sands of people make the transition from farmwork to manufacturing employment.

In addition to providing individuals with productive employment, textile jobs in many cases provide the major payroll and tax income in the communities in which the mills are located. Textile jobs are the foundation upon which an economically sound Appalachia of the future can be built. Yet, the Government is appropriating millions of dollars to create needed jobs in poverty areas while at the same time conducting its textile trade policy in a job-destroying manner.

New York's mayor calls it fun city and many think of it in terms of the executive suite, but it is also the largest manufacturing city in the Nation and more than one-third of those employed in manufacturing there work in the textile industry—298,000 people with an annual payroll of $1.3 billion. By coincidence, this is exactly the figure reported as New York City's welfare budget for fiscal 1969.

Every State except Hawaii produces wool for the textile industry. Nineteen States grow cotton and 22 States have manmade fiber-producing plants. Forty-two States have basic textile mills and there are apparel plants in all 50 States.

Negro employment in the textile mill industry has grown rapidly in recent years. The textile mill industry in 1967 provided employment for more than 82,000 Negroes. While overall textile employment has increased by only 2.8 percent since 1960, employment of Negroes has increased by 270 percent. This has meant more than 52,000 new jobs for Negroes in the textile mill industry, primarily in Southern States.

In Alabama, for example, about 20 percent of the textile work force is Negro and current hirings are running about 35 percent Negro. In South Carolina, 40 percent of the new hirings in the textile mills over the past year were Negro and between 1965 and 1967 the number of Negro employees more than doubled.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Textile tariffs are already too low, as the size and rapidly rising trend of imports indicates—and further cuts are already scheduled for each of the next four Januarys.

However, we recognize that the Government may need "housekeeping" negotiating authority. The administration is proposing that the unused portion of the 50 percent tariff-cutting authority of the Trade Expansion Act, which expired a year ago, be restored until July 1, 1970. Textiles were recognized in the Kennedy round as particularly sensitive to import competition, and hence most textile tariff reductions were substantially less than 50 percent. We do not think textile tariff-cutting authority of more than 5 percent should be granted in the pending legislation.

The Special Trade Representative told the committee on June 4 that "it is not our intention to engage in any major negotiations . . ." The 5 percent authority should, therefore, be more than ample. There is no reason to expose sensitive products like textiles to the possibility of larger tariff reductions.