>

Newspaper article, "Great Trek of Negroes North Puzzles Race Leaders" (excerpt)
The Sun [New York, New York], July 8, 1917
<https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn83030431/1917-07-08/ed-1/seq-43/>

Newspaper article, Louis Zoobock, "Negro Migration and Its Causes" (excerpt)
The Daily Worker [Chicago, Illinois], August 9, 1924
<https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn84020097/1924-08-09/ed-1/seq-6/>

Newspaper article, "The Negro Exodus to the North" (excerpt)
The Denver Star [Denver, Colorado], January 20, 1917
<https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn84025887/1917-01-20/ed-1/seq-1/>

Newspaper article, “Negro Exodus Without Parallel in U.S. History” (excerpt)
Evening Star [Washington, D.C.], July 22, 1923
<https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn83045462/1923-07-22/ed-1/seq-35/>

Newspaper article, “Negro Farmers Moving North” (excerpt)
The Colorado Statesman [Denver, Colorado], April 28, 1923
<https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn83025514/1923-04-28/ed-1/seq-1/>

Newspaper article, “Negro Migration to North Totals 350,000 in 1916 and 1917” (excerpt)
The Dallas Express [Dallas, Texas], March 15, 1919
<https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn83025779/1919-03-15/ed-1/seq-1/>

Newspaper article, “The Negro Moves North”
The Indianapolis Times [Indianapolis, Indiana], June 28, 1923
<https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn82015313/1923-06-28/ed-1/seq-4/>

Newspaper article, “The Negro Moving North” (excerpt)
The Wisconsin Weekly Blade [Madison, Wisconsin], October 12, 1916
<https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn84025842/1916-10-12/ed-1/seq-2/>

Newspaper article, “Negros Are Flocking Out of the Southland”
The Seattle Star [Seattle, Washington], June 22, 1923
<https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn87093407/1923-06-22/ed-1/seq-2/>

Newspaper article, “Northern Cities Having Trouble Handling Negroes from the South” (excerpt)
The Birmingham Age-Herald [Birmingham, Alabama], May 11, 1917
<https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn85038485/1917-05-11/ed-1/seq-5/>

Newspaper article, “Officers Break Negro Loitering About Stations” (excerpt)
The Hattiesburg News [Hattiesburg, Mississippi], October 30, 1916
<https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn87065167/1916-10-30/ed-1/seq-1/>

Newspaper article, “Sees Colored Migration to North as Menace” (excerpt)
The Washington Times [Washington, D.C.], August 13, 1923
<https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn84026749/1923-08-13/ed-1/seq-6/>

Newspaper article, “South Unable to Put Stop to Negro Exodus” (excerpt)
The Washington Times [Washington, D.C.], October 23, 1916
Library of Congress (sn84026749)
<https://www.loc.gov/resource/sn84026749/1916-10-23/ed-1/?sp=1>

SECONDARY SOURCE

Article, “The Great Migration”
Smithsonian American Art Museum
<https://americanexperience.si.edu/wp-content/uploads/2014/07/The-Great-Migration.pdf>

TEACHER-CREATED MATERIALS

- › Headlines from the Great Migration
- › Primary Source Sets A through E
- › Guiding Topics Hexagons
- › Blank Hexagons
- › Sample Hexagonal Visualization
- › Great Migration Graphic Organizer

ACTIVITY PREPARATION

- › Copy blank hexagons and cut in advance. Each student will need between 10 and 20 hexagons.
- › Copy Guiding Topics hexagons on colored paper and cut in advance. Each class will need five sets of colored hexagons.
- › Make one copy of the Great Migration Graphic Organizer for each student.
- › Make enough copies of the Primary Source Sets so that each student has one individual set.
- › Prepare to project the page, Headlines from the Great Migration.
- › Gather poster board or large-format paper and glue sticks.
- › Arrange the classroom for group work (provide table space for five groups).
- › Use the article “The Great Migration” to provide historical context for teacher use.

PROCEDURE

ACTIVITY ONE: PRIMARY SOURCE ANALYSIS (40 MINUTES)

- › Explain that the late 1800s and early 1900s brought a significant migration of African Americans from the South to communities in the North and West. Let students know that this lesson will use newspaper articles to explore the causes and effects of this Great Migration. Remind students that while newspapers use language that was common when they were written, in this lesson all group discussion and written commentary should use modern-day terminology (Black laborers, African American farmers, etc.)

CONNECTIONS

When people move from one area to another they bring their ideas and cultural traditions with them. The Great Migration, driven by a quest to improve economic and social opportunities, had a profound impact on American history and culture.

- > Project the Headlines from the Great Migration page and allow students three to five minutes to examine the headlines and jot down observations and questions. Ask students:
 - » *What observations can you make?*
 - » *What questions did this raise?*
 - » *What factors pushed many African Americans to leave the South?*
 - » *What factors encouraged them to move North or West?*
 - » *How did the public react to these changes?*
- > Distribute one Primary Source Set to each student and form groups based on the letter of each set (A, B, C, D, or E).
- > Give each group of students a set of hexagons (enough for 10-20 hexagons for each group member).
- > Direct each group of students to read their assigned portion of primary sources in order to pull out essential information and insightful quotations to write on their hexagons. While students can share findings, each student is responsible for creating their own set of hexagons.
- > Allow students time to analyze the sources. Circulate and assist as needed.

ASSESSMENT OPTIONS

- > Post the group visualizations in the classroom and have students complete a gallery walk. Direct them to look for common content and connections, powerful primary quotations, insightful observations, and interesting annotations.
- > Students or groups can complete the Great Migration Graphic Organizer to synthesize their learning.

STUDENTS INTERESTED IN THIS TOPIC MIGHT BE INTERESTED IN RESEARCHING THE FOLLOWING FOR AN NHD PROJECT

- > *The Chicago Defender's* advertisements encouraging African American migration (1915–1940)
- > Labor agents during the first Great Migration (1915–1940)
- > Red Summer (1919)
- > Redlining During the First Great Migration (1930s)

ACTIVITY TWO: HEXAGONAL VISUALIZATION (60 MINUTES)

- > Re-group students into new groups with at least one representative of each primary source set.
- > Lead students in hexagonal visualizations of the Great Migration.
 - » Distribute a sheet of poster board or large-format paper and glue sticks to each group.
 - » Direct each group to link their hexagons and create a visual summary of the Great Migration. Anytime hexagons touch, there should be a link or connection.
 - » Provide a set of colored Guiding Topics Hexagons to each group and offer additional blank hexagons to facilitate additional connections.

To access a PDF containing all of the sources and materials to complete this lesson plan, go to:

[NHD.ORG/250](https://edsitement.neh.gov/250)

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RELATED RESOURCES

Lesson Plan: African-American Soldiers After World War I: Had Race Relations Changed?
<https://edsitement.neh.gov/lesson-plans/african-american-soldiers-after-world-war-i-had-race-relations-changed>

Lesson Plan: Afro Atlantic: Paths from Enslavement
<https://edsitement.neh.gov/lesson-plans/afro-atlantic-paths-enslavement>

Lesson Plan: Birth of a Nation, the NAACP, and Civil Rights
<https://edsitement.neh.gov/lesson-plans/birth-nation-naACP-and-balancing-rights>

Lesson Plan: Jacob Lawrence's Migration Series: Removing the Mask
<https://edsitement.neh.gov/lesson-plans/jacob-lawrences-migration-series-removing-mask>

HEADLINES FROM THE GREAT MIGRATION

**Northward Migration
Startling Southland**

Suggestive Press Comments Published in The Literary Digest on the New Negro Northern Exodus.

**CHICAGO A MECCA FOR
NEGROES FROM SOUTH**

Chicago Tribune Telegraphs Age-Herald in Response to Query Regarding Conditions—Health Problem Serious, But Plenty of Work Reported—Protest Against Overflow Into White Residential Districts—To Mobilize Them for Farm Work

**Negroes Are Flocking
Out of the Southland**

275,000 Move North Since Last November and More Are on Way by the Trainload

**NEGRO MIGRATION TO
NORTH TOTALS 350,000
IN 1916 AND 1917**

Lack of Labor in the North and General Dissatisfaction with Conditions in South were Principal Causes.

**DISCUSSION ON
RACE MIGRATION**

Enthusiastic Public Meeting Held In New York.

SPEAKERS PLACE BLAME

Denial of Political and Civil Rights, Lynching and Other Forms of Barbarity Given as Cause of the Great Exodus—South Losing Millions, Says Dr. A. Clayton Powell.

Labor Market Disrupted by Migration of Thousands and Means to Stop the Flood Have Not Yet Been Discovered

**WANT NEGRO
EXODUS STOPPED**

**OFFICERS BREAK
NEGRO LOITERING
ABOUT STATIONS**

Police and Sheriff's Office Still on Lookout For Labor Agents Here.

**EXODUS OF BLACKS IS
CONTINUING IN STATE**

**RIOTS IN EAST ST. LOUIS
CAUSED BY
IMPORTATION OF
NEGRO LABOR**

The Negro Moving North

GREAT TREK OF NEGROES NORTH PUZZLES RACE LEADERS

PRIMARY SOURCE SET A

Newspaper article, "Negro Exodus Without Parallel in U.S. History" (excerpt)
Evening Star [Washington, D.C.], July 22, 1923
<https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn83045462/1923-07-22/ed-1/seq-35/>

NEGRO EXODUS WITHOUT PARALLEL IN U. S. HISTORY

**312,000 Colored Workers Moved North
Since November, Nearly Demoral-
izing Southern Agriculture.**

How explain this sudden rush from the south, the traditional home of the negro, to the north?

The Department of Agriculture, which never loses an opportunity to give the boll weevil another black eye, suggests this miserable insect as a contributory cause: "Boll weevil conditions last year, which made cotton growing unprofitable for a number of negro farmers; unrest among returning negro troops, who experienced more attractive living conditions away from farms during and after the war, and breakdown of the contract labor system are given as contributory causes."

Both white and negro speakers at a conference called in Mississippi to consider the problem stressed other than economic causes. The negroes had lost confidence in the fairness of the white population, they said, and they objected to the violation of their civic rights. One speaker is quoted as saying: "The mass of the negro race want to stay here, but they are not going to do it under present conditions."

PRIMARY SOURCE SET A (CON'T)

Newspaper article, "Chicago a Mecca for Negroes from South" (excerpt)
The Birmingham Age-Herald [Birmingham, Alabama], May 11, 1917
<https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn85038485/1917-05-11/ed-1/seq-5/>

Chicago, May 10.—(Special.)—For more than a year there has been a great immigration of southern negroes into Chicago.

Many jobs for unskilled labor, good wages and a large colored population have made Chicago advertised as "The Mecca for the Negro." It is estimated that between 25,000 and 30,000 negroes have come here within the last year and a half.

The majority of the negroes live in the tenement district of the Southside from Twenty-second street to Forty-third in the neighborhood running from Wentworth avenue east to the lake. This borders on to the best residence district of Chicago—Kenwood and Hyde park.

This great new population spread over into the better district and finally a mass meeting of property owners on the Southside, declaring that the coming of the negro has cost them millions of dollars in land value, asked for a line where the negro could not come.

PRIMARY SOURCE SET A (CON'T)

Newspaper article, "Officers Break Negro Loitering About Stations" (excerpt)
The Hattiesburg News [Hattiesburg, Mississippi], October 30, 1916
<https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn87065167/1916-10-30/ed-1/seq-1/>

OFFICERS BREAK NEGRO LOITERING ABOUT STATIONS

Police and Sheriff's Office Still
on Lookout For Labor
Agents Here.

EXODUS OF BLACKS IS CONTINUING IN STATE

Forrest County Loses No More in
Large Numbers, Although Many
Other Counties in Mississippi Are
Hard Hit—Farmers' Institutes to
Take Up Business of Calming Un-
rest of the Men and Women Now
Being Drawn to the North.

Loitering about the New Orleans & Northeastern station at night by the hundreds of negroes who have been attracted there by reports that many of their associates were preparing to leave for the North and Middle West to accept high-paying positions, has been checked by the city and county authorities, following Friday night's raid on the most persistent "loafers," and Sheriff Harbison and Chief Bennett do not fear any further disturbances of that sort.

Efforts to locate the labor agents who are responsible for taking so many negroes from Hattiesburg and Forrest county, have as yet proved futile. Only one big batch of laborers has left the city during the last week, the officials say, although individuals and crowds of four or five may have slipped out unnoticed.

In the meantime, however, the activities of the agents are pronounced in other sections of the state. So great has been the exodus that the Mississippi Agricultural and Mechanical College is trying to devise some way of checking it.

PRIMARY SOURCE SET A (CON'T)

Newspaper article, "Sees Colored Migration to North as Menace" (excerpt)
The Washington Times [Washington, D.C.], August 13, 1923
<https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn84026749/1923-08-13/ed-1/seq-6/>

SEES COLORED MIGRATION TO NORTH AS MENACE

Trials of learning new customs and becoming acclimated, in migrating from the southern to the northern States will wipe out the entire progress of the negro race for the last fifty years, it was said yesterday by Archbishop Joseph J. Higgs, D. D., colored, who made an address at the Howard theater in opening a twenty-day tour of the southern States in the interest of the Modern Educational and Religious Bureau.

Dr. Higgs termed the climate of the northern States as tending to break the health and morals of the negro race, and gave as the slogan of the bureau, "Go to work, keep busy; idleness leads to hell; back to the old farm."

Services under the auspices of the bureau will be held every Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock at the Howard theater.

PRIMARY SOURCE SET B

Newspaper article, "Negro Exodus Without Parallel in U.S. History" (excerpt)
Evening Star [Washington, D.C.], July 22, 1923
<https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn83045462/1923-07-22/ed-1/seq-35/>

Causes of Dissatisfaction.
A letter received by the Department of Labor from an official of a

southern state, a white man, by the way, is quoted because it is more or less typical: "There have been various reasons for the dissatisfied condition of the negro in this state and his tendency to go north or east, namely, better wages, improved housing facilities, broader latitudes of social equality, political equality, etc.

"To the mind of the writer, however, the principal cause for such a noticeable exodus is higher wages, paid cash weekly, and the generally unfair advantage taken of the ignorant, defenseless negro in agricultural pursuits in the principal black belt of this state.

"If the present rate of migration of the negro north and east continues for another year it is going to produce a material shortage of colored agricultural labor in the black belt or delta section of this state. From inquiry made among negroes as to present disturbed conditions, it is conclusively indicated that the negro has come to learn that the more he produces on the average plantation the less he receives, and he has grown weary of being the crude prey of extortion, as practiced upon him by the average plantation owner.

"From my own viewpoint, the average plantation owner is largely responsible for the present state of unrest among the negroes, due in a general way to the unfair treatment of such tenants."

PRIMARY SOURCE SET B (CON'T)

Newspaper article, Louis Zoobock, "Negro Migration and Its Causes" (excerpt)
The Daily Worker [Chicago, Illinois], August 9, 1924
<https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn84020097/1924-08-09/ed-1/seq-6/>

Causes of Migration.

There have been many causes of the exodus of Negroes from the South.

And it is almost impossible to consider the importance of each as a separate factor. However, considering them as joint forces, the causes may be classified as underlying and immediate. The former are both economic and social. The main economic causes are: the tenant system of farming, or the landlessness of the Negro farmers, the low wages paid to Negro labor in the South; while some of the underlying social causes have been the desire for better schools, for justice in the courts, for equal political and civil rights, etc. The immediate causes have been the demand for labor in the North during the years of "prosperity," the cessation of immigration, and the activities of labor agents, the persuasion of friends. An examination of some of these causes will give us a clearer understanding of the situation.

PRIMARY SOURCE SET B (CON'T)

Newspaper article, "Negro Migration to North Totals 350,000 in 1916 and 1917" (excerpt)
The Dallas Express [Dallas, Texas], March 15, 1919
<https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn83025779/1919-03-15/ed-1/seq-1/>

NEGRO MIGRATION TO NORTH TOTALS 350,000 IN 1916 AND 1917

**Lack of Labor in the North and
General Dissatisfaction with Con-
ditions in South were Principal
Causes.**

Washington, D. C. March 13, 1918.
Investigation of Negro migration to the north during the war, just issued by the Department of Labor, indicate that the total migration may have been as great as 350,000, extending over a period of about 18 months during 1916 and 1917. That figures is fixed as the maximum limit, and 150,00 as the minimum limit, and the estimate of James H. Dillard, who had charge of the inquiry, is 200,000.

Lack of labor in the north, due to the cessation of immigration, was the principal cause, the investigators agree. Among the causes operative in the South to induce migration were general dissatisfaction with conditions, the ravages of the boll weevil, floods, change of crop system, low wages, poor housing, poor schools, unsatisfactory crop settlements, rough treatment, cruelty of the law officers, unfairness in court procedure, lynchings, desire to travel, labor agents, aid from Negroes in the north, and the influence of the Negro press.

The movement of large numbers at the same time was due largely to labor agents, but after these initial group movements Negroes kept going north in smaller numbers, attracted by the letters of their friends who had already gone. Better wages were important. "Every Negro who made good in the North, started a new group on the way," one of the investigators reported.

PRIMARY SOURCE SET B (CON'T)

Newspaper article, "The Negro Moves North"

The Indianapolis Times [Indianapolis, Indiana], June 28, 1923

<https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn82015313/1923-06-28/ed-1/seq-4/>

THE NEGRO MOVES NORTH

EVERY year half a million negroes cross the Mason and Dixon line going north to stay. A certain proportion comes to Indianapolis. Migration of peoples are nothing new. History records many of them. We have had a fair share in our short history. Each has had its underlying political, religious or economic causes.

And results, too.

Not forgetting that, the Government is studying this negro movement north. It finds that the negroes are migrating to the north for the same reasons that sons and daughters of farmers have been leaving the farms for the cities during the past decade.

The negro wants life, better wages, amusements, bright lights and more independence than the South has been inclined to grant him. He finds all those in northern cities, where many big employers, their supply of cheap labor from Europe cut off by immigration laws, welcome him into the factories.

In some States the negro is a person of some importance politically. His vote may switch a State from one party to another. Politicians are always trying to do that. So the negro is welcomed to the North by certain Republican district bosses.

That is significant. It takes Republicans from the South, where they cannot be spared, and makes for a more solid Democratic South and a still more preponderantly Republican North.

That's politics. Consider the economics of the negro migration. Behind him the negro leaves a deserted farm, in a district where white men generally do not labor with their hands. In some States there are thousands of these farms.

Does that mean a lapse in agriculture for the South? Maybe not. It may mean a new land of opportunity for white settlers, with farm machinery, looking for cheap lands out west. Ultimately, it may mean a new, modernized rural South, rivaling the great Northwest.

Then there is the social problem. As the negro families by train loads pour into northern cities, great city blocks of white families will leave their homes to avoid mingling too closely with folks of another race. Some of those white families may even go South.

Yes, the negro may change our whole map with his move north.

PRIMARY SOURCE SET B (CON'T)

Book, Emmett J. Scott, *Negro migration during the war*, 1920 (excerpt)
Library of Congress (20009134)
<https://www.loc.gov/item/20009134/>

The *Chicago Defender*, - a weekly negro newspaper, with its pronounced radical utterances, its criticism of the South, its policy of retaliation, etc., contributed greatly to the exodus.¹

Its influence can be imagined when, after reading the southern white papers with only occasional references to the negroes which might be called commendable and numerous articles which were for the most part distasteful, negroes could read the things they wanted to hear most, expressed in a manner in which they would not dare express them. It voiced the unexpressed thoughts of many and made accusations for which they themselves would have been severely handled. Freud's theory of the suppressed wish finds a happy illustration in this rage over the *Chicago Defender*. Expressed in terms of figures, the circulation of the paper at the beginning of the movement was something like 50,000. In 1918 it had grown to 125,000. It had a large circulation in Mississippi and the supply was usually bought up on the first day of its arrival. Copies were passed around until worn out. One prominent negro asserted that "negroes grab the *Defender* like a hungry mule grabs fodder." In Gulfport, Mississippi, a man was regarded "intelligent" if he read the *Defender*. It was said that in Laurel, Mississippi, old men who did not know how to read would buy it because it was regarded as precious.

It was this paper that named the exodus "The Great Northern Drive," and set the date May 15th, announced the arrivals and took responsibility for inducing "the poor brethren" from the South. It was accused of ruining Hattiesburg, Mississippi, by promoting this rush to the North. The sale of this paper was, therefore, forbidden in several towns in the South. A correspondent said: "White people are paying more attention to the race in order to keep them in the South, but the *Chicago Defender* has emblazoned upon their minds 'Bound for the Promised Land.'"

PRIMARY SOURCE SET C

Newspaper article, "Negro Exodus Without Parallel in U.S. History" (excerpt)
Evening Star [Washington, D.C.], July 22, 1923
<https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn83045462/1923-07-22/ed-1/seq-35/>

Turning to the cost of living, Mr. Brown compares the Calumet district around Chicago with Charleston, S. C., and Houston, Texas. For fifteen food commodities the cost is shown to be 24.8 cents higher in Charleston and 32.5 higher in Houston, Texas, than in the Calumet district.

The negroes are being placed in the great industries of the north. Compare his wages, in cash, in some of the industries, with the "credit" he is allowed at some plantation commissary for his bale of cotton. In the building industries, unskilled negro labor is getting 42.5 cents an hour; steel, 49.6; rubber, 50.1; road building, 48; packing, 47.5, and in the automobile industry, 48.2 cents an hour.

Yet another explanation, and a natural one, of the growing exodus, lies in that human trait to call out—"come on in, the water's fine." Every one of the immigrants to the north has a circle of friends back home, and he writes to one or two of them, describing conditions which are better, or sound much better, than those at home. Another job always seems good when it's far away. Instances could be cited to show that this letter writing back home has come near depleting some communities of their negro inhabitants. Colored pastors have packed up their belongings and taken out after their scattering flocks, while doctors have left the south to follow their patients into a climate which offers more lucrative professional inducements.

PRIMARY SOURCE SET C (CON'T)

Newspaper article, "Northern Cities Having Trouble Handling Negroes from the South" (excerpt)
The Birmingham Age-Herald [Birmingham, Alabama], May 11, 1917
<https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn85038485/1917-05-11/ed-1/seq-5/>

**NORTHERN CITIES
HAVING TROUBLE
HANDLING NEGROES
FROM THE SOUTH**

**Using Every Effort to Turn
the Tide in Some Other
Direction**

**CINCINNATI ONE OF
CHIEF SUFFERERS**

**Hundreds Out of Work and
Are Objects of Charity.
Bessemer Now Head-
quarters**

LEAVE IN LARGE NUMBERS

Under the spell of the labor agents' artistry, negroes have left and continue to leave Birmingham in alarming numbers. Cooks and butlers and washerwomen and nurses and chauffeurs are following the trail of the common laborer.

In Chicago, it is reported, more than 1500 negroes of recent southern importation are out of employment and are charges upon the city and their condition is represented as deplorable.

In Cincinnati the federal and state authorities have been appealed to by the city health officer to stop the flood of negro immigration from the south to Cincinnati. Letters have been sent to Surgeon General Blue of the United States public health service calling attention to the influx of southern negroes into Cincinnati and other northern cities, asking that the problem be treated as an interstate one and proper remedies applied.

PRIMARY SOURCE SET C (CON'T)

Newspaper article, "Negro Farmers Moving North" (excerpt)
The Colorado Statesman [Denver, Colorado], April 28, 1923
<https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn83025514/1923-04-28/ed-1/seq-1/>

Negro Farmers Moving North

A general movement of southern Negro farmers to northern industrial centers is indicated in a special survey of southern farming districts made by the United States Department of Agriculture. The survey throws additional light on farm population figures recently issued by the department showing a net movement from farms to towns and cities, of 324,000 persons including men, women and children in the South Atlantic States in 1922.

High industrial wages is given as the chief reason for the reported migration. Boll-weevil conditions last year which made cotton growing unprofitable for a number of Negro farmers, unrest among returning Negro troops who experienced more attractive living conditions away from farms during and after the war, and breakdown of the contract labor system are given as contributory causes.

Approximately 13 per cent or 32,000 persons of the total number of Negro farm hands and laborers in Georgia have moved North during the past 12 months, the report shows. The movement goes on although crops for the present season are already started. A large abandonment of acreage is reported, and the labor shortage is expected to be a major factor in limiting acreage this season. The situation in Georgia is much worse than is generally realized, the report says.

PRIMARY SOURCE SET C (CON'T)

Newspaper article, "Northern Cities Having Trouble Handling Negroes from the South" (excerpt)
The Birmingham Age-Herald [Birmingham, Alabama], May 11, 1917
<https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn85038485/1917-05-11/ed-1/seq-5/>

SITUATION IN OHIO

In commenting on the situation in Ohio, the Cleveland Plain Dealer has the following to say:

"A mighty exodus of negroes from the south is under way. Every southern state is yielding up its thousands who are coming to the promised land in the north.

"The current of travel is bringing many thousands into Ohio each week. More than 1500 landed in Cincinnati Sunday morning. Four times that number will reach the same city during the present week.

"The movement to bring the negro labor from the south was started last year. Railways needed labor, as did factories along their lines. Agents, sent to the south, have done their work so well that the greatest exodus of the country is under way. It promises to reach proportions heretofore unheard of.

"One man in the movement says that by the end of the present year the organization will have brought from the south to the north more than a million negroes in 18 months. The employment forces that organized the exodus receive a dollar for each man they bring to employers.

NORTH LAND OF PROMISE

"The glorious opportunities of the north have been spread by ingenious men through every state in the south. Four dollars a day for common labor is the story that gets attention. No such wages were ever had of in the south. Accepting the glowing story, men and women are hurrying to the land where such opportunities are waiting. Uninformed of other conditions, social, economic or climatic, they smilingly join the throng that seeks the promised land.

"The movement last summer and winter was confined almost wholly to men. They were distributed through cities from St. Louis to Buffalo. Now the men have sent for their wives and children. A Sunday train from Cincinnati to Cleveland brought one car loaded with women and children, to join their men folks in Cleveland, Ashtabula, and Buffalo. The party was from Biloxi, Miss. They shivered in the raw wind that blew from the lake as they waited at the station.

"Colored leaders in the state appreciate the grave situation that will come from the large increase in negro population. Conditions in Cleveland are in the main the same as in other cities. The housing problem is the hardest. Cleveland negro boarding and rooming houses are packed. Few additional places can be found. Last summer and fall many of the men were housed in tents on contract work near the city. So many cases of pneumonia developed that the attention of Health Commissioner Bishop was called to it. The city hospital was loaded with the cases. Negroes from the far south are unable to withstand the rigors of the lake winds.

PRIMARY SOURCE SET C (CON'T)

Newspaper article, "Discussion on Race Migration" (excerpt)

The Twin City Star [Minneapolis, Minnesota], July 28, 1917

<https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn90060427/1917-07-28/ed-1/seq-1/>

DISCUSSION ON RACE MIGRATION

Enthusiastic Public Meeting
Held In New York.

SPEAKERS PLACE BLAME

Denial of Political and Civil Rights,
Lynching and Other Forms of Bar-
barity Given as Cause of the Great
Exodus—South Losing Millions, Says
Dr. A. Clayton Powell.

In the discussion of any great ques-
tion affecting the interest of more than
one race or individual it is always well
to hear the point of view of each. The
speakers at the great public meeting
held early in July at the Abyssinian
Baptist church, New York, the Rev.
Dr. A. Clayton Powell pastor, gave the
colored man's view of the causes of
race migration from the south. The

PRIMARY SOURCE SET C (CON'T)

Newspaper article, "The Negro Moving North" (excerpt)
The Wisconsin Weekly Blade [Madison, Wisconsin], October 12, 1916
<https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn84025842/1916-10-12/ed-1/seq-2/>

The Negro Moving North

The war, cutting off immigration from Europe, has started a northward movement of negro laborers, which journalistic observers find most significant. For the negro, it is said to be the entrance upon "a new stage in his progress 'up from slavery.'" For the North, it is the intensification of its negro-problem. The South may gain by the partial transfer of its race-problem, and its added attractiveness to white immigrants. But the prevailing Southern comment is represented by the *Montgomery Advertiser's* question, if the negroes go, "where shall we get labor to take their places?"

"It is being systematically stimulated by Northern employers of labor. The Pennsylvania Railroad has taken 4,000 blacks from the South, 3,000 being brought North in one train of six sections. Persons familiar with our New England tobacco-farms have observed this season the appearance of negro laborers in much increased numbers. Exaggerated estimates of the movement are in circulation. At the negro conference in Washington last week, representing the New England and Middle Atlantic States, it was asserted that more than 500,000 blacks from the South had come North in the past six months. But, whatever the figures may be, letters and telegrams were read at the conference from many manufacturers, mine-owners, and others, giving assurances that negroes would be encouraged to make their homes in the North and would receive a 'square deal.' It was represented that the industrial situation in Pennsylvania and New York was such that at least 2,000,000 negro laborers could be employed in the next year."

PRIMARY SOURCE SET C (CON'T)

Book, Emmett J. Scott, *Negro migration during the war*, 1920 (excerpt)
Library of Congress (20009134)
<https://www.loc.gov/item/20009134/>

The labor agents were a very important factor in stimulating the movement. The number at work in the South appears to have been greatly exaggerated. Agents were more active in large cities where their presence was not so conspicuous. It was difficult to discover because of the very guarded manner in which they worked. One, for example, would walk briskly down the street through a group of negroes and, without turn-

ing his head, would say in a low tone, "Anybody want to go to Chicago, see me." That was sufficient. Many persons were found to remark frequently on the strange silence which negroes *en masse* managed to maintain concerning the movement of the agents. A white man remarked that it was the first time there had ever happened anything about which he could not get full information from some negro. Agents were reported, at one time or another, in every section from which the migrants went. When the vigilance of the authorities restricted their activities they began working through the mails. Many sections were flooded with letters from the North to persons whose names had been obtained from migrants in the North or through a quiet canvass of the community by unobstructed solicitors.¹

PRIMARY SOURCE SET D

Newspaper article, "Chicago a Mecca for Negroes from South" (excerpt)
The Birmingham Age-Herald [Birmingham, Alabama], May 11, 1917
<https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn85038485/1917-05-11/ed-1/seq-5/>

CHICAGO A MECCA FOR NEGROES FROM SOUTH

**Chicago Tribune Telegraphs Age-Herald in Response to Query
Regarding Conditions—Health Problem Serious, But
Plenty of Work Reported—Protest Against Overflow
Into White Residential Districts—To Mobilize
Them for Farm Work**

Chicago is taking steps to mobilize her surplus negro population for the purpose of using them in food production, according to information received by The Age-Herald last night in a dispatch from the Chicago Tribune.

Between 25,000 and 30,000 negroes from the south have flocked to Chicago, which became known as the "Mecca for the negro," within the past year or more. So great was the increase of negroes in the tenement district near some of the choice residential sections that white people held mass meetings of protest and declared that the overflow of negroes had depreciated property values millions of dollars.

The spread of disease from the overflow of negroes has been serious and has become a problem for the health department, according to the Tribune news bureau message to The Age-Herald. However, it is declared that reports there are to the effect that there is work for all and it is denied that there has been any unusual demand on charities of Chicago from the new negro population.

Reports became current in Birmingham within the past day or two that 25,000 negroes, who had gone to Chicago from the south, were dependent on charity and that hundreds of them were sick. In order to ascertain the

PRIMARY SOURCE SET D (CON'T)

Newspaper article, "Great Trek of Negroes North Puzzles Race Leaders" (excerpt)
The Sun [New York, New York], July 8, 1917
<https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn83030431/1917-07-08/ed-1/seq-43/>

GREAT TREK OF NEGROES NORTH PUZZLES RACE LEADERS

Labor Market Depleted.

Whatever the cause, there is no denying the fact that 350 000 negroes have come North in the last twelve months, leaving the South confronted with a largely depleted labor market and a resulting economic loss that has been computed at \$200,000,000, and which probably will be much higher. Southern Chambers of Commerce have tried their best to stem the tide; railroad companies have refused to

sell tickets to negroes; the police have arrested them and destroyed tickets they have bought, and every possible effort has been made, but in vain. The negro still leaves the South, after having stood against the terrors of lynching and race prejudice for fifty years, after accumulating property worth billions, after becoming a factor in Southern business, and he is leaving all that he has gained upon a sudden impulse of nameless panic.

That he would rather live in the South is evident after talking even for a short time with any negro who knows much of the affairs of his people. There had even been a large amount of migration from the North to the South up to last year. It is the land he likes best, and those of them who work and save their money, those who have been successful in overcoming what Booker T. Washington called the curse of the race, "lack of education and an empty pocketbook," always look to the time when they can have a home of their own in the Southland.

Lure of Higher Wages Not the Direct Cause, They Say, but a Nameless Dread Has Affected the People

Labor Market Disrupted by Migration of Thousands and Means to Stop the Flood Have Not Yet Been Discovered

PRIMARY SOURCE SET D (CON'T)

Newspaper article, "South Unable to Put Stop to Negro Exodus" (excerpt)
The Washington Times [Washington, D.C.], October 23, 1916
Library of Congress (sn84026749)
<https://www.loc.gov/resource/sn84026749/1916-10-23/ed-1/?sp=1>

SOUTH UNABLE TO PUT STOP TO NEGRO EXODUS

**Laborers Get Past State
Guards in Migration to
North.**

300 PASS THROUGH CAPITAL

**Leader of Party, During Stop
Here, Tells How Charges
Got Through.**

A batch of 300 negro workmen from Jacksonville, Fla., consigned to Eastern cities, arrived in Washington Saturday night. The train came over the Atlantic Coast Line railroad, and the negroes have already been sent on to their destinations.

The trainload of negroes was in charge of a former Washingtonian, well known in this city, who has made Jacksonville his home for some years. He talked freely about it, telling the methods of getting the negroes past the State guards, and other details.

He knew of no political purpose to the exportation of negroes from the South, seeing in it only the economic fact of the men going where they could get higher wages.

Visited Labor Department.

The conductor of the 300 negroes paid visits to the Department of Labor and Justice this morning, to see if his activities had violated any laws or regulations. Officials of both departments were much interested in his statement, but would make no comment on it.

It was learned that up to a few months ago the Department of Labor had been transporting labor from the South to Northern points, where it secured them employment. It discontinued this practice about August of this year. Several hundred negroes are understood to have been brought North by it before that time. That its operations in Florida were not without friction with the local authorities was the statement of a Florida man. No reason was assigned by the department for its cessation of the transport of negroes North.

Two conflicting views of the movement of negroes from the South to Northern States have been taken by high officials here. One of these opinions is to the effect that the movement is for political purpose, purely and simply, and that the negroes are wanted in certain closely contested border States to vote the Republican ticket and turn the election.

Another view that has found favor in the minds of officials is that the movement is solely an economic one. Those holding this view point to the need for labor, skilled and unskilled, on Northern railroads and industrial establishments. That these concerns are instrumental in importing negroes from the South to take the places of Italians, Ruthenians, Slovacks, and other foreigners who have in the past been employed is urged.

PRIMARY SOURCE SET D (CON'T)

Newspaper article, "Great Trek of Negroes North Puzzles Race Leaders" (excerpt)
The Sun [New York, New York], July 8, 1917
<https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn83030431/1917-07-08/ed-1/seq-43/>

Fear Chaos in Labor Market.

The riots in East St. Louis were caused by the importation of negro strike breakers to work in an aluminum factory. Their coming was looked upon as a deliberate attempt to invade the white man's province, and a city where blacks and whites had gotten along amicably was suddenly turned into a slaughter house.

The negroes drawn to East St. Louis went there because of the high rate of wages, just as many of them have come North to get the \$5 a day paid in the munitions factories. High wages mean just high wages to them, the question of the higher cost of living does not enter their minds, but although the lure of money has been a tremendous one in the work of depopulating the black South, the intelligent negroes stoutly maintain that it is a minor cause.

Southerners who know the negro well say that their claim of being afraid—more afraid than they ever were before—is not true, that as a matter of fact the negro is just beginning to awaken to the knowledge that he has industrial power and that if he wishes he can use it. But that hardly agrees with the way in which the negroes have been abandoning their homes without even stopping to sell their pigs.

The first large body of negro laborers to be brought from the South came here about a year ago and went to work for the Pennsylvania Railroad. There were 3,000 of them and they did so well that the New York, New Haven and Hartford also brought a lot of them North. The thing began to look so serious that Southern railroads will not honor tickets for negroes sent down by Northern corporations, but despite this, the opportunities for negroes to come North continue to be provided and still they come. A few days ago 350 came in on round trip tickets provided by a woman negro agent in the South. Needless to say the return ticket was not used.

Just what this portends for the North cannot be predicted, but negroes here do not look on the future with any too much confidence. They recall that Booker T. Washington urged the negroes to stay in the South, believed that there was the right place for them, and made every effort to stop migration to the North.

PRIMARY SOURCE SET D (CON'T)

Newspaper article, "Negros Are Flocking Out of the Southland"

The Seattle Star [Seattle, Washington], June 22, 1923

<https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn87093407/1923-06-22/ed-1/seq-2/>

Negroes Are Flocking Out of the Southland

275,000 Move North Since Last November
and More Are on Way by the Trainload

BY JOHN CARSON

WASHINGTON, June 22.—The old "Sunny South," with its surplus of negro labor, is gone forever.

Since November 30 last, 275,000 negroes have moved from the South into large industrial centers of the North.

They are continuing to go, not by the car load, but by the train load. The movement is increasing, in fact, and government officials believe it will continue so long as industries offer the negro employment.

Philip H. Brown, negro survey director for the department of labor, is now making an effort to learn just where the negroes have gone. Within two weeks, he believes, industries will have replied to a questionnaire sent broadcast in the North.

But that the country has never witnessed so tremendous a development or movement of people and that every section of the country is to be affected, either economically, socially or politically, or in all three respects, is the judgment of the government.

SOUTHERN LEADERS ARE ALARMED

Southern commercial leaders have been alarmed for weeks and months. They have been protesting to government officials, and especially to the department of labor. But Secretary Davis insists it is not the duty of the government to prevent the negro moving when he desires to move. The department of labor can only "observe" and neither retard nor accelerate the migration.

"Talk about labor agencies," suggested Brown today. "It's not labor agencies. Some 200,000 negroes went to the industries in the North during the war period and remained there. They are responsible for getting their friends to move. And they are moving."

PHILADELPHIA GAINS NEW POPULATION

"Since November, Georgia has lost 67,000 negroes; South Carolina, 23,750 negroes; Arkansas, 16,560; Mississippi, 53,000; Louisiana, 26,000, and so on. The negroes did not go back after the war and they hardly will this time. Chicago seems to be a clearing house for them, altho more have gone to Philadelphia than to any other city."

Brown does not believe the negro migration will constitute a great social problem in time of business depression and unemployment. That possibility has been a nightmare to some students of the question, the cause of much fear.

"When dull times came after the war, the negro who was a carpenter's helper in the North went out and shoveled snow to protect his family and his home," Brown insisted. "They'll get along. The South is not going to have its tremendous surplus of negro labor."

But every government official is agreed the effect will be economic, social and political and that the country has a problem of "reconstruction." Just what the officials say on economic development is another story for tomorrow.

PRIMARY SOURCE SET D (CON'T)

Book, Emmett J. Scott, *Negro migration during the war*, 1920 (excerpt)
Library of Congress (20009134)
<https://www.loc.gov/item/20009134/>

Personal appeals in the form of letters have a recognized weight in influencing action. The United States mail was about the most active and efficient labor agent. The manner in which the first negroes left made great opportunities for letter writing. It is to be remembered that the departure of one person was regarded always in the light of an experiment. The understanding existed between a man and his friends that he would honestly inform them of conditions in the North. Letters were passed around and read before large groups. A woman from Hattiesburg is accredited with having sent back a letter which enticed away over 200 persons. A tailor who had settled in a town of white people in the West wrote a letter which was read in a church. It explained the advantages of the free schools open to all, and the privilege to ride and to go where one pleases. The reading of the letter brought forth long and loud applause. A man who had left home, writes back to his friend yet undecided:

Mike, old boy, I was promoted on the first of the month. I was made first assistant to the head carpenter. When he is out of place I take everything in charge and was raised to \$95 per month. You know I know my stuff. What's the news generally around H'burg? I should have been here twenty years ago. I just begin to feel like a man. It's a great deal of pleasure in knowing that you have got some privileges. My children are going to the same school with the whites and I don't have to humble to no one. I have registered. Will vote the next election and there isn't any 'yes, sir, and no, sir.' It's all yes and no, and no, Sam, and Bill.

The man has long since been joined by his friend.

PRIMARY SOURCE SET E

Newspaper article, "Churches Find Race Problem National in Scope"

The Citizen [Berea, Kentucky], December 18, 1919

<https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn85052076/1919-12-18/ed-1/seq-5/>

CHURCHES FIND RACE PROBLEM NATIONAL IN SCOPE

New York.—The Negro migration has brought new problems to both white and colored churches in the North. The migrants, tho church members at home, are not easily assimilated by the colored churches at the North; and this failure to form new ties creates problems for both the white mission boards and the colored organizations.

A committee of the Home Missions Council, a body representing protestant America, has made a general survey of several states in both sections. Their report shows that in three western states — Michigan, Ohio, and Indiana—there are 130,000 Negro migrants, sixty percent of whom are estimated as church members at home; but only 12 percent have united with northern churches. They are mostly country folk, used to emotional preaching and haphazard methods of finance. Northern Negroes consider them ignorant and shiftless, while to the migrant Northern Negroes lack true religion. White churches have done "practically nothing" to counteract the serious conditions following this lack of understanding, either by missionary endeavor of their own, or by co-operating with the colored churches in meeting the urgent need.

The report gives housing conditions as bad, clean recreation hard to find, the night schools unprovided for. In the cities the race feeling is rarely acute; but in many small towns previously without colored population race bitterness is rapidly developing.

The committee recommends united work by the Northern white churches to collect information and to arouse local white churches and denominational boards to cooperate with the colored churches in programs to be worked out to meet local needs. Among these community centers colored people are recognized as pressing. These would be operated by the colored churches with the moral and financial backing of white organizations, as has been so successfully done at some points in the South by the Southern churches.

The Council proposes a conference of all its constituent boards, North and South, to consider the race question from a national standpoint as it affects the Christian churches of both races.

PRIMARY SOURCE SET E (CON'T)

Newspaper article, "Northern Cities Having Trouble Handling Negroes from the South" (excerpt)
The Birmingham Age-Herald [Birmingham, Alabama], May 11, 1917
<https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn85038485/1917-05-11/ed-1/seq-5/>

**NORTHERN CITIES
HAVING TROUBLE
HANDLING NEGROES
FROM THE SOUTH**

**Using Every Effort to Turn
the Tide in Some Other
Direction**

**CINCINNATI ONE OF
CHIEF SUFFERERS**

**Hundreds Out of Work and
Are Objects of Charity.
Bessemer Now Head-
quarters**

Alabama's negro exodus problem is having its flareback from its influx in the middle west.

It is causing social and economic problems. Already cities in Ohio which are receiving large allotments and consignments of the negro unskilled labor are devising ways and means to curb the immigration or divert it to other fields.

The labor situation in the Birmingham district has been acute for sometime. More than a year ago labor agents began to invade the district. They painted glowing pictures of a land of milk and honey; of short hours of work and easy money. And the exodus soon grew from groups of tens and twenties to the hundreds. The city of Birmingham finally took official notice of the situation and made it unlawful to solicit labor for service outside of the state. Thereupon the labor agents moved upon Bessemer and established headquarters there.

PRIMARY SOURCE SET E (CON'T)

Newspaper article, Louis Zoobock, "Negro Migration and Its Causes" (excerpt)
The Daily Worker [Chicago, Illinois], August 9, 1924
<https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn84020097/1924-08-09/ed-1/seq-6/>

Negro Migration and its Causes

By LOUIS ZOOBOCK.

The recent spectacular movement of the Negroes Northward assumed such large proportions as to overshadow in its results all other movements of the kind in the U. S. The movement is another chapter in the story of the masses struggling to secure better conditions of living and a better life. It is greatly influencing and vitally changing the South; and the Negroes themselves, North and South. While the South is confronted with a serious labor shortage caused by the migration, the North is gaining large numbers of Negroes for its industries. Besides, the cessation of European immigration has made the Negro a very important factor in the national labor situation. Men in industry are looking to the black population as a reservoir of good and thoroly "American" labor to be drawn upon in the future.

The recent exodus has carried off a surprisingly large number of Negroes from many sections of the South. The movement has been confined to no one class entirely: the ignorant and the educated, the inefficient and the capable, the unskilled and the skilled Negroes have gone. They have left both the farming districts of the South as well as the cities. The South's mining, lumbering, and manufacturing districts lost a considerable number of their working forces. Indeed many of the first immigrants came out of the industrial regions of the South. The Northern manufacturers, thru their labor agents, recruited laborers first of all in these districts. These local centers in the South in turn filled up their depleted ranks with farm labor. As a result, in places like Birmingham, Alabama, the center of the South's largest mining and iron manufacturing district, a two-phased migration was taking place: one stream from industrial centers of the South to industrial centers of the North, and the second stream from the rural districts of the South to the industrial centers of the South.

PRIMARY SOURCE SET E (CON'T)

Newspaper article, "The Negro Exodus to the North" (excerpt)

The Denver Star [Denver, Colorado], January 20, 1917

<https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn84025887/1917-01-20/ed-1/seq-1/>

THE NEGRO EXODUS TO THE NORTH.

—
Mr. Lipscombe Writes on the
Attitude of the South.
—

To the Editor of the Richmond Planet:

In your editorial of December you stated that the white people were appealing to the Negro leaders to assist them in stopping the Negro exodus from the Southland to the North. It seems to me the white people are appealing to the wrong source. They should appeal to those who have created and are creating such an intolerable condition that makes it impossible for the Negro to live in peace among them.

I have talked with many Negroes who have recently come from the Southland with the specific purpose of ascertaining the cause of them leaving the land of their birth to cast their lot in a strange land. They know not, and every one's answer has been the same, viz; that they are lynched, Jim-crowed, disfranchised and segregated, given bad police protection and rough justice.

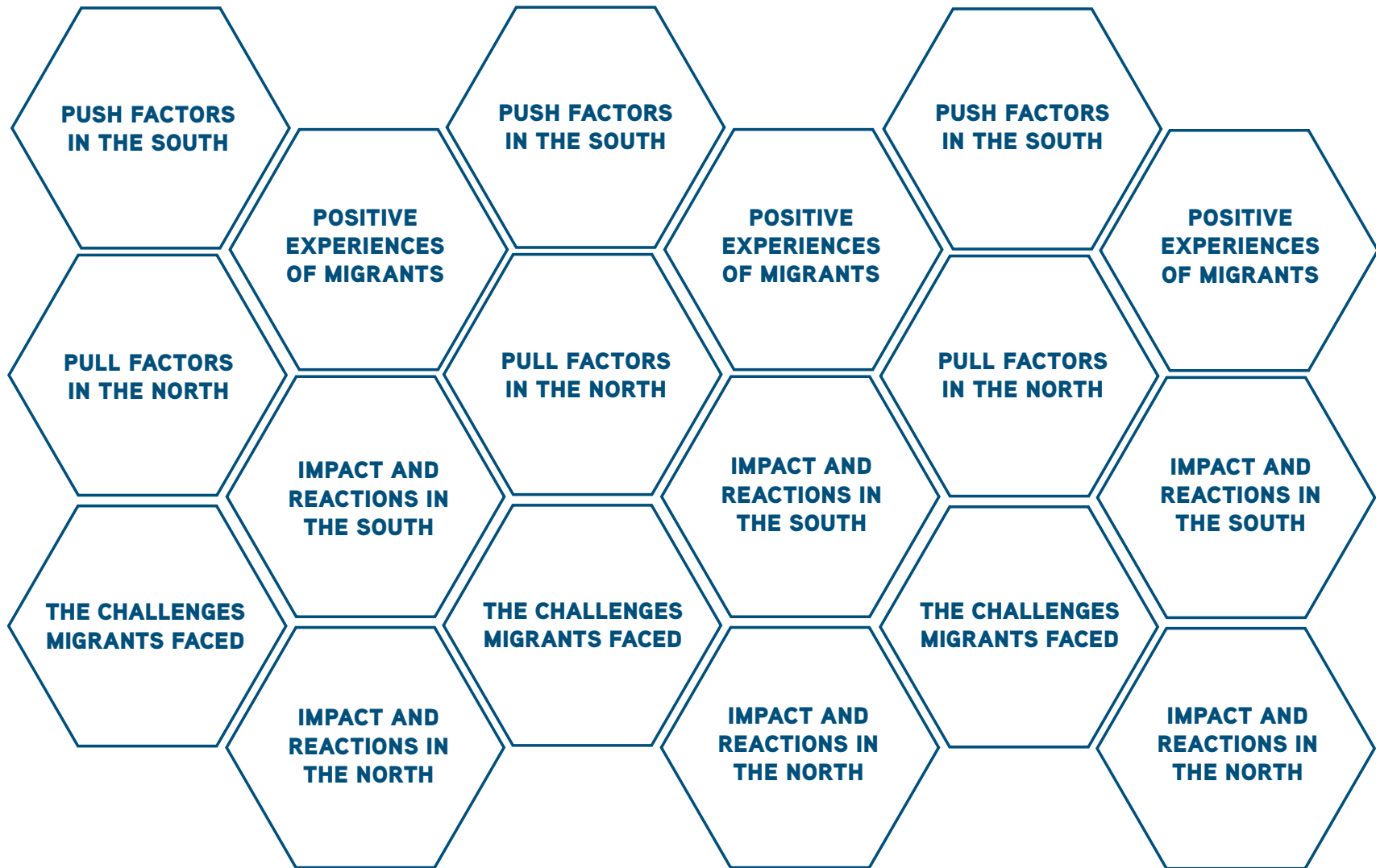
PRIMARY SOURCE SET E (CON'T)

Book, Emmett J. Scott, *Negro migration during the war*, 1920 (excerpt)
Library of Congress (20009134)
<https://www.loc.gov/item/20009134/>

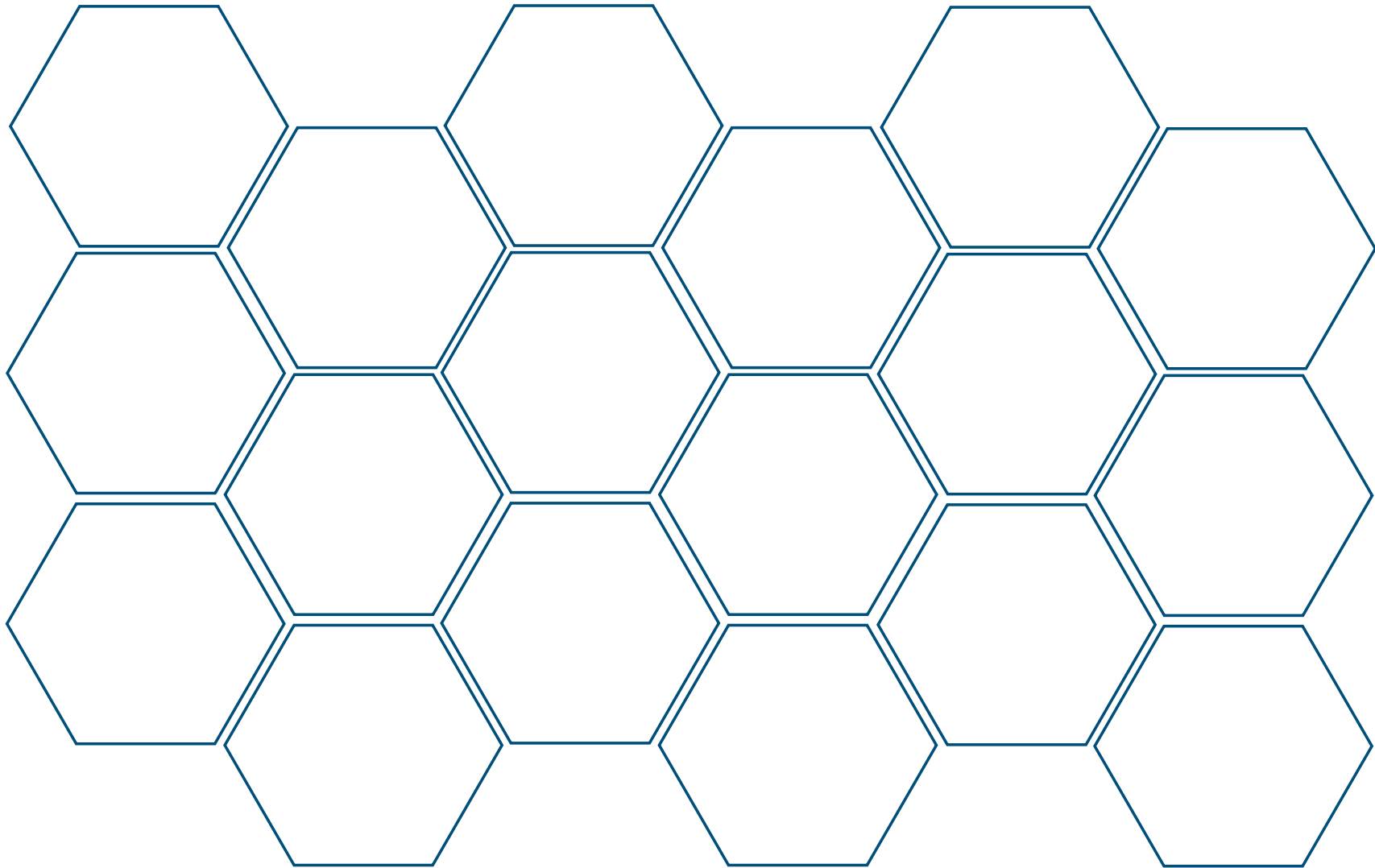
None of the causes was more effective than that of the opportunity to earn a better living. Wages offered in the North were double and treble those received in the South. Women who received \$2.50 a week in domestic service could earn from \$2.10 to \$2.50 a day and men receiving \$1.10 and \$1.25 a day could earn from \$2.50 to \$3.75 a day in the various industries in the North.¹ An intensive study of the migration to Pitts-

burgh, made by Mr. Abraham Epstein, gives an idea of the difference in wages paid in the North and the South. His findings may be quoted: "The great mass of workers get higher wages here than in the places from which they come. Fifty-six per cent received less than two dollars a day in the South, while only five per cent received such wages in Pittsburgh." Sixty-two per cent received between \$2 and \$3 per day in Pittsburgh as compared with 25 per cent in the South, and 28 per cent received between \$3 and \$3.60 in this city as compared with four per cent in the South.

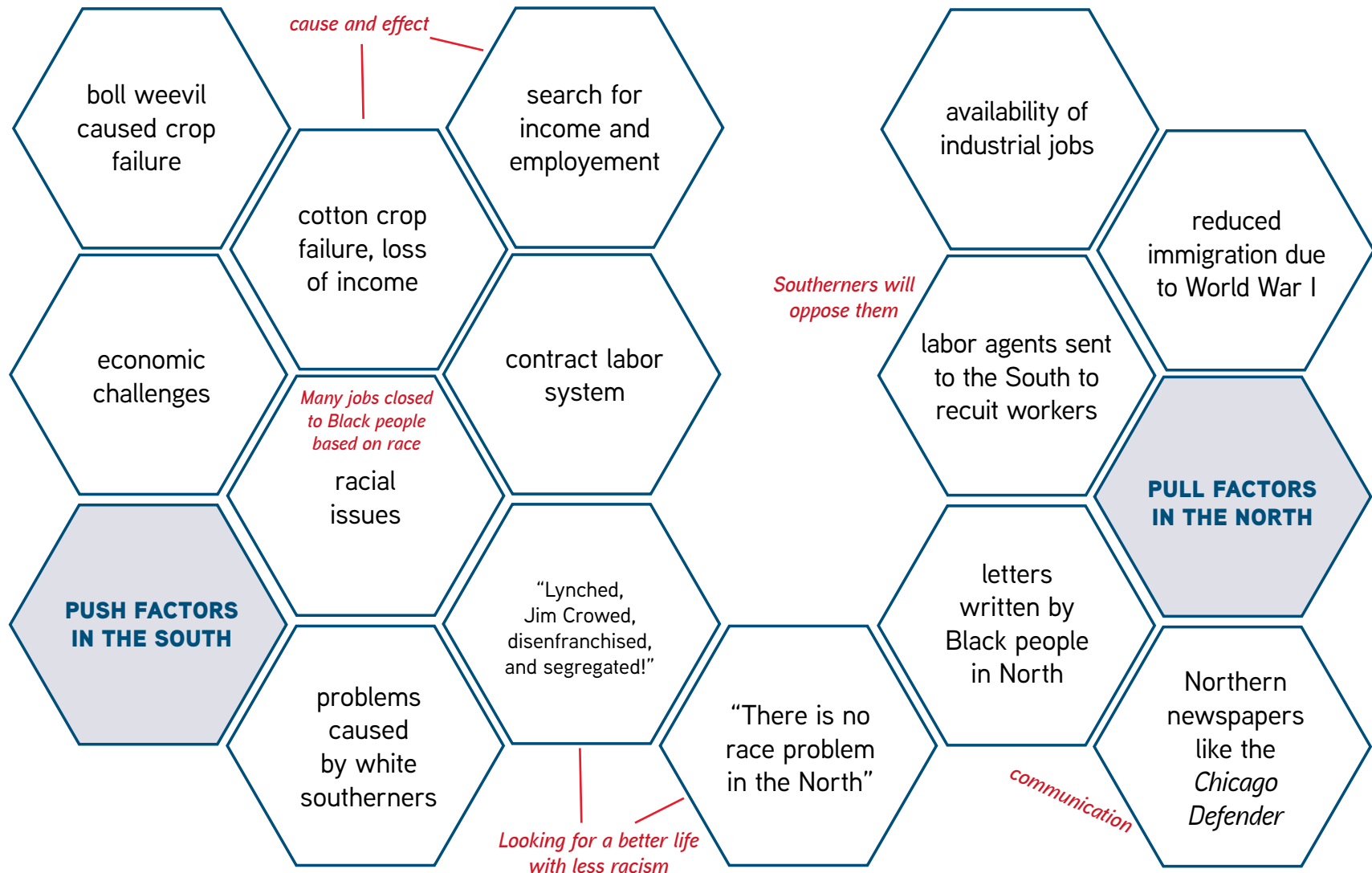
GREAT MIGRATION GUIDING TOPICS HEXAGONS



GREAT MIGRATION GUIDING TOPICS HEXAGONS



GREAT MIGRATION HEXAGONS VISUALIZATION EXAMPLE



GREAT MIGRATION GRAPHIC ORGANIZER

Push Factors in the South	Positive Experiences of Migrants	Impact and Reactions in the South
Pull Factors in the North	Challenges Migrants Faced	Impact and Reactions in the North