

Now, let me turn, for just a moment, to who these people are who are in rural America who are in the poverty category. There are 1,570,000 farm families with incomes of less than \$3,000.

This represents roughly 40 percent of our farmers. More than 1 million of those, about 68 percent, are over 45 years of age; 72 percent of these have had less than 9 years of schooling.

The point is that they have very little adjustment potential. They will not and they cannot shift out of agriculture. I do not believe that that offers a reasonable solution to the problems of these people.

They are trapped where they are. They are going to stay there for the rest of their lives to a very large extent. If we study the migration data, we find that most of the migration comes from people who are less than 25 years of age. Once people have reached the age of 25 and they have committed themselves to an investment that may involve paying off debts, that has used a good deal of their savings or all of their savings, the migration rates fall off very sharply.

We made some studies, for example, which give us some ideas concerning the amount of migration that we can expect during this decade. I would like to share two of those figures with you to emphasize my point.

If we take the number of males, rural farm males, who were on farms in 1960, and look at what we would expect to happen to these people during this decade, I think we can see a picture that is rather striking.

Let us look first at those people who were between the ages of 15 and 24. There were 895,000 of these on our farms in 1960. We would expect that in 1970, 259,000 of those would still be on farms so that we would have an off-migration of about 726,000.

Migration takes a heavy drain from these people in this age category, 15 to 24.

Mr. THOMPSON. Are they from any particular areas, Doctor?

Dr. BISHOP. They will come, very largely, from these low-income areas. The rate of outmigration is about 20 percent greater for your low-income counties than for other counties.

Mr. THOMPSON. What is the situation in eastern North Carolina?

Dr. BISHOP. In eastern North Carolina, you have very heavy outmigration, relative to North Carolina. North Carolina's outmigration is not as large as that of some States.

From eastern North Carolina, we had a net loss in population, if you give allowance to the addition through births during the last decade in all but two or three of our counties.

Mr. THOMPSON. That is pretty largely a tobacco economy.

Dr. BISHOP. It is a tobacco economy.

Mr. THOMPSON. On a relative basis it is in good shape, at least, has been, up until recently, that is compared with the tobacco or peanut economy.

Dr. BISHOP. Let us say it has been fairly stable. It is not in good shape. We have our share of poverty in North Carolina. The State is doing a great deal trying to cope with it. We are quite concerned about it. I expect we have more low-income farm people than any other State.

Mr. THOMPSON. You do?

Dr. BISHOP. I think this is right.